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Addendum

Summary reports on multilateral assessments at the forty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

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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 second round of the IAR process is to be conducted during the period 2016–2017 (the first round of the IAR process was 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 working group session of the second round of the IAR process was convened during SBI 45, on 12 and 14 November, under the chairmanship of the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow (Poland), and Rapporteur, Mr. Siddat Yaffa (Gambia). The working group session was 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. A summary report for each of the 24 Parties that were assessed at SBI 45 is presented below. The reports are also available on the UNFCCC website on the individual Party IAR web pages.¹

4. In closing the MA for each Party, the Chair reminded the Party that it can submit any other observations on its MA process within two months of the working group session, and that they will form part of its Party record for the MA. The SBI Chair thanked all Parties and the secretariat for the successful MA working group session.

¹ See <www.unfccc.int/9456>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Australia

1. The second round of multilateral assessment of Australia took place on 12 November 2016. Australia was represented by Mr. Patrick Suckling, Ambassador for the Environment, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

2. Questions for Australia had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, European Union (EU), Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Australia can be found on the IAR web page for Australia.²

3. Mr. Suckling made an opening presentation, summarizing Australia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Under the Convention, Australia made a commitment to reduce its cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 5.0 per cent below the 2000 level by 2020. Australia assesses its progress towards its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target using a carbon budgeting approach. As reported in Australia's second biennial report, Australia expected to exceed its 2020 target by 28 Mt of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ eq) over its target period 2013–2020. However, Mr. Suckling announced that, according to updated projections, Australia is now expected to exceed its 2020 target by 78 Mt CO₂ eq, which includes the use of units from market-based mechanisms and units from voluntary schemes.

4. Mr. Suckling presented the key policies and measures (PaMs) that Australia is utilizing to achieve its 2020 target. Australia's main policy is the Emissions Reduction Fund, which is a fund of 2.55 billion Australian dollars to reduce GHG emissions through reverse auctioning. He also highlighted Australia's Renewable Energy Target, which is a legislative market-based mechanism that encourages new investment in large-scale and small-scale renewable energy projects. Other key PaMs highlighted by Mr. Suckling include Australia's National Energy Productivity Plan, which outlines actions to achieve a 40 per cent improvement in energy productivity between 2015 and 2030; the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons and support for clean energy investment.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, China, EU, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, United States of America and Zimbabwe. These questions focused on: Australia's ability to estimate the mitigation impacts of its individual mitigation actions; the likelihood of Australia achieving its 2020 target; the interaction between different agencies regarding climate mitigation; the assumptions and methodologies used in Australia's projection scenarios; reporting on forest management; Australia's safeguard mechanism; the sectors that are included in the National Energy Productivity Plan; Australia's climate mitigation policies relating to methane emissions from fossil fuel production; Australia's Renewable Energy Target projects, and the capacity development available for small island developing States. In response, Australia provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Australia.

² <https://unfccc.int/9701.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Austria

1. The second round of MA of Austria took place on 12 November 2016. Austria was represented by Mr. Helmut Hojesky, Director, Division for Climate Change and Air Quality, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

2. Questions for Austria had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and New Zealand. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Austria can be found on the IAR web page for Austria.³

3. Mr. Hojesky made an opening presentation, summarizing Austria's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As an EU member State, Austria is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Austria's emission reduction target from sectors covered by the EU effort-sharing decision (ESD) (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (non-ETS sectors)) is 16 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020. Mr. Hojesky highlighted that under the 'with additional measures' emission projection scenario, Austria is expected to attain its 2020 targets.

4. Mr. Hojesky presented emission trends and key PaMs for the buildings, transport, agriculture, waste and energy supply sectors. Such PaMs include: mandatory building codes; blending of fossil fuels with biofuels; improved management of landfills; organic farming; and feed-in tariffs for electricity from renewable sources. In addition, he explained that the Party is preparing the Austrian Integrated Energy and Climate Strategy for reducing GHG emissions through 2030 and well as through 2050. Mr. Hojesky also highlighted that since Austria is a transit country located at the crossroads between Western and South-Eastern Europe, GHG emissions from the transport sector remain a significant challenge and that the shift to public transport and e-mobility needs to be enhanced.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, India and Republic of Korea. The questions were related to: the challenges encountered in attributing emission reductions to the implementation of PaMs; the source and quantity of biofuel used in Austria; and the framework used to address emissions in the transport sector. In response, Austria provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Austria.

³ <https://unfccc.int/9701.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Belgium

1. The second round of MA of Belgium took place on 12 November 2016. Belgium was represented by Mr. Peter Wittoeck, Head of Climate Change Section, Directorate-General for the Environment.

2. Questions for Belgium had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Belgium can be found on the IAR web page for Belgium.⁴

3. Mr. Wittoeck made an opening presentation, summarizing Belgium's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Emissions, excluding those from the land use, land-use change and forestry sector, decreased by 22.0 per cent between 1990 and 2014. Mr. Wittoeck noted that, over the same period, Belgium's gross domestic product (GDP) and population increased by 51.0 and 12.0 per cent respectively, which indicates a significant decoupling of emissions from growth in the economy and the population.

4. Mr. Wittoeck presented Belgium's target for 2020 for the emissions from non-ETS sectors as contained in the EU 2020 climate and energy package, namely a 15 per cent reduction below the 2005 level. Mr. Wittoeck also mentioned Belgium's target for non-ETS sectors for 2030 (a 35 per cent reduction below the 2005 level), which is currently under consideration in the context of the European target for 2030. According to Mr. Wittoeck, Belgium's emissions from non-ETS sectors in the periods 2013–2017 and 2018–2020 are projected to be lower and higher, respectively, than its annual emission allocations (AEAs) under the ESD. Nevertheless, Belgium expects to be able to meet its target for non-ETS sectors for 2020 with existing measures by carrying over the surplus AEAs from the previous years using the flexibility allowed under the ESD. In order to achieve its 2020 target, Belgium has put in place a range of PaMs at both the regional and the federal level, in particular for the renewable energy, building and transport sectors.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, New Zealand, Republic of Korea and Zimbabwe. The questions were on: the reasons for the sharp increase in emissions in the years 2009 and 2010 and their subsequent decrease to normal levels; Belgium's federal monitoring, reporting and verification law; the internal mechanism for exchange of information between parliamentary assemblies and governments, and the processes established to ensure consensus among the regions towards development of climate policies; and the composition of Belgium's National Climate Commission. In response, Belgium provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Belgium.

