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English only

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

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 Ecuador, 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, Ecuador received 19 written questions in advance from the following Parties: European Union, Germany, New Zealand, Switzerland 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 Ecuador 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 Ecuador.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. At the workshop, Ecuador made a brief presentation on its BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
8. In its presentation, Ecuador 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 2010 were 80,504.23 gigagrams of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ eq), including emissions and removals from the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector. The energy sector represented the most significant source of GHG emissions, contributing 45 per cent of total GHG emissions, followed by the LULUCF (30 per cent), agriculture (18 per cent), waste (4 per cent) and industrial processes and product use (3 per cent) sectors.
9. Further, Ecuador presented information on its mitigation actions and their effects, with an emphasis on energy generation and energy efficiency, as well as information on the measures implemented in the industrial processes, agriculture, forestry and waste sectors. It highlighted that an average of 1.7 million tonnes of CO₂ eq have been avoided annually as a result of programmes in the energy sector. Ecuador outlined projects in the industrial processes sector that aim to change the production and energy matrix, as well as technological upgrades to refrigeration equipment and a shift to efficient cooking stoves driven by induction technology. Ecuador also presented information on its landfill management projects in the waste sector, which have an emission reduction potential of 500,000 tonnes of CO₂ eq, and the progress of its REDD-plus⁵ programme. In addition, there are three nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the implementation phase in the following subsectors: energy generation, energy efficiency in households and energy efficiency in the oil and gas industry. Ecuador also participates in the clean development mechanism (CDM) and has 31 registered CDM projects to date, mainly in the energy sector (hydropower plants).
10. The Party also provided information on the unified system of measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) under development. The enhanced MRV system consists of three main components: monitoring mitigation (which includes GHG inventories, mitigation actions and REDD-plus), finance (results-based payments and financial flows), adaptation (vulnerability and resilience) and non-carbon benefits; reporting at the local, national and international levels; and national and international verification. Ecuador identified the following needs in order to improve its MRV system: effective transfer of knowledge to ensure the sustainability of report preparation, improvement of the vulnerability and adaptation analysis, implementation of its enhanced MRV system for inventories and support for the implementation of NAMAs.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2017/TASR.1/ECU.

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.

11. Ecuador also presented information on the obstacles and barriers encountered in the preparation of its BURs, including insufficient financial allocation, shortage of specialists, training needs regarding the preparation of GHG inventories and use of official methodologies to estimate the effects of mitigation actions, and appropriate institutional arrangements to facilitate the collection of information and the preparation of reports. Over the course of the presentation, the Party also underscored the benefits of the support received through North–South and South–South cooperation and its participation in the ICA process.

12. After the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Ecuador for its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: China, European Union, Germany, India, Indonesia, Switzerland, Turkey and United States. The questions and answers were mainly focused on the following areas: domestic MRV and use of the MRV system for the preparation of the GHG inventories for the submission of the next BUR and national communication; the institutional arrangements in place for the preparation of the BUR; the tools used by Ecuador for measuring the impact of mitigation actions; additional information on the REDD-plus programme and protected areas, especially conservation and reforestation areas; and the timeline to achieve the mitigation plan.

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

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

⁶ <http://unfccc.int/10410.php>