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English only

Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the forty-seventh session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Armenia

Note by the secretariat

I. Background and mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 63, decided to conduct under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) international consultation and analysis (ICA) of biennial update reports (BURs) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty. This process aims to increase the transparency of mitigation actions and their effects reported by non-Annex I Parties.

2. The COP, by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 56, adopted the modalities and guidelines for international consultation and analysis contained in annex IV to the same decision (hereinafter referred to as the ICA modalities and guidelines). The COP decided that the first round of ICA would be conducted for developing country Parties and would commence within six months of the submission of the first round of BURs by developing country Parties.¹

3. According to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the ICA process consists of two steps: a technical analysis of the BURs of non-Annex I Parties by a team of technical experts resulting in a summary report for each Party; and a facilitative sharing of views (FSV), with BURs and summary reports serving as input.²

4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened on 10 November 2017 in Bonn, Germany, at SBI 47, the fourth workshop for the facilitative exchange of views, open to all Parties, for five non-Annex I Parties, including Armenia, for which there were a BUR and a final summary report by 10 September 2017.³ Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance. As a result, Armenia received 12 written questions in advance from the following Parties: Egypt, Japan, New Zealand, Thailand and United States of America.

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 58(a).

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 3.

³ The BURs and the summary reports are available at <http://unfccc.int/8722.php> and <http://unfccc.int/10054.php>, respectively.

5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow, comprised one three-hour session covering the five Parties in alphabetical order.
6. This record of the FSV for Armenia summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its BUR,⁴ constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for Armenia.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. At the workshop, Armenia made a brief presentation on its BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
8. In its presentation, Armenia provided an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements, national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, mitigation actions and effects, and support needed and received. It highlighted that total GHG emissions for 2012 were 9,829 gigagrams of carbon dioxide equivalent, excluding emissions and removals from the land use, land-use change and forestry sector. The energy sector represented 70.3 per cent of total emissions, followed by the agriculture (16.5 per cent), industrial processes and product use (6.7 per cent) and waste (6.5 per cent) sectors.
9. Armenia explained that total GHG emissions in 2012 decreased by 61 per cent below the 1990 level, corresponding to the sharp economic downturn following the collapse of the former Soviet Union in 1991. Armenia's gross domestic product increased annually by 5.4 per cent during the period 1995–2000, by 12.4 per cent on average during the period 2001–2006, and by around 4.4 per cent during the period 2010–2013. From 2005 to 2012, an increase in emissions occurred, especially in the energy sector owing to increased emissions from electricity generation, road transportation and household energy consumption as a result of economic growth. During the same period, emissions from the industrial processes and product use sector increased owing to a rise in emissions from fluorinated gases and from the agriculture sector owing to an increase in livestock population and fertilizer use.
10. Further, Armenia presented information on its actions to reduce emissions in the energy sector by scaling up its renewable energy programme to increase the share of renewable energy to 21 per cent by 2020 and 25 per cent by 2025. Another important measure is the energy efficiency action plan, which has helped Armenia to reduce its annual energy consumption by 60 per cent. Other key examples of mitigation actions implemented by Armenia include optimization of the public road transportation route grid, the replacement of minibuses by larger buses, waste management projects, the reduction of illegal logging, and reforestation.
11. Armenia also provided information on the obstacles and barriers encountered in the preparation of its BURs, which translate into capacity-building needs. These include conducting uncertainty and trend assessments for the GHG inventory, improving the GHG inventory in relation to the land use, land-use change and forestry sectors, estimating the impacts of mitigation actions on the non-energy sector and establishing a domestic measurement, reporting and verification framework. The Party underscored the benefits of participating in the ICA process, including increasing ownership and responsibility of the ministry in charge of coordinating the ICA process, contributing to a better understanding of enhanced requirements for GHG inventories and reporting on mitigation actions and progress made, highlighting the need for improved communication between national partners,

⁴ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2016/TASR.1/ARM.

identifying gaps and areas of capacity-building needs and raising the profile among Parties of reporting under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

12. Over the course of the presentation, Armenia presented answers to the written questions submitted in advance by interested Parties.

13. After the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Armenia for its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Austria, China, India, Japan, Sudan and United States. The questions and answers were mainly focused on the following areas: challenges to reporting fugitive and biomass emissions in the national inventory; lessons learned from the joint preparation of the BUR and national inventory report; experience in participating in the ICA process, especially the technical analysis, and how this will be used in the preparation of the next BUR; financial support received; the status of the REDD-plus⁵ programme; challenges to compiling information during the preparation of the BUR; and further information on the Party's efforts to increase the share of renewable energy and on the national energy efficiency programme.

14. The full details of the presentation as well as subsequent interventions are available on the UNFCCC web page of the workshop.⁶

15. In closing the workshop, the SBI Chair, Mr. Chruszczow, congratulated Armenia for successfully undergoing the FSV and completing the first round of its ICA process. He thanked Armenia and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a truly facilitative manner. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁵ In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the COP encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

⁶ <http://unfccc.int/10410.php>