⁴ <https://unfccc.int/9702.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Bulgaria

1. The second round of MA of Bulgaria took place on 12 November 2016. Bulgaria was represented by Ms. Rayna Angelova, Head of the Department for the Implementation of European Union Policy on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Water.

2. Questions for Bulgaria had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Bulgaria can be found on the IAR web page for Bulgaria.⁵

3. Ms. Angelova made an opening presentation, summarizing Bulgaria's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Under the Convention, Bulgaria is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020.

4. The target will be achieved through the contribution of the sectors covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), by the EU member States jointly, and through the contribution of domestic emission limitations in accordance with the ESD. Under the ESD, Bulgaria has a target to limit the growth of its GHG emissions to 20 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. In addition, Bulgaria has committed to achieving a 16 per cent share of renewables in gross final energy consumption by 2020.

5. Ms. Angelova presented emission trends and key PaMs for Bulgaria to achieve its targets. From 1990 to 2014, total GHG emissions excluding land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) decreased by 45 per cent, owing mainly to the structural change from a centrally planned economy to a market-based economy over the period 1990–2000. Bulgaria's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF in 2020 and 2030 are projected to decrease by 45 and 47 per cent, respectively, below the 1990 level under the 'with existing measures' (WEM) scenario. The projected GHG emissions for 2020 suggest that Bulgaria will achieve its 2020 targets. Among the key PaMs stemming from the EU and national climate and energy legislation, Bulgaria highlighted: cleaner production of electricity from existing coal power plants; transition to a low-carbon electricity mix; increase of energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources; utilization of landfill gas; modernization of road infrastructure; and increase of shares of biofuels and electricity in the transport sector.

6. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, India and New Zealand. The questions were related to: the drivers for the potential increases in projected GHG emissions under the WEM scenario from 2014 to 2020; the relationship between the national Energy Strategy and Energy Efficiency Action Plan; and reasons for the decline in GHG emissions in the agriculture sector from 1990 to 2014. In response, Bulgaria provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Bulgaria.

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/9703.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Croatia

1. The second round of MA of Croatia took place on 12 November 2016. Croatia was represented by Ms. Višnja Grgasović, Head of Service for Climate Change and Ozone Layer Protection, Ministry of Environment and Energy.

2. Questions for Croatia had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Croatia can be found on the IAR web page for Croatia.⁶

3. Ms. Grgasović made an opening presentation, summarizing Croatia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets.⁷ As a member State of the EU, Croatia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. In addition, Croatia has a target to limit its emission growth to 11 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 from sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. non-ETS sectors). The presentation highlighted that there is a decreasing trend in the national GHG emissions of Croatia, which is due to its GHG mitigation actions as well as the economic downturn in 2008. As shown by this trend, it is expected that Croatia will exceed its 2020 targets.

4. Ms. Grgasović described Croatia's key GHG mitigation PaMs relating to renewable energy sources, energy efficiency improvements, transport and fluorinated gases (F-gases). Regarding renewable energy, Croatia is implementing a feed-in tariff system for electricity, which has achieved a significant growth of the share of renewable energy sources in final energy consumption, reaching 27.9 per cent in 2014. Significant progress has also been made in the area of energy efficiency, with the adoption of the law on energy efficiency (OG 127/14), which regulates efficient energy use, the adoption of local, regional and national plans, obligations of the regulatory body and energy services, and the determination of energy savings and consumer rights in the application of energy efficiency measures. Regarding the transport sector, Croatia's PaMs include the electrification of vehicles and building-related infrastructure, demand-side awareness, intelligent traffic lights and eco-driving. However, despite these PaMs, Croatia's GHG emissions from the transport sector have continued to increase since 1990. Since 2006, Croatia has been working on the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons and perfluorocarbons, as well as implementing the EU F-gas regulation no. 517/2014, which entered into force in January 2015.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from China and India. One question focused on whether Croatia had any national or local GHG mitigation targets in the transport sector, and the other question requested more information relating to the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) mechanisms in place for various sectors. In response, Croatia explained that although there are no national or local GHG mitigation targets in the transport sector, it has been implementing various measures including infrastructure for renewable energy sources and increasing public awareness. Regarding the question on MRV mechanisms, Croatia explained that it plans to introduce a new system to obtain more data so as to enable MRV in different sectors. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Croatia.

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/9704.php>.

⁷ Croatia acceded to the European Union on 1 July 2013, and the most relevant mitigation actions and operators were included at full scale under the European Union Emissions Trading System from January 2013.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Czechia

1. The second round of MA of Czechia took place on 12 November 2016. Czechia was represented by Mr. Pavel Zamyslicky, Director and National Focal Point, Energy and Climate Protection Department, Ministry of the Environment.

2. Questions for Czechia had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Japan and Switzerland. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Czechia can be found on the IAR web page for Czechia.⁸

3. Mr. Zamyslicky made an opening presentation, summarizing Czechia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Czechia is an upper middle income EU member State, which joined the EU on 1 May 2004. It is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Under the ESD, Czechia has a target to limit the growth of its emissions from non-ETS sectors to 9 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. In addition, Czechia has committed to achieving a 13 per cent share of renewables in gross final energy consumption and 50.67 PJ of additional energy savings by 2020.

