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## **Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the Netherlands at the forty-fifth 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 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 second round of MA of the Netherlands took place at a working group session during SBI 45, on 14 November 2016. 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 the Netherlands had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session 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.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <<https://unfccc.int/9715.php>>.

## II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Rapporteur, Mr. Sidat Yaffa. The Netherlands was represented by Mr. Ivo de Zwaan, Head of Delegation of the Netherlands to the United Nations climate change negotiations.

5. 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 land use, land-use change and forestry sector, decreased by 12.0 per cent between 1990 and 2015. Mr. de Zwaan noted that, over the same period, the Netherlands' gross domestic product 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.

6. Mr. de Zwaan presented the Netherlands' target for 2020 for emissions from sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading System (non-ETS sectors) as contained in the European Union 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 policies and measures (PaMs), in particular for the energy efficiency, renewable energy, building and transport sectors.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, China, India, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America. The questions were on: the reasons for the significant reduction in emissions of non-carbon dioxide (non-CO<sub>2</sub>) greenhouse gases (GHGs) between 1990 and 2014, particularly methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) emissions from the waste sector and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) 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.

8. In closing, the SBI Rapporteur reminded the Netherlands 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 Rapporteur thanked the delegation of the Netherlands, all the other delegations, and the secretariat for this successful MA session.

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