

DECISION NOT TO PROCEED FURTHER

Party concerned: Canada

In accordance with the Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance contained in the annex to decision 27/CMP.1 and adopted under Article 18 of the Kyoto Protocol and the Rules of procedure of the Compliance Committee,¹ the enforcement branch adopts the following decision not to proceed further:

BACKGROUND

1. On 11 April 2008, the secretariat received a question of implementation indicated in the report of the expert review team regarding the review of the initial report of Canada and contained in document FCCC/IRR/2007/CAN (hereinafter referred to as “the review report”). In accordance with paragraph 1 of section VI² and paragraph 2 of rule 10 of the Rules of procedure, the question of implementation was deemed received by the Compliance Committee on 14 April 2008.
2. The bureau of the Compliance Committee allocated the question of implementation to the enforcement branch on 16 April 2008 under paragraph 1 of section VII, in accordance with paragraph 4(b) and (c) of section V and paragraph 1 of rule 19 of the Rules of procedure.
3. On 17 April 2008, the secretariat notified the members and alternate members of the enforcement branch of the question of implementation, in accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 19 of the Rules of procedure, and of its allocation to the enforcement branch.
4. On 2 May 2008, the enforcement branch decided in accordance with paragraph 2 of section VII and paragraph 1(a) of section X to proceed with the question of implementation (CC-2008-1-2/Canada/EB). The question of implementation was identified as contained in section III.C of the review report.
5. The question of implementation relates to compliance with the guidelines for the preparation of the information required under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol (decision 15/CMP.1; hereinafter referred to as “the guidelines”) and the modalities for the accounting of assigned amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol (decision 13/CMP.1; hereinafter referred to as “the modalities”). Accordingly, the question also relates to the annex to decision 5/CMP.1 and the requirements of the technical standards for data exchange between registry systems (hereinafter referred to as “the data exchange standards”). The expert review team concluded, after consideration of the provisions of the guidelines for

¹ All references to the Rules of procedure in this document refer to the rules contained in the annex to decision 4/CMP.2.

² Unless otherwise indicated, all section references in this document refer to the Procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance contained in the annex to decision 27/CMP.1.

review under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol (decision 22/CMP.1), that the status of Canada's national registry on the publication date of the review report was not in accordance with the guidelines and modalities.

6. As the question furthermore relates to the eligibility requirement referred to in paragraph 31(d) of the annex to decision 3/CMP.1, paragraph 21(d) of the annex to decision 9/CMP.1 and paragraph 2(d) of the annex to decision 11/CMP.1 to have in place a national registry in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol and the requirements in the guidelines decided thereunder, the expedited procedures as contained in section X were found to apply.

7. On 21 May 2008, the enforcement branch agreed to invite four experts on national registries drawn from the UNFCCC roster of experts to provide advice to the branch (CC-2008-1-3/Canada/EB). Two of these experts belonged to the expert review team that reviewed Canada's initial report.

8. On 22 May 2008, the enforcement branch received a request for a hearing from Canada (CC-2008-1-4/Canada/EB), which also indicated that Canada intended to make a written submission under paragraph 1(b) of section X. On 5 June 2008, the enforcement branch received a written submission from Canada (CC-2008-1-5/Canada/EB) in accordance with paragraph 1 of section IX, paragraph 1(b) of section X, and rule 17 of the Rules of procedure.

9. As requested by Canada on 22 May 2008, a hearing was held on 14 June 2008 in accordance with paragraph 2 of section IX and paragraph 1(c) of section X. The hearing formed part of the meeting of the enforcement branch that was held from 14 to 15 June 2008 to consider the adoption of a preliminary finding or a decision not to proceed further. During the meeting, the enforcement branch received advice from the invited experts.

10. In its deliberations the enforcement branch considered the review report, the written submission of Canada contained in document CC-2008-1-5/Canada/EB, information presented by Canada during the hearing, the independent assessment report of the national registry of Canada (Reference: Reg_IAR_CA_2008_1)³ and advice from experts invited by the branch. No competent intergovernmental or non-governmental organization provided any information under paragraph 4 of section VIII.