4. From 1990 to 2014, total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF decreased by 36.8 per cent. Following the introduction of the EU ETS in 2005, emissions from the ETS sectors decreased by 19.2 per cent by 2014. This is a significant reduction in emissions, as these sectors constitute 54 per cent of the total GHG emissions of Czechia. Emissions from the non-ETS sectors also decreased over the same period, despite a target to limit the growth in emissions to 9 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. Total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF are projected to further decrease by 2020 under the 'with existing measures' and 'with additional measures' emission projection scenarios, decreasing by 39 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Therefore, Czechia is excepted to achieve its 2020 targets. In addition, Czechia demonstrated a decoupling of growth in GDP from energy use and GHG emissions: during the period 1990–2014, GDP increased by 42 per cent, while energy use and GHG emissions decreased by 17 and 37 per cent, respectively.

5. Mr. Zamyslicky presented the key PaMs to mitigate Czechia's GHG emissions, including support for renewable energy sources; energy efficiency; public transport and cycling; alternative vehicles; greening of agriculture; utilization of biogas; and waste management. He also provided information on the new State Energy Policy, adopted in 2015, which is aimed at decreasing fossil fuel use and increasing the use of renewable energy sources and nuclear energy. Czechia also developed the Low Carbon Development Strategy until 2030, which includes targets that are in line with the international commitments of the EU and covers key economic sectors.

6. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, India, New Zealand and Switzerland. Questions were related to: the PaMs aimed at improving energy efficiency in the public, building and transport sectors; assessment of mitigation impacts; the frequency with which Czechia updates its projections; and options for collaboration with experts from other countries. In response, Czechia provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Czechia.

⁸ <https://unfccc.int/9723.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Denmark

1. The second round of MA of Denmark took place on 12 November 2016. Denmark was represented by Mr. Caspar Olausson, Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate.

2. Questions for Denmark had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and New Zealand. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Denmark can be found on the IAR web page for Denmark.⁹

3. Mr. Olausson made an opening presentation, summarizing Denmark's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Under the Convention, Denmark is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Denmark contributes to achieving the EU target through its PaMs, leading to implementation of the EU 2020 climate and energy package, which includes the EU ETS and the ESD, according to which Denmark has committed to reducing its emissions from sectors covered by the ESD by 20 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020. Denmark has one of the three highest emission reduction targets among EU member States under the ESD. From 1990 to 2014, Denmark's total GHG emissions (excluding LULUCF) are projected to decrease by 37 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020 under the 'with measures' emission projection scenario. As such, Denmark is expected to achieve its 2020 targets.

4. Denmark's most significant mitigation actions are energy efficiency improvements and increased use of renewable energy sources the manufacturing industry and commercial and residential building sectors. By 2020, the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption is expected to be around 40 per cent. In conclusion, Denmark highlighted that it had achieved a decoupling of GHG emissions and economic growth as a result of its PaMs, a more efficient use of power plants, the use of combined heat and power systems, and district heating improvements.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, China, India, New Zealand, Switzerland and United States of America. The questions focused on: the challenges in achieving the renewable energy target; the social and economic implications of emission reductions in the energy sector; the emission data collection process in the Faroe Islands and Greenland; and the experiences of the Danish Council on Climate Change established in 2015. In response, Denmark provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Denmark.

⁹ <https://unfccc.int/9705.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Estonia

1. The second round of MA of Estonia took place on 12 November 2016. Estonia was represented by Mr. Meelis Münt, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of the Environment.

2. Questions for Denmark had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Estonia can be found on the IAR web page for Estonia.¹⁰

3. Mr. Münt made an opening presentation, summarizing Estonia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Under the Convention, Estonia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Estonia, together with other EU member States, contributes to achieving the EU target through its PaMs leading to implementation of the EU 2020 climate and energy package, which includes the EU ETS and the effort-sharing decision. Estonia's target for 2020 is to limit its emission growth from non-ETS to 11 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. Estonia demonstrated a significant reduction in its total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF (a 45.7 per cent reduction between 1990 and 2013), which was attributed mainly to the reduction in CO₂ emissions from the energy sector. According to its projections, Estonia's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF are projected to remain stable between 2013 and 2020 and are likely to decrease by 45.3 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Therefore, according to Mr. Münt, Estonia is on track to achieve its 2020 target with its existing PaMs.

4. Estonia has put in place a range of PaMs relating to renewable energy use, energy efficiency improvements, sustainable transport, industry and agriculture. In addition, Estonia has developed a Low Carbon Development Strategy, which provides a national road map for long-term emission reductions in the energy, transport, waste, forestry and industry sectors and aims to decrease total GHG emissions by 80 per cent below the 1990 level by 2050.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada and Switzerland. The questions were related to: energy efficiency improvements in the public sector; and reporting and review challenges faced by Estonia as a small economy. In response, Estonia provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Estonia.

¹⁰ <https://unfccc.int/9706.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the European Union

1. The second round of MA of the EU took place on 12 November 2016. The EU was represented by Ms. Elina Bardram, Head of Unit, Directorate-General Climate Action, European Commission.

2. Questions for the EU had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by the EU can be found on the IAR web page for the EU.¹¹

3. Ms. Bardram made an opening presentation, summarizing the EU's commitments including the EU joint quantified economy-wide emission reduction target under the Convention of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020, its binding commitment under the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period, as well as its intended nationally determined contribution communicated under the Paris Agreement of at least 40 per cent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. Ms. Bardram also described the progress made by the EU in meeting its 2020 target. Based on the data provided by the EU, the estimated 2015 GHG emissions were 22 per cent below the 1990 level. She stated that the EU has been able to decouple economic growth and GHG emissions; from 1990 to 2015, the GDP of the EU increased by 50 per cent, while GHG emissions decreased by 22 per cent.

