

**Preliminary Responses Submitted by the Government of Japan
on the Need for Country-Specific Data and Information and its Relationship
to a Decision-Making Framework in the Context of the Requirements
of the Kyoto Protocol Regarding Sink Issues**

The Government of Japan (GOJ) submitted information to the SBSTA related to Article 3.3 of the Kyoto Protocol (KP) on August 26, 1998, and information related to Article 3.4 on October 26, 1999. In addition, the GOJ submitted information about policy and procedural issues associated with Article 3.3 and 3.4 on March 12, 1999. It is of prime importance that these submissions be fully taken into account and be properly addressed at SBSTA and IPCC discussions.

For the purpose of dealing with the issue of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), the GOJ believes that it is important to take a definitive step forward to reach an international agreement about sink issues that is fair and contributes to the prevention of global warming. This should be achieved by further collaboration between the SBSTA and the IPCC in elaborating the issues by recognising the importance of each role.

Hereinafter, the GOJ is taking this opportunity to deliver its view on the need for country-specific data and information and its relationship to a decision-making framework in the context of the requirement of the KP, in response to the conclusions from the SBSTA 10th session which stated that, “the SBSTA decided to begin the consideration, at its eleventh session, of the need for country-specific data and information and its relationship to a decision-making framework in the context of the requirements of the Kyoto Protocol. It requests Parties to provide submissions on this subject ... by 16 August 1999, for compilation into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its eleventh session.”

I. Article 3.3

In order to take decisions on definitions of related issues under Article 3.3 at COP6, the GOJ proposes a decision-making framework as outlined in Figure 1. The GOJ requests that its view be discussed at SBSTA11 and that a decision on implementing this framework be made. The purpose of its framework is as follows.

In order to decide definitions of related issues pertaining to Article 3.3, the GOJ believes it is necessary to decide on the data needed to consider at SBSTA12 the implications of options for Article 3.3 definitions. The SBSTA then proceeds to request the Parties to submit the data to be used at the workshop and at COP6.

It is imperative that the workshop to be held between SBSTA12 and COP6 provide a forum for thorough discussion about the implications of options for definitions provided by the Special Report and be carried out using data submitted by the Parties.

Accordingly, the following items need to be considered at SBSTA meetings before COP6.

- At SBSTA11 the SBSTA should decide the agenda for SBSTA12 in line with Parties' opinions submitted by August 16, regarding the issues related to tables 1 and 2 of FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5 and the decision-making framework, and request Parties to submit their opinions about the agenda.

- At SBSTA12, Parties should consider the implications of various options for definitions provided by the IPCC Special Report, determine the data necessary for consideration at the workshop and later decision at COP6, and set agenda for the workshop. The SBSTA should then proceed to request Parties to submit the data.

- At the workshop, based on the data submitted by the Parties, the Parties should further consider and evaluate the options for definitions provided by the Special Report.

- At SBSTA13 (COP6), Parties should determine definitions related to issues under Article 3.3.

II. Article 3.4

In order to take decisions on the additional activities of Article 3.4 at COP6, the GOJ proposes a decision-making framework as outlined below in Figure 2. The GOJ requests that its view be discussed at SBSTA11 and that a decision on implementing this framework be made. The purpose of our framework is as follows.

In order to take decisions on additional activities at COP6, it is important to consider at SBSTA11 a “list of eligible additional activities of Article 3.4” and decide the basic criteria and guidelines to choose additional activities.

It is important for SBSTA to request the Parties to submit the data necessary for the discussion and further elaboration of the list of eligible additional activities at the workshop.

Based on this elaboration, the SBSTA should proceed to take decisions on additional activities of Article 3.4 at COP6. After COP6, the range of approved activities will have to be reviewed periodically or as necessary.

Accordingly, the following items need to be considered at the SBSTA meetings before COP6.

- At SBSTA11, the SBSTA should decide the agenda for SBSTA12 in line with Parties’ opinions submitted by August 16, regarding the issues related to tables 1 and 2 of FCCC/SBSTA/1999/5 and the decision making framework and requests the Parties to submit their opinions regarding the agenda and regarding eligible additional activities of Article 3.4.

- At SBSTA12, the SBSTA should consider the list of eligible additional activities, decide basic criteria and guidelines for the selection of activities, request the Parties to submit data for the consideration at the workshop and at COP6, and set agenda for the workshop.