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS

11. According to the review report, Canada had not established a national registry, as required under section II of the modalities, by the time of the in-country visit, nor a registry system that had initialised with the international transaction log by the publication date of the review report. Canada had also not provided sufficient information on its national registry as required in paragraph 32 of the guidelines. As a result, no independent assessment report was forwarded to the expert review team, pursuant to decision 16/CP.10, on the results of the technical assessment of the national registry, including the results of standardized testing.

12. In its written submission and at the hearing, Canada acknowledged that the establishment of its national registry had been delayed and attributed this delay to domestic

³ http://unfccc.int/essential_background/library/items/3599.php?rec=j&preref=6427#beg

procurement procedures, which were only initiated on 5 July 2007, subsequent to the announcement of Canada's *Turning the Corner* plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution.

13. Canada provided in its written submission a description, as required by paragraph 32 of the annex to decision 15/CMP.1, of how its national registry performs the functions defined in the annex to decision 13/CMP.1 and the annex to decision 5/CMP.1, and complies with the requirements of the data exchange standards. It supplemented this information at the hearing.

14. At the hearing, Canada confirmed that it had established its national registry, and represented that the national registry meets the relevant requirements under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol. Canada indicated that it expected its registry to commence live operations at the end of 2008 or the beginning of 2009.

15. Canada noted that the independent assessment report of its national registry was published by the secretariat on 12 June 2008. The independent assessment report indicates that the national registry of Canada:

“has fulfilled sufficient obligations regarding conformity with the Data Exchange Standards. These obligations include having adequate transaction procedures; adequate security measures to prevent and resolve unauthorized manipulations; and adequate measures for data storage and registry recovery. While the Documentation Evaluation, as reported in Addendum 1 [of this report], identified some minor limitations in the state of registry readiness, these limitations are to be rectified prior to the registry commencing live operations. The registry is therefore deemed sufficiently compliant with the registry requirements defined in decisions 13/CMP.1 and 5/CMP.1, noting that registries do not have obligations regarding Operational Performance or Public Availability of Information prior to the operational phase.”

16. The branch received expert advice that, in respect of paragraph 32 of the guidelines, the information provided by Canada in its written submission, together with the independent assessment report would have enabled a technical assessment that Canada had established a national registry that can perform the functions defined in the annex to decision 13/CMP.1 and the annex to decision 5/CMP.1 and complies with the requirements of the data exchange standards.

17. Based on the information submitted and presented, the enforcement branch concludes that:

- (a) The status of Canada's national registry resulted in non-compliance with the guidelines and the modalities on the publication date of the review report; and
- (b) There is a sufficient factual basis to avert a finding of non-compliance on the date of this decision.

DECISION

18. The enforcement branch determines, in accordance with paragraph 4 of section IX, paragraph 1 (d) of section X and rule 22 of the Rules of procedure, not to proceed further with the question of implementation relating to compliance with the guidelines for the preparation of the information required under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol and the modalities for the accounting of assigned amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol.

Members and alternate members participating in the consideration and elaboration of the decision: Amjad ABDULLA, Mohammad Sa'dat ALAM, Joseph A. AMOUGOU, Johanna G. Susanna DE WET, Raúl ESTRADA OYUELA, Kirsten JACOBSEN, René LEFEBER, Mary Jane MACE, Stephan MICHEL, Bernard NAMANYA, Sebastian OBERTHÜR, Gladys K. RAMOTHWA, Ilhomjon RAJABOV, Oleg SHAMANOV, SU Wei, Vladimir TARASENKO

Members participating in the adoption of the decision: Amjad ABDULLA, Johanna G. Susanna DE WET, Raúl ESTRADA OYUELA, René LEFEBER, Stephan MICHEL, Bernard NAMANYA, Sebastian OBERTHÜR, Ilhomjon RAJABOV, Oleg SHAMANOV, SU Wei

This decision was adopted by consensus in Bonn on 15 June 2008.