4. Regarding the PaMs utilized to achieve the targets, Ms. Bardram referred to the climate and energy package, which includes: binding GHG emission reduction targets for sectors covered by the EU ETS and non-ETS sectors; a binding EU renewable energy target combined with national binding targets of member States; and a non-binding energy efficiency target. In addition, she presented the framework strategy for a resilient energy union with a forward-looking climate change policy, to ensure that the EU has secure, affordable and climate-friendly energy. The Party's emissions in 2030 under the "with existing measures" scenario are projected to be 26 per cent below the 1990 level, and Ms. Bardram commented that new mitigation policies are needed and are being put in place towards achieving the at least 40 per cent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Canada, China, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the United States. These questions were on: the progress towards the achievement of the EU renewable energy target; the formal mechanisms to coordinate policies across member States; long-term emission reduction strategies; how to ensure the consistency among the EU projections and the projections of each member State; effective energy efficiency policies; the individual contribution from each member State towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to the EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets; the EU forestry strategy; the quality control and quality assurance mechanisms; and experience in the transport sector. In response, the EU provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for the EU.

¹¹ <https://unfccc.int/9707.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Finland

1. The second round of MA of Finland took place on 12 November 2016. Finland was represented by Ms. Outi Honkatukia, Chief Negotiator for Climate Change, Ministry of the Environment

2. Questions for Finland had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and Israel. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Finland can be found on the IAR web page for Finland.¹²

3. Ms. Honkatukia made an opening presentation, summarizing Finland's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Under the Convention, Finland is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. The target will be achieved through the contribution of the sectors covered by the EU ETS, by the EU member States jointly, and through the contribution from domestic emission reductions in accordance with the ESD. Under the ESD, Finland has a target to reduce its GHG emissions by 16 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Among Finland's key PaMs, Ms. Honkatukia highlighted those in the forestry and the energy sectors. The National Forest Strategy 2025 focuses on sustainable forest management, which could be linked with national welfare, and includes the development of electronic information and customer services for private forest owners, forest management incentive schemes and the promotion of timber entry into market. Regarding the increasing share of renewable energy in the Party's final energy consumption, Finland is promoting the use of biomass, wind power and the use of biofuels in transport. By 2014, Finland had already achieved its 2020 target of 38 per cent final energy consumption from renewable energy sources.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the delegations of Canada and China. In response to the questions raised by these delegations, Finland elaborated on its ambitious long-term action plan to reduce GHG emissions by 80 per cent below the 1990 level by 2050. In response to a question regarding the high quality of the national GHG inventory, Finland noted that to prioritize GHG inventory improvements it considers the annual self-assessment process, the recommendations stemming from the international review process and the cost-efficiency of the improvements. Details of the answers can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Finland.

¹² <https://unfccc.int/9708.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Germany

1. The second round of MA of Germany took place on 12 November 2016. Germany was represented by Ms. Nicole Wilke, Head of Division, International Climate Policy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety.

2. Questions for Germany had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Germany can be found on the IAR web page for Germany.¹³

3. Ms. Wilke made an opening presentation, summarizing Germany's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As an EU member State, Germany is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent reduction below the 1990 level by 2020. Germany's emission reduction target from sectors covered by the ESD (i.e. non-ETS sectors) is 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

4. In addition, Germany presented its national short- and medium-term emission reduction targets, including a reduction in GHG emissions below the 1990 level of 40 per cent by 2020 and ranging from 80 to 95 per cent by 2050. Ms. Wilke also highlighted the underlying targets of the German energy transformation, including a targeted share of renewable energy sources in gross final energy consumption of 18 per cent by 2020 and 60 per cent by 2050, as well as energy efficiency and energy consumption targets for primary energy consumption (a decrease of 20 and 50 per cent below the 2008 level by 2020 and 2050, respectively) and electricity consumption (a decrease of 10 and 25 per cent below the 2008 level by 2020 and 2050, respectively). With its current GHG mitigation policies, Germany will achieve an emission reduction of 33 to 34 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020, according to its emission projections. Thus, Germany's Climate Action Programme 2020, which includes 100 additional measures in all sectors, was adopted by the Cabinet in December 2014 in order to close Germany's gap towards the achievement of its 2020 targets.

5. Ms. Wilke furthermore provided an overview of Germany's national circumstances and factors affecting GHG emission trends. In 2014, GHG emissions had decreased by 26.9 per cent below the 1990 level, while GDP and final energy productivity increased by 45.0 and 60.2 per cent, respectively, during the same period. The GHG emission trend was driven mainly by an increase in renewable energy use in electricity production, which was supported by the Renewable Energy Sources Act. Additional measures in the Climate Action Programme 2020 include the National Action Plan on Energy Efficiency, the climate-friendly building and housing strategy, and several measures in the transport sector.

6. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Brazil, Canada, China, India, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Switzerland and United States of America. Interventions and questions were raised with regard to: the additional measures in the Climate Action Programme 2020; the policy tools for increasing the renewable energy supply; the policies under consideration for further electrifying energy end-use; Germany's experience and lessons learned regarding the socioeconomic implications of the conversion of the energy mix in electricity production from fossil to renewable sources; Germany's experiences in increasing solar photovoltaic electricity generation; Germany's experiences in promoting the participation of civil society; whether Germany has developed any targets or other tools to guide the

¹³ <http://unfccc.int/9709.php>.

public sector in reducing its emissions; the efforts made by semiconductor manufacturers to reduce GHG emissions; how the Circular Economy Act is fostered in Germany to help reduce emissions in waste management; and the estimates of the mitigation impacts of PaMs and possible difficulties in calculating these estimates. In response, Germany provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Germany.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Hungary

1. The second round of MA of Hungary took place on 12 November 2016. Hungary was represented by Ms. Barbara Botos, Head of Department, Department for Climate Policy, Ministry of National Development.

2. Questions for Hungary had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Hungary can be found on the IAR web page for Hungary.¹⁴

3. Ms. Botos made an opening presentation, summarizing Hungary's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As a member State of the EU, Hungary is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Under the EU ESD, Hungary has a target to limit the growth of its GHG emissions from non-ETS sectors to 10 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. In addition, Hungary has committed to reach a 14.65 per cent share of renewables in gross final energy consumption by 2020.