- At the workshop, the Parties should discuss and evaluate a list of eligible additional activities of Article 3.4 by referring to the data submitted by Parties.

- At SBSTA13 (COP6), the SBSTA should determine additional activities.

Figure 1. Decision-making framework for definitions of ARD activities and related issues under Article 3.3

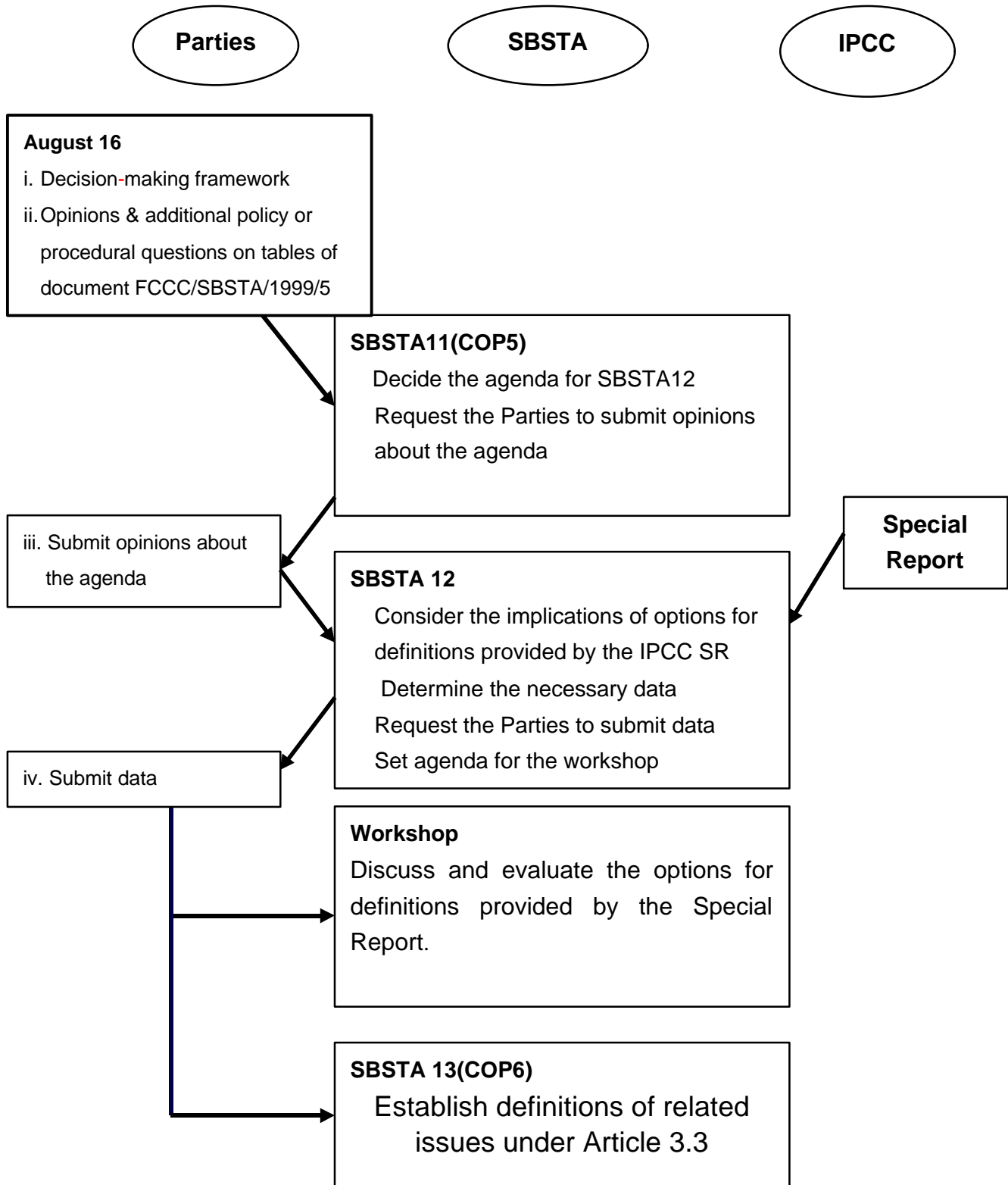


Figure 2. Decision-making framework for activities under Article 3.4

