



## **AUSTRALIA**

### **Scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil**

At its twenty-fourth session, the SBSTA invited Parties to submit to the secretariat their views on the results of the work on the scientific and methodological aspects of the proposal by Brazil, as presented to the in-session special side event at SBSTA 27, as well as earlier results of work in this area (FCCC/SBSTA/2006/5, paragraph 83). Australia is pleased to provide the following submission on this matter.

Australia recognises the historic contribution of developed countries to climate change and is committed to playing its part in a global response. Australia appreciates the work of the ad hoc group for the modelling and assessment of contributions to climate change (MATCH), and welcomes the inclusive, open and transparent process through which this work has been conducted. Improved understanding of the sources of greenhouse gas emissions at the regional, national and sectoral level is an important input to effective policy responses.

The work undertaken by MATCH illustrates the large uncertainties that remain in any attribution of historic emissions at the country level. This uncertainty is exacerbated when emissions from land-use change and forestry are included. It is essential that any comprehensive assessment of emissions include those from land-based sources. This is particularly important when considering historic emissions, as historic emissions from the land sector will be a greater component of global emissions than they are today. The exclusion of emissions from the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry sector would result in inaccurate results, which do not reflect real emissions to and removals from the atmosphere.

Australia considers that the remaining uncertainties highlighted in MATCH's final report clearly preclude the use of historic emissions by country as a means of calculating Parties' emissions reduction commitments.

Australia encourages the SBSTA to conclude work on this topic at SBSTA 28 as was suggested in the conclusions to SBSTA 24 (FCCC/SBSTA/2006/L.13). Australia's view is that the Ad Hoc Working

Groups on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) and Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) are the appropriate fora for any further consideration of possible future action by Parties.