4. Ms. Botos presented emission trends and key PaMs for achieving Hungary's 2020 targets. In 2014, total GHG emissions (excluding LULUCF) were 47.8 per cent below the base-year level (average GHG emissions from 1985 to 1987). During this time period, the most significant GHG emission reductions occurred in the energy sector, which remains the largest source of GHG emissions in Hungary. Key PaMs presented by Ms. Botos include the first National Climate Change Strategy 2008–2025, which identifies climate mitigation policies relating to energy efficiency in buildings, renewable energy utilization, transport and afforestation. She also highlighted that the second National Climate Change Strategy 2017–2030 is currently under review and should be finalized in 2017. Lastly, Ms. Botos presented the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, which includes national energy strategy scenarios and targets.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: India and Republic of Korea. These questions related to Hungary's GHG emission projections and the estimation of the mitigation impacts of individual mitigation actions. In response, Hungary provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Hungary.

¹⁴ <https://unfccc.int/9710.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Italy

1. The second round of MA of Italy took place on 12 November 2016. Italy was represented by Mr. Riccardo De Lauretis, Institute for the Protection of the Environment (ISPRA).

2. Questions for Italy had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Japan and New Zealand. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Italy can be found on the IAR web page for Italy.¹⁵

3. Mr. De Lauretis made an opening presentation, summarizing Italy's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As a member State of the EU, Italy is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. As part of this target, Italy's emission reduction target from sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. non-ETS sectors)) is 13 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Mr. De Lauretis presented emission trends and the key PaMs for achieving Italy's emission reduction targets. He highlighted that Italy's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF in 2014 were 19.8 per cent below the 1990 level. He also provided an overview of Italy's key PaMs that are driving its GHG emission trends, including: PaMs to increase the share of renewable energy sources in the energy mix, such as feed-in tariff schemes and other economic incentives; increasing energy efficiency and energy performance in the building sector; and infrastructural measures as well as policies to increase energy efficiency and the share of biofuels in the transport sector. He further elaborated on Italy's experiences with and approaches for estimating and quantifying the effects of its mitigation PaMs. Through these efforts, Italy will contribute its part to achieving the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, and likely overachieve its 2020 target for non-ETS sectors. He stated that Italy aims to further reduce its GHG emissions from non-ETS sectors by 22 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Canada, India and New Zealand. The questions raised by these Parties addressed Italy's existing and planned PaMs with regard to LULUCF, renewable energy and the use of biofuels, as well as how these PaMs drive the increase of forest cover, the application of renewable energy sources in the energy sector and the application of biofuels in the transport sector. One question was particularly focused on Italy's experiences with assessing and quantifying the effects of its PaMs. In response, Italy provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Italy.

¹⁵ <https://unfccc.int/9711.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Latvia

1. The second round of MA of Latvia took place on 14 November 2016. Latvia was represented by Ms. Alda Ozola, Deputy State Secretary, Management, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development.

2. Questions for Latvia had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and Switzerland. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Latvia can be found on the IAR web page for Latvia.¹⁶

3. Ms. Ozola made an opening presentation, summarizing Latvia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Under the Convention, Latvia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. The target will be achieved through the contribution of the sectors covered by the EU ETS by the EU member States jointly, and through the contribution from domestic emission reductions in accordance with the ESD. Under the ESD, Latvia has a target to limit the growth of GHG) emissions from non-ETS sectors to 17 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. Latvia expects to overachieve its non-ETS target by limiting the growth of its GHG emissions to 7 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Ms. Ozola presented emission trends and key PaMs for achieving Latvia's 2020 targets, including the EU climate policy schemes and the green investment support programmes and taxes. She also highlighted that Latvia has achieved noticeable GHG reductions in the energy sector through its energy efficiency improvements in district heating in buildings as well as owing to a significant decrease in the final energy intensity, the final heat energy consumption and the final electricity consumption in households since 2005. The significant increase in the use of renewable energy sources was driven mostly by the national green investment support programmes, which, for example, increased the use of biomass in the district heating sector by 258 per cent from 2005 to 2014.

5. No questions were raised to Latvia following its presentation.

¹⁶ <https://unfccc.int/9712.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Lithuania

1. The second round of MA of Lithuania took place on 14 November 2016. Lithuania was represented by Ms. Stasilė Znutienė, Head of the Climate Change Policy Division, Pollution Prevention Department, Ministry of Environment.

2. Questions for Lithuania had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and Switzerland. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Lithuania can be found on the IAR web page for Lithuania.¹⁷

3. Ms. Znutiene made an opening presentation, summarizing Lithuania's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Emissions, excluding those from the land use, land-use change and forestry sector, decreased by 58.0 per cent between 1990 and 2014. Ms. Znutiene noted that, over the same period, Lithuania's GDP increased by 29.0 per cent, indicating a decoupling of emissions from economic growth.

4. Ms. Znutienė presented the Lithuania's target for 2020 for emissions from non-ETS sectors as contained in the EU 2020 climate and energy package. Lithuania has a target to limit its emissions growth to 15 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 from non-ETS sectors. According to Ms. Znutienė, Lithuania expects to achieve its target for 2020 for non-ETS sectors. In order to achieve this, Lithuania has put in place a range of policies and measures, in particular, on renewable energy, energy efficiency, transport, industry and agriculture.

5. The opening presentation was followed by questions from the following delegations: China and India. China requested Lithuania to provide further details on Lithuania's Energy Efficiency Action Plan and India asked for details regarding the monitoring, reporting and verification mechanisms in place for the mitigation actions reported in common tabular format table 3. In response, Lithuania provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Lithuania.

¹⁷ <http://unfccc.int/9713.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Malta

1. The second round of MA of Malta took place on 14 November 2016. Malta was represented by Ms. Simone Borg, Ambassador for Climate Change, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Government of Malta; Ms. Claire Qoul, Senior Analyst Climate Change, Malta Resources Authority; and assisted by Mr. David Muscat, Senior Analyst, Climate Change Unit, Malta Resources Authority.

