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# COP 9 Outcomes

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## **Outline**

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- **COP 9/SB 19: Venue and Schedule**
- **Ministerial Segment: December 10-11**
- **Overall Expectations**
- **Major COP 9/SB 19 Issues**

# **COP 9/SB 19: Venue and Schedule**

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- **Venue: Milan, Italy**
  
- **Dates**
  - ***COP 9*: Ninth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - December 1-12. Ministerial Segment December 10-11.**
  
  - ***SB 19*: 19th Sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 19) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 19) held in conjunction with COP 9, December 1-9.**
  
- **Hungarian Environment Minister Miklós Persányi served as COP 9 President.**

## **COP 9 Ministerial Segment: December 10-11**

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**Three sequential round-table discussions—each co-chaired by a minister from a developed and developing country—open to participation by all ministers and heads of delegation:**

- *Climate change, adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development*
- *Technology, including technology use and development and transfer of technologies*
- *Assessment of progress at the national, regional and international levels to fulfill the promise and objective enshrined in the climate change agreements, including the scientific, information, policy and financial aspects*
- **Ministers spoke for average of 3 minutes each; relatively good give-and-take**

**Capacity-building, synergy and possible future steps, as well as the need to increase awareness of vulnerability and adaptation, were key cross-cutting issues for all three round-table discussions.**

## **COP 9: Overall Expectations**

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- **Broad perception that COP 9 would be less eventful than recent (or future) COPs.**
- **No Ministerial declaration expected; Ministerial focus on round-tables with no formal outcomes.**
- **A “breather” before negotiations on post-Kyoto approach (scheduled to begin in 2005).**
- **Very few political issues compared to other COPs.**
- **Parties focusing on “confidence building.”**
- **U.S. Delegation focused on getting our message out on U.S. climate policy**

- **Department of Commerce: NOAA Administrator U/S Conrad Lautenbacher, NOAA Deputy Assistant Secretary Bill Brennan**
- **Department of Energy: U/S Bob Card; A/S Dave Garman; DAS Larisa Dobriansky; and Climate Change Technology Program Director David Conover**
- **Department of Transportation; A/S Emil Frankel**
- **Agency for International Development: DAA Jacqueline Schafer**

# **Significant COP 9/SB 19 Agenda Items**

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- **SBI 19**
  - **2004-2005 Biennium Budget**
  - **Special Climate Change/Least Developed Countries Funds**
  - **COP 10/SB 21 Venue and Dates**
  
- **SBSTA 19**
  - **IPCC Third Assessment Report (TAR)**
  - **Sinks Issues**
  - **Research and Systematic Observation**

## **Significant COP 9/SBI 19 Agenda Item: 2004-2005 Biennium Budget**

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- **Achieved clear distinction between Convention costs and Kyoto costs.**
- **Also achieved clear understanding from all Parties that U.S. will contribute only to Convention costs**
  - **U.S. will withhold funds for Kyoto elements of Convention's "core" budget (U.S. pro-rata share (21.349 %) to be withheld will total over \$700,000 in 2004-05)**
  - **U.S. will not contribute to other Kyoto costs (e.g., in the Trust Fund for Supplementary Activities)**
- **Convention's budget (about \$17.4 million per year, or \$34.8 million over the biennium) will increase by 6 percent over the previous biennium — this compares well with the 29 percent increase originally proposed by the secretariat.**
  - *Note: Secretariat maintained that it would need a 14 percent increase just to stay "even" in light of the dollar's slide against the euro.*
- **U.S. efforts helped identify Kyoto's price tag – over \$17.4 million in the 2004-05 period.**
- **Japan, with U.S. support, originally called for no increase in the Convention's core budget; the EU called for an increase of 9 percent.**

## **Special Climate Change/Least Developed Countries Funds**

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**COP-9 adopted decisions relating to two new developing country funds agreed in Marakkech as part of a package including the rules for Kyoto:**

- **Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF):** The COP decision provides guidance on funding of technology transfer and adaptation activities. Mitigation and economic diversification activities will also be allowed; countries submit views on these with a view to a decision at COP 10.
  
- **Least Developed Country Fund:** Guidance on the operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund provides for certain adaptation activities on a “full-cost” basis (unlike GEF, which only funds portion relating to “global benefit”), taking account funds available.

**The U.S. has indicated it will not contribute to either fund, as they were are part of a Kyoto “package” in which the U.S. did not participate.**



# **COP 10/SB 21 Venue and Schedule**

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- **Venue: Buenos Aires, Argentina**
- **Dates: November 29-December 10, 2004.**

## **SBSTA 19 Agenda Items: TAR**

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- **Focus on work on two new agenda items, mitigation and adaptation, which will begin at SBSTA-20 (June 2001).**
- **Because these agenda items will be a place countries position themselves for future negotiations, scope of work was sensitive.**
- **EU wished to set broad agendas, including discussions about atmospheric concentrations and national burden-sharing.**
- **U.S. and many other countries (including developing countries, Australia and Japan) sought a focus on a “bottom-up” discussion on practical opportunities and solutions to climate change.**
- **Final SBSTA decision reflects the more practical approach, and will lead to a more useful exchange of information among Parties and experts over the coming several years.**

## **SBSTA 19 Agenda Items: Research and Systematic Observation**

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- **SBSTA approved a draft COP decision that will help to further our efforts to monitor environmental conditions around the planet.**
- **SBSTA focused on climate observations, but the decision is being implemented in the larger context of, and has several references to, the *ad hoc* Group on Global Earth Observations (GEO) effort initiated at the Earth Observation Summit in Washington this July.**

## **SBSTA 19 Agenda Items: Sinks Issues**

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- **A decision on treatment of sinks in the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol was a major issue for many countries. U.S. participation in the negotiation of the decision was limited, as we will not become a Party to the Kyoto Protocol.**
  
- **The U.S. had concerns with European proposals on genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which we made clear to others.**
  
- **In the final package, GMO reference was moved to a preamble. The decision does not impose limits on GMOs, or contain requirements to undertake any new GMO-related procedures.**
  
- **The U.S. allowed the text to go forward on the basis that it pertained only to Kyoto Parties, and did not represent any precedent with respect to GMOs.**

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