

## Session SBI42 (2015)

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A compilation of questions to - and answers by – Russian Federation  
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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

[Question by](#) China at Monday, 30 March 2015

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) reporting process

What have the changes been made since the previous national communication in the methodologies used for preparation of projections? It is strongly recommended to provide such information in the nextBR1.

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

As distinct from the Fifth National Communication projections in the Energy sector are based on the analysis of assembly of emission projections, developed by several independent research groups based on different models, activity data and assumptions. The analysis of projections was based on 26 publications and took into consideration 71 scenarios. The scenarios considered were based on different methods of process simulation in energy and other sectors, energy efficiency increase, forecasts of production, consumption and export of energy resources and on the simulations of fuel and energy balance of the Russian Federation in the long run. The scale of necessary investments and other economic factors were also taken into consideration. The analysis took into account the evolution of predictive emission estimates published by the same groups in different years. All scenarios were arranged into 5 families, each characterized by GHG emission trends and policies and measures aimed at their reduction including the application of low-carbon technologies, improvement of energy efficiency, carbon capture and storage etc. The average projections from three families mostly eligible to the criteria of scenarios “without measures”, “with measures” and “with additional measures” were selected for the Sixth National Communication of the Russian Federation and the Biennial Report. It should be mentioned that Modalities and procedures for international assessment and review (annex II to the decision 2/CP.17) does not include provisions allowing other Parties to submit any recommendations or observations along with their questions

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[Question by](#) United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) GDP Growth Estimates

How sensitive are the emissions projections to the assumed GDP growth estimates?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Energy emission projections described in the 6NC and 1BR represent averages of projection families. The families were composed using various scenarios based on the analysis of 26 publications containing 71 scenarios. The scenarios considered were based on different methods of process simulation in energy and other sectors, energy efficiency increase, forecasts of production, consumption and export of energy resources and on the simulations of fuel and energy balance of the Russian Federation in the long run. The scale of necessary investments and other economic factors were also taken into consideration. Each individual scenario has its own degree of sensitivity to the assumed GDP growth estimates. Estimations of sensitivity of average emission projections were not performed.

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**Question by** Brazil at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Information on emissions trading

Observation: An extension of the deadline for questions about Russian Federation's BR should have been considered as well as for all countries that are reporting in any UN official language other than English, which should be considered the working language for all activities that involves all UN Parties.

Page 18 reads “Up to now, Russian Federation did not acquire from other UNFCCC Parties the units from the market-based mechanisms, which could be used to meet its quantified economy wide emission reduction target, and did not use such units in order to reach this target.” In addition, page 16 states that “According to the data of the Savings Bank of Russia JSC, almost 150 applications were submitted in the Russian Federation for the investment projects under the Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol with the total amount of emission reductions equal to 381,3 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. The Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation approved 108 investment projects in 2010–2012. The project activities encounter the key sectors of Russian economy including oil and gas, chemical and coal mining industries, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, thermal and hydro energy, forest industry, housing and utilities sector, waste treatment, forestry and agriculture. More than 250 Russian companies participated in project implementation. The chemistry, ferrous metallurgy and energy installations are responsible for emission reductions equal to 55, 56 and 46 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>- eq respectively.” There is no explanation about the sales of 381.3 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e or if it was added or not to the emissions of the Russian Federation in accordance with the rules of the Kyoto Protocol to avoid double counting. Please clarify.

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Within the first commitment period the Russian Federation used the joint implementation mechanism, in accordance with the Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol.