2. Questions for Malta had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and Japan. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Malta can be found on the IAR web page for Malta.¹⁸

3. Ms. Borg made an opening presentation, summarizing Malta's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As a member State of the EU, Malta is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. In addition, Malta's target from sectors covered by the ESD (i.e. non-ETS sectors) is to limit the growth of GHG emissions to 5 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. Ms. Borg provided an overview of Malta's national circumstances and factors affecting the emission trends and emphasized that Malta's contribution is only 0.01 per cent of total GHG emissions of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention. The specific challenges of Malta being a small island State were highlighted, including its dependence on oil and gas imports, its limited potential for renewable energy generation and financial and economic feasibility issues of investments.

4. Ms. Borg presented emission trends and key PaMs for achieving Malta's 2020 targets. In 2014, Malta's GHG emission intensity was 22.0 per cent below the 2004 level. The Climate Action Act is the legal framework for implementing Malta's GHG emission reduction targets, further supported by the mitigation, adaptation and renewable energy strategies and the low carbon development strategy, the latter being under preparation. In the electricity sector covered under the EU ETS, Malta expects significant emission reductions resulting from the installation of new and efficient energy generating capacity, the submarine electrical connection to the European unified electricity grid, fuel switching from heavy fuel oil to natural gas and energy efficiency measures. Policies and measures contributing to the emission reductions in non-ETS sectors include activities in the transport, agriculture and waste sectors.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the delegation from India. Questions were raised with regard to mitigation actions in Malta's second biennial report compared with its first biennial report and the methodologies used to estimate the mitigation impacts of its policies and measures. In response, Malta provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Malta.

¹⁸ <http://unfccc.int/9714.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the Netherlands

1. The second round of MA of the Netherlands took place on 14 November 2016. The Netherlands was represented by Mr. Ivo de Zwaan, Head of Delegation of the Netherlands to the United Nations climate change negotiations.

2. Questions for the Netherlands had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Japan and New Zealand. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by the Netherlands can be found on the IAR web page for the Netherlands.¹⁹

3. Mr. de Zwaan made an opening presentation, summarizing the Netherlands' progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Emissions, excluding those from the LULUCF sector, decreased by 12.0 per cent between 1990 and 2015. Mr. de Zwaan noted that, over the same period, the Netherlands' GDP increased by 60.0 per cent. As a consequence, the emission intensity of the Dutch economy decreased by 40.0 per cent, thus indicating a definite decoupling of emissions from economic growth.

4. Mr. de Zwaan presented the Netherlands' target for 2020 for emissions from non-ETS sectors as contained in the EU 2020 climate and energy package, namely a 16 per cent reduction below the 2005 level. According to Mr. de Zwaan, the Netherlands is projected to achieve its target for 2020 for non-ETS sectors. In order to achieve this target, the Netherlands has put in place a range of PaMs, in particular for the energy efficiency, renewable energy, building and transport sectors.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, China, India, Republic of Korea and United States of America. The questions were on: the reasons for the significant reduction in emissions of non- CO_2 GHGs between 1990 and 2014, particularly methane emissions from the waste sector and nitrous oxide emissions from the industrial processes and product use sector; the criteria used to prioritize improvements in the GHG inventory; the share of the emissions from energy consumption in heating systems in the total emissions and any PaMs being undertaken to reduce these emissions; whether the PaMs listed in the Netherlands' second biennial report are the same as or additional to those in its first biennial report; and progress in the implementation of the PaMs relating to carbon capture and storage and whether and how these will impact the emission reductions. Questions were also raised in relation to the Netherlands' national adaptation programme. In response, the Netherlands provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for the Netherlands.

¹⁹ <https://unfccc.int/9715.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of New Zealand

1. The second round of MA of New Zealand took place on 14 November 2016. New Zealand was represented by Mr. Mark Sinclair, Climate Change Ambassador, Environment Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

2. Questions for New Zealand had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, EU, France, Japan and Switzerland. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by New Zealand can be found on the IAR web page for New Zealand.²⁰

3. Mr. Sinclair made an opening presentation, summarizing New Zealand's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. According to Mr. Sinclair, GHG emissions in New Zealand have grown significantly since 1990 as a result of population and economic growth. However, the emission intensity of the economy decreased by 34 per cent during the period 1990–2013. New Zealand's assessment is that it is on track to meet its 2020 emission reduction target, which is 5 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020, through a combination of domestic emission reductions, the removal of carbon dioxide by forests, the recognition of surplus units from the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and participation in international carbon markets.

4. During the session, Mr. Sinclair presented New Zealand's nationally determined contribution, for which the emission reduction target is 30 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030, as well as its longer-term target, which is 50 per cent below the 1990 level by 2050. In New Zealand, the emissions trading scheme is the key policy instrument for achieving the long-term targets in GHG emission reductions. The emissions trading scheme has been in place since 2008 and covers all sectors of the economy. As at 2016, approximately 50 per cent of gross emissions were covered under the emissions trading scheme. The emissions trading scheme is currently under a comprehensive review in order to ensure its effectiveness in meeting the targets and in transitioning New Zealand to a low-emission economy.

Mr. Sinclair also presented policies and measures in place for the energy, agriculture and forestry sectors, and described how these policies and measures have contributed to emission reductions in New Zealand.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: China, EU, France, India, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America. The questions were on: key PaMs for achieving the carbon budget plan at the national level; the potential for emission reductions in the energy sector; sharing of experience from the emissions trading scheme review; addressing environmental integrity in the emissions trading scheme review; that obligations under the emissions trading scheme are met; details of measures in the agriculture, forestry and transport sector; and estimation of the effects of PaMs. In response, New Zealand provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for New Zealand.

²⁰ <https://unfccc.int/9716.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Norway

1. The second round of MA of Norway took place on 14 November 2016. Norway was represented by Mr. Peer Stiansen, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Climate and Environment.

