



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Italy at the forty-first session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Note by the secretariat

I. Background

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decision 1/CP.16, decided that developed country Parties should enhance the reporting in their national communications and submit biennial reports on their progress in achieving emission reductions. It also established a new process under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) – the international assessment and review (IAR) of emissions and removals related to developed country Parties' quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets – that aims to promote the comparability of efforts among all developed country Parties. The first round of the IAR process is to be conducted during the period 2014–2015.

2. According to the modalities and procedures for IAR specified in annex II to decision 2/CP.17, the multilateral assessment (MA), being part of the IAR process, is to be conducted for each developed country Party at a working group session of the SBI, with the participation of all Parties. The aim of the MA is to assess each Party's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

3. The first MA of Italy took place at a working group session during SBI 41, on 6 December 2014. Such a working group session is preceded by a three-month period of questions and answers; in the first month, any Party may submit written questions to the Party being assessed, which may respond to the questions within the remaining two months. Questions for Italy had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Egypt, Japan, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Italy can be found on the IAR web page for Italy.¹

¹http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/biennial_reports_and_iar/international_assessment_and_review/application/pdf/sbi41-italy-full.pdf.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. Italy was represented by Mr. Domenico Gaudioso, Expert, Institute for Environmental Protection and Research.

5. Mr. Gaudioso made an opening presentation, addressing the questions received prior to the working group session and the answers provided. He described Italy's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target and its progress in achieving the target and elaborated on the declining trend of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the drivers behind this trend. Also, Mr. Gaudioso emphasized the country's major policies and measures (PaMs), in particular in the areas of renewable energy consumption and energy efficiency.

6. Mr. Gaudioso explained that as a European Union (EU) member State, Italy is committed to achieving the joint unconditional quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of the EU of 20 per cent by 2020 compared with the 1990 level. He highlighted that Italy is on track to meet its target of a 26 per cent reduction by 2020 compared to the 2005 level in emissions not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS).

7. The opening presentation was followed by further questions from Australia, Brazil, China and United States. These questions were on the types of renewable energy sources (RES) used by Italy to achieve its RES target; the current level of GHG emissions from sectors covered by the ETS; the drivers of the increase in energy generation from photovoltaic cells; the experience gained in implementing PaMs in the energy efficiency and transport sectors; and the role of units from market-based mechanisms in achieving the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. In response to these questions, the Italian delegation provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Italy.

8. In closing, the SBI Chair reminded Italy that any other observations by the Party on its MA process can be submitted within two months of the working group session, and that this will form part of its Party record for the MA. The SBI Chair thanked the delegation of Italy, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.