Russia was a host country for joint implementation projects and put up for sale carbon units generated by the projects. Background information about the projects, including information about the other Parties of JI projects, is available on the official website of the UNFCCC ([http://ji.unfccc.int/JI\\_Parties/DB/6DRH120BQZA26Q78VQ5FDCS7FTPQIU/viewDFP](http://ji.unfccc.int/JI_Parties/DB/6DRH120BQZA26Q78VQ5FDCS7FTPQIU/viewDFP)) as well as on the website of the Russian carbon units registry (<http://www.carbonunitsregistry.ru/eng-reports-pso.htm>). 381.3 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. is the total amount of emission reductions of 150 applications submitted for the investment projects under the Article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol, each application corresponds to one joint implementation project. While selecting applications 108 projects were approved. As on 31.12.2014 for the first commitment period under joint implementation projects 266,214,900 emission reduction units (ERU) were issued, 255,691,861 ERUs were transferred to other registries. The above information could be found on the UNFCCC website ([http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/annex\\_i\\_ghg\\_inventories/national\\_inventories\\_submissions/items/8812.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/items/8812.php)) and on the Russian carbon units registry website (<http://www.carbonunitsregistry.ru/eng-reports-avuar.htm>).

According to the Kyoto Protocol rules, an outgoing international transfer of carbon units (a transfer to an account of another carbon units registry) is a corresponding subtraction from carbon units of the Party that transfers carbon units. Annual assessments of the information on carbon units, submitted in standard electronic format, as well as annual inventory reviews, in terms of data on carbon units, showed no discrepancy. Related reports are available on the UNFCCC website ([http://unfccc.int/kyoto\\_protocol/registry\\_systems/independent\\_assessment\\_reports/items/4061.php](http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/registry_systems/independent_assessment_reports/items/4061.php); [http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/annex\\_i\\_ghg\\_inventories/inventory\\_review\\_reports/items/8452.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/inventory_review_reports/items/8452.php)).

The Russian Federation did not participate in emission trading under Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol, so there were no transfers of carbon units as a result of its sales or purchase.

In relation of the proposal on extension of the deadline for questions for Parties that are reporting in any UN official language other than English our opinion is that the deadline for questions should be the same and all UN official languages should be treated equally.

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**Question by** Saudi Arabia at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** The assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures

Did the Russian Federation encounter difficulty in reporting on its assessment of the

economic and social consequences of response measures in the BR? Will the Russian Federation be providing information on this assessment in the next BR?

[Answer by Russian Federation](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Such kind of assessment should be carried out using a common methodology to be applied by all Parties involved. Providing information on assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures in the following BRs will depend on the state of development of the methodology ensuring comparability of assessments results among Parties.

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[Question by Sweden](#) at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** LULUCF and the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

In FCCC/SB/2011/INF.1/Rev.1[1] Parties can find a compilation of annex I Parties economy-wide emission reduction targets to be implemented by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention

“Russian Federation

23. The Russian Federation communicated a target within the range of a 15–25 per cent emission reduction by 2020 compared with 1990 levels. The range of its GHG emission reductions will depend on the following conditions:

- (a) Appropriate accounting of the potential of Russia’s forestry sector in the context of its contribution to meeting the obligations of anthropogenic emission reductions;
- (b) The undertaking by all major emitters of the legally binding obligations to reduce anthropogenic GHG emissions.[2][3]”

Question: 1) Could the Russian Federation please explain what is meant by “the appropriate accounting of the forestry sector” in the Biennial Report, since it’s not fully clear to us and it is also not fully clear to us whether the LULUCF sector is accounted for as a part of the target?

2) If LULUCF is included in the QEWERT are there any instruments or measures in place to promote benefits for climate through a sustainable use of forests on a long term basis and what do they look like?

[1] Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-fourth session Bonn, 6–16 June 2011

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Thirty-fourth session Bonn, 6–16 June 2011

Compilation of economy-wide emission reduction targets to be implemented by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Revised note by the secretariat

[2] The Russian Federation communicated to the secretariat information on its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target in Russian, which can be found on the UNFCCC website. It also provided an unofficial translation of its submission in English and an edited version of this translation is included in this document.

[3] In its letter to the UNFCCC Executive Secretary of 8 December 2010, the Russian Federation reconfirmed its readiness to fulfil commitments within the framework of the Copenhagen Accord to reduce GHG emissions in the post-2012 period. In this context, the Russian Federation intends to fulfil such commitments by participating in a new comprehensive legally binding agreement, which should be developed before the end of the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol.