2. Questions for Norway had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, EU, France, New Zealand, Switzerland and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Norway can be found on the IAR web page for Norway.²¹

3. Mr. Stiansen made an opening presentation, summarizing Norway's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Total GHG emissions have grown since 1990 but in the period after 2008 the growth stabilized, resulting in an overall increase in GHG emissions of 3.3 per cent in 2013 compared with 1990. At the same time, population and GDP increased by approximately 23 and 80 per cent since 1990, respectively. Electricity is almost exclusively generated from renewable energy sources, predominantly by hydropower plants. Norway's emission reduction target under the Convention is 30 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020, which is made operational through commitment under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Upon the ratification of the Paris Agreement, Norway's Parliament put forward a decision to shift its carbon neutrality goal, initially announced for 2050, to 2030.

4. During the session, Norway presented the key PaMs which are to a large extent based on carbon pricing instruments. They included the CO_2 tax and the EU ETS, which together cover around 80 per cent of total domestic GHG emissions, as well as carbon taxes in road transport, heating and on hydrofluorocarbons and perfluorocarbons in products. Norway introduced several important incentive instruments for the promotion and purchasing of electric vehicles, such as exemption from purchase tax, value added tax and taxes related to roads, as well as free parking and free passes for tolls and ferries. In addition, a ban on disposing organic matter in waste on landfills was introduced to reduce methane emissions. As well as the implementation of domestic mitigation actions, Norway is actively involved in the acquisition of units from market-based mechanisms in developing countries in order to achieve its target under the Convention.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: France, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. The questions were on: measures and lessons learned in the promotion and purchasing of electric and low-emission vehicles and the building of necessary infrastructure (e.g. charging stations); an observed increase of emissions in the transport sector; and how to ensure the quality of purchased units from market-based mechanisms. In response, Norway provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Norway.

²¹ <http://unfccc.int/9717.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Poland

1. The second round of MA of Poland took place on 14 November 2016. Poland was represented by Ms. Sylwia Wasniewska, Chief Expert, National Centre for Emissions Management, Institute of Environmental Protection.

2. Questions for Poland had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Poland can be found on the IAR web page for Poland.²²

3. Ms. Wasniewska made an opening presentation, summarizing Poland's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As a member State of the EU, Poland is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. As part of this target, Poland's target for emissions from sectors covered by the ESD (i.e. non-ETS sectors) is to limit the growth of GHG emissions to 14 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Ms. Wasniewska presented emission trends and key policies and measures for achieving Poland's 2020 targets. She highlighted that, while Poland's GDP more than doubled between 1990 and 2014, its total GHG emissions (excluding LULUCF) decreased by 19.7 per cent in 2014 compared to 1990 emission level and by 34.5 per cent compared to 1988 emission level. Ms. Wasniewska stated that emission reductions were mainly driven by Poland's economic transition towards a market economy and by technological shifts in the energy and industry sectors towards more efficient technologies. Poland's key policies and measures aim at increasing energy efficiency as well as a shift in the energy mix towards renewable energy sources and nuclear energy. These emission reductions are offsetting the increasing emission trends in the transport and agriculture sectors, despite already realized efficiency gains in those sectors. Through these efforts, Poland will contribute its part to achieving the joint EU economy-wide emission reduction target, including through keeping its emissions levels from sectors covered by the ESD below its target.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: China, Republic of Korea and United States of America. Questions related to: experiences and challenges with the implementation of Poland's forest programme; PaMs providing incentives to increase the share of electric vehicles; and anticipated changes in the energy mix with regards to the share of renewable energy sources and nuclear energy. In response, Poland provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Poland.

²² <https://unfccc.int/9718.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Slovakia

1. The second round of MA of Slovakia took place on 14 November 2016. Slovakia was represented by Ms. Gabriela Fischerova, Director, General Directorate for Climate Change and Air Protection, Ministry of the Environment.

2. Questions for Slovakia had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Slovakia can be found on the IAR web page for Slovakia.²³

3. Ms. Fischerova made an opening presentation, where she elaborated on the national circumstances of Slovakia, which is a small landlocked country and has been a member State of the EU since 2004. She described the progress made by Slovakia in meeting its 2020 target with emissions being 45.4 per cent lower in 2014 than in 1990. This was achieved mainly through new legislation, by introducing best available technologies, by fuel-switching from coal and oil to natural gas, and by increasing the share of the renewable energy in the recent years. In 2014, energy remained the most significant sector in terms of GHG emissions, with a 66.5 per cent share of Slovakia's total emissions. Emissions from industrial processes increased from 13.2 per cent of Slovakia's total emissions in 1990 to 22 per cent in 2014, owing to an increase in construction activities, which lead to increasing cement and lime production.

4. Slovakia is committed to contributing to the joint EU economy-wide target under the Convention of a 20 per cent reduction in emissions below the 1990 level by 2020. Under the EU ESD, Slovakia has a target to limit the growth in its emissions from non-ETS sectors to 13 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. The main PaMs in place to achieve that target focus on improvements in energy efficiency and the increase of the share of renewables. The main PaMs include: the National Reform Programme and its Action Plan, with targeted sectoral policies, including climate and energy policies; the National Environmental Strategy; the Energy Security Strategy; taxation of energy products and electricity; the Energy Efficiency Action Plan; the National Action Plan for Biomass Use; the National Renewable Energy Action Plan; the Waste Act; and the implementation of several EU-wide measures. According to Slovakia's GHG emission projections Slovakia considers that it is on its way to overachieving its 2020 quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. In addition, Ms. Fischerova explained that the EU and its member States are committed to a binding target of a reduction in domestic GHG emissions of at least 40 per cent below the 1990 level by 2030 as per the EU's intended nationally determined contribution communicated under the Paris Agreement.

5. No questions were raised to Slovakia.

²³ <https://unfccc.int/9719.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Sweden

1. The second round of MA of Sweden took place on 14 November 2016. Sweden was represented by Mr. Lars Ronnås, Ambassador for Climate, Climate Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and Ms. Susanne Åkerfeldt, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Finance.

