



United Nations

FCCC/KP/CMP/2017/INF.1



Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Distr.: General
30 October 2017

English only

**Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting
of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

Thirteenth session

Bonn, 6–17 November 2017

Item 2(e) of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters

Status of ratification of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol

**Action taken on reporting and review of information
submitted by Parties under the Doha Amendment to the
Kyoto Protocol**

Summary

This note provides information on the action taken by Parties included in Annex I (as defined in Article 1, paragraph 7, of the Kyoto Protocol) in reporting information to establish their assigned amounts for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and other related information required by the reporting guidelines under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol. This note also provides information on the status of review by expert review teams of the information submitted by Parties included in Annex I for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and on possible steps to be taken by the secretariat regarding the issuance of assigned amount units for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.

GE.17-19087(E)



* 1 7 1 9 0 8 7 *

Please recycle 



I. Background

1. The Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol (hereinafter referred to as the Amendment) will enter into force once three quarters of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol have ratified it (by way of depositing their instruments of acceptance with the Depositary).¹ In other words, ratification by 144 of the current 192 Parties to the Kyoto Protocol is required.² As at 21 September 2017, 83 Parties had deposited their instrument of acceptance. The Amendment for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (2013–2020) is, therefore, not yet in force.

2. Nevertheless, pending its entry into force, the implementation of Parties' commitments under the Amendment is already ongoing on the basis of paragraph 6 of decision 1/CMP.8, which stipulates the following:

“Decides also that Parties that do not provisionally apply the amendment under paragraph 5 will implement their commitments and other responsibilities in relation to the second commitment period, in a manner consistent with their national legislation or domestic processes, as of 1 January 2013 and pending the entry into force of the amendment in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Kyoto Protocol”.

3. Such implementation includes reporting under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol in relation to commitments inscribed in the Amendment, including quantified emission limitation and reduction commitments (QELRCs).

4. This information note provides a summary of information on the action taken by Parties included in Annex I³ with commitments inscribed in the third column of Annex B in the Amendment (hereinafter referred to as Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period) in reporting the following: information to establish their assigned amounts for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol;⁴ information, on an annual basis, on the levels of their greenhouse gas emissions; and other related information required by the guidelines for reporting and review of information under the Kyoto Protocol.⁵ This note also provides an overview of the status of review of this information by expert review teams coordinated by the secretariat, and steps taken by the secretariat to enable the issuance of assigned amount units (AAUs) and removal units (RMUs) for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.

II. Possible action by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

5. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) may wish to take note of the information provided by the secretariat regarding the status of ratification of the Amendment and to invite Parties intending to do so to expedite the deposit of their instruments of acceptance of the Amendment. The CMP may also wish to take note of the action taken on reporting and review of information submitted by Parties under the Amendment. Further, the CMP may decide to take any action that it deems necessary with regard to the secretariat enabling Parties to issue their AAUs under the Amendment pending the entry into force of the Amendment.

¹ The Amendment is subject to acceptance by Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (pursuant to Article 21, paragraph 7, and Article 20, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol). It will enter into force for those Parties having accepted it on the ninetieth day after the date of receipt by the Depositary of an instrument of acceptance by at least three quarters of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (Article 20, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol). The Depositary is the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Article 23 of the Kyoto Protocol).

² See <http://unfccc.int/2613.php>.

³ As defined in Article 1, paragraph 7, of the Kyoto Protocol.

⁴ Decision 2/CMP.8, paragraph 2.

⁵ Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol and decision 15/CMP.1 in conjunction with decision 3/CMP.11.

III. Action taken by Parties included in Annex I on reporting and review under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol

6. On the basis of the provisions of paragraph 6 of decision 1/CMP.8 (see para. 2 above), as at 20 August 2017, 37 Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period had submitted their reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period.⁶ As at 20 October 2017, 33 review reports prepared by expert review teams had been published on the UNFCCC website,⁷ while the review of the reports of the remaining Parties is ongoing.

7. In addition, 37 Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period also made annual submissions for 2015, 2016 and 2017 of greenhouse gas inventories and additional information that is submitted on an annual basis in accordance with Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol, including information on activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol.⁸ As at 20 October 2017, 35 review reports of the 2015 annual submissions and 34 review reports of the 2016 annual submissions of those Parties had been published on the UNFCCC website, while the reviews of the 2017 annual submissions are ongoing.⁹

8. Similar to the practice for the first commitment period, after the completion of the review of their report to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period, Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for that commitment period may proceed to issue AAUs in accordance with the information included in the compilation and accounting database.¹⁰ Likewise, Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period that have elected to issue RMUs annually for activities under Article 3, paragraph 3, forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, and any elected activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, shall issue RMUs equivalent to the net removals of anthropogenic greenhouse gases resulting from these activities.¹¹ The units are issued for the main purpose of demonstrating compliance with the legally binding commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol after the expiration of the commitment period and the subsequent additional period for fulfilling these commitments (true-up period). These units could also be transferred between registries and within registries.¹²

9. While the provisions of paragraph 6 of decision 1/CMP.8 together with Articles 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol appear to provide a legal basis for reporting and review of information submitted by Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period, it is not clear whether this basis is sufficient to enable those Parties to issue their AAUs and/or RMUs while their commitments under the Amendment for the second commitment period do not yet have legal force. The uncertainty is partly related to the purpose of these units in enabling Parties included in Annex I to comply with legally binding commitments. It is compounded by practical considerations related to the fact that issuance of AAUs or RMUs is irreversible and to the possibility of Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period eventually deciding not to ratify the Amendment. It may be noted that originally, when the relevant provisions on the issuance of AAUs were agreed, the situation of a delayed entry into force of the Amendment was not considered.

⁶ Two of the reports by these Parties were submitted in 2017.

⁷ See <http://unfccc.int/9916.php>.

⁸ One Party included in Annex I made its annual submission of greenhouse gas emission inventories and additional information in accordance with Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol for the first time in 2017.

⁹ For the latest status of reporting and review of information under the Amendment, see documents FCCC/SBSTA/2017/INF.7 and FCCC/SBSTA/2017/INF.8, respectively.

¹⁰ Decision 13/CMP.1 in conjunction with decision 3/CMP.11, annex, paragraph 23 bis.

¹¹ Decision 13/CMP.1 in conjunction with decision 3/CMP.11, annex, paragraph 25.

¹² Decision 13/CMP.1 in conjunction with decisions 3/CMP.1, 9/CMP.1, 11/CMP.1, 13/CMP.1, 1/CMP.8 and 3/CMP.11.

10. The secretariat stands ready to proceed with the steps needed to enable Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period to issue their AAUs and RMUs under the Amendment.

11. In view of the considerations outlined above, the secretariat would proceed with the steps needed to enable Parties included in Annex I with QELRCs inscribed for the second commitment period to issue AAUs and RMUs under the Amendment once the Amendment has entered into force for those Parties.