[Answer by Russian Federation](#) At Wednesday, 27 May 2015

1. The terms quoted in the question were formulated by the Russian Federation in 2011 as the opportunity for the country's obligations within the framework of development a new global agreement. The Biennial report contains a national target, approved by Presidential Decree of 13 September 2013 #752: «to ensure by 2020 reducing greenhouse gas emissions to no more than 75 percent of these emissions in 1990". This objective does not contain the range of emissions, and its implementation does not depend on the potential modalities for the accounting of the forestry sector in international climate agreements. At the same time the forestry sector is not included in the accounting for the implementation of national targets by 2020.

2. Russia has a sufficient set of policy instruments that provide a beneficial effect on the climate through sustainable forest management on a long term basis.

The most important element of Russian policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is to work for the rational use, protection, care and reproduction of forests – i.e. forest management. Thus, in accordance with sub-paragraph "c" of paragraph 18 of the Fundamentals of the state policy in the field of use, protection and reproduction of forests in the Russian Federation for the period up to 2030 the development and implementation of measures to use forests for mitigation climate changes as well as the adaptation of the forest sector for these changes should be solved within the framework of preservation of ecological potential of forests.

As noted in the sixth National Communication of the Russian Federation, a wide range of measures with regard to implementing the principles of climate policy in the forestry sector is included in the currently implemented State program of the Russian Federation "Development of forestry" in the 2013 - 2020 years". The main objectives of the program are: to ensure a balance between reforestation and cutting and losses from fires, pests and diseases; optimization of reforestation; afforestation on non-forest lands and the creation of environmentally sustainable

agro-forestry landscapes in the treeless and sparsely wooded areas. The program is implemented also in accordance with the provisions of the Strategy of Development the Forest Complex of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2020, adopted in 2008.

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**Question by** Sweden at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Burning of agricultural residues

The burning of agricultural residues cause soot emissions which has a negative impact on the climate. What does the Russian Federation do to ensure that the ban on burning waste from agriculture is being complied to?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In the Russian Federation, the burning of agricultural residues is not performed, so this source of soot emissions is negligible. According to the Rules of fire-prevention regime in the Russian Federation burning of stubble, crop residue and making fires in the fields are prohibited. A more detailed legislative framework for the control of burning of agricultural residues is given in section 6.10 of the National Inventory Report submitted in 2014. In the case of violations, the perpetrators are brought to administrative responsibility in the form of administrative fines up to one hundred thousand rubles, and the violators are claims for the payment of the sum of the caused environmental damage.

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**Question by** United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Policies and Measures

In Russia's Biennial Report, the projections for the "with measures" scenario show that Russia will be on track to meet its target under the Convention. Can Russia provide additional details regarding which significant policies and measures are already implemented, and which are planned? In addition, can Russia list some of the primary measures contemplated under the "with additional measures" scenario in its Biennial Report?

**Answer by** Russian Federation At Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In regard of policies and measures implemented and planned please see answer to Question 10 below and Chapter IV of the Sixth National Communication of the

Russian Federation. The key primary measures contemplated under the “with additional measures” scenario in the Biennial Report are phase-in of the carbon markets (cap-and trade scheme) and/or carbon taxation.

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**Question by** United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Non-Energy Sector Projections

How are emissions within the industrial, agriculture and waste systems projected to change?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In order to implement the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 30.09.2013 753 "On the reduction of greenhousegas emissions" Government approved an Action Plan by its Order from 02.04.2014 504-r. 2. The plan contains a set of measures including, inter alia, performance estimation and development projections of greenhouse gas emissions for the period up to 2020 and up to 2030 by sector.