2. Questions for Sweden had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Sweden can be found on the IAR web page for Sweden.²⁴

3. Mr. Ronnås, followed by Ms. Åkerfeldt, made an opening presentation, summarizing Sweden's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. In 2013, GHG emissions in Sweden were 22 per cent below the 1990 level, while the GDP increased by 58 per cent during the period 1990–2013. This accomplishment clearly demonstrates that emission reductions can be achieved without compromising the imperative of the long-term economic development. Sweden expects to achieve its 2020 target for non-ETS sectors through strengthening its existing PaMs.

4. During the session, Mr. Ronnås and Ms. Åkerfeldt presented the key PaMs in place before and after 1990 for achieving emission reductions. Sweden has a long history of applying energy and carbon taxes in order to reduce emissions. Prior to 1990, policies and measures involved urban and rural planning, infrastructure for district heating, building standards and public transportation. Since 1990, in addition to these policies, further policies were implemented, including policies that introduced a landfill ban on certain kinds of waste, green electricity certificates and investment programmes. In addition, a CO_2 tax was introduced in 1991, which has been the cornerstone of climate policy and the key driver of successful emission reduction in Sweden. The levels of the CO_2 tax have been increased gradually over the years, so as to give households and companies time to adapt.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, China, India, Norway, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Switzerland. These questions were on: the contribution of bioenergy use to emission reductions; the role of county administrative boards in shaping national climate policy; challenges in estimating the effects of individual PaMs; incentives for industry to install new treatment technologies; the role of biofuels in emission reductions in the transport sector; current and expected levels of biofuel blending; and political, social and economic conditions that support the implementation of complementary measures in the residential, commercial and institutional sectors. In response, Sweden provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Sweden.

²⁴ <https://unfccc.int/9720.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Switzerland

1. The second round of MA of Switzerland took place on 14 November 2016. Switzerland was represented by Mr. Franz Perrez, Ambassador for the Environment, Federal Office for the Environment, Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications.

2. Questions for Switzerland had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, EU and Japan. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Switzerland can be found on the IAR web page for Switzerland.²⁵

3. Mr. Perrez made an opening presentation, summarizing Switzerland's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Switzerland's emission reduction target under the Convention is a 20 per cent reduction below the 1990 level by 2020, which is consistent with a quantified emission limitation or reduction commitment of 84.2 per cent for the period 2013–2020 relative to the 1990 level, as defined in the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol. From 1990 to 2014, total GHG emissions decreased by 9.3 per cent. In the same period, population and GDP increased by approximately 21 and 45 per cent, respectively, which indicates a decoupling of GHG emissions from economic and population growth.

4. During the session, Switzerland presented its key PaMs to achieve its 2020 target, including a CO_2 levy on heating and process fuels; a national emissions trading scheme; the national building refurbishment programme; the partial compensation of CO_2 emissions from fuels used in transport; the CO_2 emissions regulation for new passenger cars; and the replacement of nuclear power plants with new gas-fired combined cycle power plants, which will be obligated to offset their GHG emissions. Switzerland also emphasized that electricity in the country is almost exclusively generated from renewable energy sources, predominantly by hydropower plants, and nuclear energy. In addition to the implementation of these PaMs, Switzerland intends to use units from market-based mechanisms in line with strict quality criteria prescribed in domestic legislation at the end of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol to achieve its 2020 target.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Brazil, Canada, EU, New Zealand and Norway. The questions focused on: Switzerland's PaMs in the energy sector; strengthening of Switzerland's existing PaMs under the 'with additional measures' emission projection scenario in order to achieve its 2020 target; Switzerland's policies for promotion of electric or hybrid vehicles; interaction between federal and cantonal governments on policy response to climate change; lessons learned from the Swiss energy programme promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy; and estimation of the effects of Switzerland's mitigation actions. In response, Switzerland provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Switzerland.

²⁵ <http://unfccc.int/9721.php>.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

1. The second round of MA of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland took place on 14 November 2016. The United Kingdom was represented by Mr. Archie Young, Head of International Negotiations and Head of Delegation.

2. Questions for the United Kingdom had been submitted in writing by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Israel, Japan and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by the United Kingdom can be found on the IAR web page for the United Kingdom.²⁶

3. Mr. Young made an opening presentation, summarizing the United Kingdom's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As a member State of the EU, the United Kingdom is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. As part of this target, the United Kingdom's emission reduction target from sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. non-ETS sectors) is 16 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020. Mr. Young emphasized that, in addition to the joint EU targets under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, the United Kingdom has also established a series of domestic carbon budgets that set a limit on the quantity of GHG emission reductions of at least 80 per cent below the 1990 level by 2050. In this regard, the United Kingdom has recently set its domestic target for 2028–2032, which is equivalent to a 57 per cent reduction below the 1990 level by 2030.

4. Mr. Young presented emission trends and the key PaMs for achieving the United Kingdom's emission reduction targets. He highlighted that the United Kingdom's total GHG emissions (including LULUCF) in 2014 were 35.2 per cent below the 1990 level, while its GDP increased by more than 60 per cent over the same period. He further stated that the United Kingdom's total GHG emissions in 2020 are projected to be 46 per cent lower than the 1990 level, and should continue to decline beyond 2020. The main PaMs include: support for an early market for ultra-low and zero-emission vehicles; implementation of renewable heat incentive schemes in the building sector; and investments for innovation and new energy technologies. Through these efforts, the United Kingdom will contribute its part to achieving the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, including through reducing its emissions from sectors covered by the EU ESD further below its target.

5. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Brazil, Canada, China, Republic of Korea and Switzerland. Questions related to: projections relating to the land sector, and assumptions underlying the projections; the 2020 emission reduction target; the long-term low-emission development strategy; the approaches, methodologies and institutions that are used for monitoring and tracking emissions; and experiences of emission reductions in the transport sector. In response, the United Kingdom provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for the United Kingdom.

²⁶ <http://unfccc.int/9722.php>.