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**Question by** United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Forest Sector Emissions

Under the emission projection scenario 2, emissions from the forest sector turned to a source. Could Russia provide additional details related to this change in the sector?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Figure V. 1 in the First biennial report of the Russian Federation presents both: The changes in the budget of only one carbon pool (phytomass) – upper graph A, and for all pools for Russian forests – the bottom graph B. As can be seen from the figure, the budget of all carbon pools in the forests is expected to be positive value during the whole forecast period and regardless of the scenarios of forest management. The growth of harvesting rates largely leads to the increased losses of carbon pool of biomass with removed with harvest wood products from the forest. Than the higher level of forest harvesting, - than the faster decreases the absorption of carbon. Scenario of prolonged moderate growth in forest harvesting over a long period of time (scenario 2), as well as a result of natural shifts in the age structure of forests, would both lead to a decrease of the net removals by the phytomass of



forest ecosystems, the achievement of zero value in 2035 and continue with increased losses of carbon in phytomass of forest up to 30 Mt per year in 2045. However, the corresponding accumulation of carbon will occur in the pools of dead wood, litter and soils and that will store the total budget of forests as the positive values. Thus, forests as a whole will continue to be a sink for atmospheric carbon dioxide.

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**Question by** Sweden at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Action plan to ensure emission reduction target

In Biennial Report (unofficial translation) chapter III Quantified Economy – wide Emission Reduction Target “The Decree of the President of the Russian Federation “On Reduction of the Greenhouse Gas Emissions” 752 of September 30, 2013, 7 adopted for the purpose of the implementation the Climate Doctrine of the Russian Federation<sup>8</sup>, the Government of the Russian Federation has been assigned for:

- ensure the reduction by the year 2020 the amount of the greenhouse gas emissions to the level no more than 75 per cent of these emissions in the year 1990;
- approve the plan of action to ensure the achievement of the assigned amount of GHG emissions within the 6-month period and foresee in it the development of the parameters for the GHG emission reductions of by sectors of economy. The federal executive authorities in the Russian Federation are currently developing the above action plan. More detailed information on the quantified emission reduction target will be made available after the approval of the plan.”

Questions: 1) Has the plan been approved and if so, where can it be found? 2) If it’s approved could the Russian Federation give a brief summary in English?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In order to implement the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of 30.09.2013 753 "On the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions" Government approved an Action Plan by its Order from 02.04.2014 504-r. The Plan in Russian language presented on the official web portal of legal information - <http://pravo.gov.ru/proxy/ips/?docbody=&nd=102348865&intelsearch=504-%F0>. The responsibility of implementation of each of these activities lies on certain federal executive authorities (Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation).

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**Question by** New Zealand at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Effect of the state programme on forestry development

What is the projected overall effect on greenhouse gas emissions and removals from implementation of the state programme on forestry development for the period 2013–2020?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The Government of the Russian Federation by its Decree of 15 April 2014 #318 approved a state program of the Russian Federation “Forestry Development” 2013 – 2020”. The program is currently implemented. The main goal of the program is to increase efficiency, protection and reproduction of forests, ensuring stable societal needs for resources and useful properties of forests along with guaranteed preservation of resource and environmental capacity and global (primarily climatic) functions of forests.

The 33 per cent reduction of forest area retired from the wooded forest lands due to the impact of fires, pests, harvesting and other factors is expected by 2020 (on the final stage of implementation of the program). Forest cover of the Russian Federation will be retained at the level of 46.6 per cent, and the preservation of the area of valuable forest stands at 70.54 per cent the total area of forest lands covered with forest vegetation.

The total effect of mitigating anthropogenic impact on the climate system is achieved through the implementation of the whole complex of forest management activities – the use, reproduction, conservation and protection of forests. The implementation of the National strategy of forestry development on the period until 2020, provides increasing of timber harvesting by 2020 by 57% in comparison with level of 2007. To assess the impact of this program on a net emissions and absorption of GHG in the forestry sector the modelling of carbon stocks changes in all forest pools under several scenarios has been conducted (please see the corresponding sections of the first Biennial Report and the sixth National Communication).

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**Question by** New Zealand at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Project on stimulation of emission reductions

Among the economic measures for mitigation of climate change effects, the 6th National Communication included a project on stimulation of GHG emission reductions. Could Russia please elaborate on stimulation methods for different economic sectors and give some examples of incentives addressed by this project?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The Government of the Russian Federation is taking measures to stimulate the reduction of methane emissions to the atmosphere. The measures are provided by the decision of the Government of the Russian Federation of November 8, 2012 #1148 "On peculiarities of calculation of fees for emissions of pollutants generated by burning in flares and/or the dispersion of associated gas". Granting a right of offsetting the costs incurred by reducing the amount of environmental charges to the enterprises which reduce emissions from the flaring associated petroleum gas (composed of methane by 70%) has a stimulating effect.

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[Question by](#) China at Monday, 30 March 2015

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) projections by sectors

What are emission projections for each sector? Emission projections need to be disaggregated by sectors. More information of sector-by-sector projections should be done to increase transparency. In addition, what are the assumptions of projections?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Please see the answers to Questions 1, 7, 8 and 23.

It should be mentioned that Modalities and procedures for international assessment and review (annex II to the decision 2/CP.17) does not include provisions allowing other Parties to submit any recommendations or observations along with their questions.

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[Question by](#) China at Monday, 30 March 2015

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) LULUCF sector

Would Russian Federation take LULUCF contribution into account? Additionally, what is the approach to accounting emissions and removals from LULUCF?

[Answer by Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015](#)

In regard of the LULUCF contribution in achieving the 2020 target please see the answer to Question 5.

The intended nationally determined contribution presented by the Russian Federation to the UNFCCC is formulated as follows: Limiting anthropogenic greenhouse gases in Russia to 70-75% of 1990 levels by the year 2030 might be a long-term indicator, subject to the maximum possible account of absorbing capacity of forests. The final decision of the Russian Federation on the INDC in the framework of the new climate agreement (including the degree of taking into account the LULUCF contribution) will be taken pursuant to the outcome of the negotiating process underway throughout the year of 2015 and the INDCs announced by major emitters of greenhouse gases.

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[Question by China at Monday, 30 March 2015](#)

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** market mechanism

Would Russian Federation plan to use flexible mechanism units to achieve its target? Since Russian Federation did not clearly state their views on market-based mechanisms, readers cannot get a full understanding of how Russian Federation will achieve its target. In addition, figures regarding market-based mechanisms are incorrect and inconsistent.

[Answer by Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015](#)

While shaping a national policy on climate change the Russian Federation follows the position that an essential element of efforts to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions is internal (domestic) actions and the use of market mechanisms is a supplement to domestic actions. However, the development of a national system of regulation of greenhouse gas emissions and formulation of proposals for the organization of cooperation in the field of low-carbon development with greenhouse gas emissions control systems of another countries, as well as with international financial institutions are assumed by the Action Plan to Ensure the Achievement of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction to no more than 75 percent of these emissions in 1990 by 2020.

It should be mentioned Modalities and procedures for international assessment and

review (annex II to the decision 2/CP.17) does not include provisions allowing other Parties to submit any recommendations or observations along with their questions.

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**Question by** China at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** PaMs

What mitigation actions are taking to achieve the target? As ERT noted, Russian Federation did not provide any required information on mitigation actions and their effects in CRF Table 3. It is highly recommended that Russian Federation should provide the required information in its next BR.

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

For the description of mitigation actions please see the Sixth National communication of the Russian Federation and the answer to Question 10.

Please also see the answer to Question 1 in regard of submitting recommendations and observations by the Parties along with their questions. It should be mentioned that Modalities and procedures for international assessment and review (annex II to the decision 2/CP.17) does not include provisions allowing other Parties to submit any recommendations or observations along with their questions.

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**Question by** China at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** contribution of LULUCF sector to the achievement of the target

Is LULUCF sector included in its achievement to 2020 emissions reduction target?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Please see the answer to Question 14

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**Question by** China at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** GHG emission from LULUCF sector

Some required information of LULUCF inventories is missing. Could Russia make clarifications on LULUCF emissions?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

For the complete information on emissions and removals in the LULUCF sector please see the annual inventory of the Russian Federation submitted in 2014 and the Sixth National Communication of the Russian Federation.

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**Question by** China at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** transparency of GHG emission

There is limited information about economic activities, emission factors, and its related background. Would Russian Federation make further improvements?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

For the complete information on economic activities, emission factors, and its related please see the annual inventory of the Russian Federation submitted in 2014 and the Sixth National Communication of the Russian Federation.

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**Question by** Switzerland at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Energy sector contributions to reversing emission trends

How are the projected development of energy use and GHG emissions (including continued high reliance of the Party on fossil fuels and emission-intensive industries) expected to contribute to longer term requirements to substantially lower GHG emissions and thus support the collective achievement of the 2 degree warming limit?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The GDP of the Russian Federation in 2012 amounted to 172.9% of the 2000 level while the GHG emissions in the energy sector had reached only 112.7% of the 2000 level. Thus, as the GDP was growing significantly at that time period, the increase in GHG emissions was minimal, as a result of increasing energy efficiency and structural economic changes. The economic growth and GHG emissions can be definitively decoupled upon achievement of the 2020 target, i.e. limitation of the GHG emissions to at most 75% of 1990 levels by the year 2020. The reduction of GDP carbon intensity is expected. At the same time, the 2020 and 2030 targets will not create any obstacles for social and economic development and corresponds to the general objectives of raising the level of energy efficiency, reducing energy losses in the national economy and increasing share of renewables in the Russian energy balance.

Consequent achievement of the 2020 and 2030 targets will allow the Russian Federation to make its way forward on the path of low-carbon development compatible with the long-term objective of the increase in global temperature below 2 degrees Celsius. This objective can be achieved with coordinated efforts of all Parties of the future climate agreement.

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**Question by** Switzerland at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Renewable energy sources use in road transportation

How is the Party implementing its target of 35 per cent of renewable energy sources (RES) use in road transportation by 2030 in line with its 2008 transport strategy? What is the present share of RES in the road transportation sector and is there an intermediate target for 2020?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The question contains a misunderstanding originating probably by an incorrect translation. The target of 35 per cent related to the alternative (to the existing) fuels, not necessarily renewables. The Transport Strategy of the Russian Federation ([http://www.mintrans.ru/activity/detail.php?SECTION\\_ID=2203](http://www.mintrans.ru/activity/detail.php?SECTION_ID=2203)) envisages a set of measures aimed at increasing the share of road transportation fleet with hybrid and electric engines as well as those operating on alternative fuels. In particular, the import custom fees have been reduced for gas-engine technologies and techniques, while the electric cars have been exempted from the import fees. The subjects of the Russian Federation are provided with subsidies for purchasing the gas-engine road transport. In June, 2014, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the updated Transport Strategy, which envisages the increase of the share of

alternate fuels in the entire fuel consumption by the road transport from 4 per cent in 2011 to 17- 20 per cent by 2020. The share of road transportation with hybrid, electric and alternate fuel engines in total road transport fleet will be 26-29 per cent in 2020 and 49-54 per cent in 2030.

The highest priority is given to the use of gas-engine fuel at urban public, regular Urban freight and communal service transport. In 2013, the Government of the Russian Federation approved a set of regulatory measures of the use of gas-engine Fuel and provision of incentives for its use by the road transport. The 31 subjects of the Russian Federation are currently undertaking gas-engine fuel conversion of road transport.

The national gas-engine car fleet is about 90 000, and it consumes about 400 M cubic meters of methane. By 2020 the methane consumption is expected to increase to 10 400 M cubic meters. It is envisaged that by 2020 almost 50 per cent of urban public and communal transport, 30 per cent of regular urban freight transport, 20 per cent of agricultural techniques and 10 per cent of private transport will operate on natural gas. More than 2000 NGV refill stations will be put into operation by 2020.

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**Question by** European Union at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Table 3 CTF

Could Russian Federation provide a completed CTF table 3 with the full detail of its mitigation actions and targets including the required information on mitigation actions and their effects, mitigation actions organized by sector and by gas and estimates of the effects of PaMs on GHG emissions?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Filling Table 3 with the full detail of mitigation actions and targets including the required information on mitigation actions and their effects, mitigation actions organized by sector and by gas and estimates of the effects of PaMs on GHG emissions will be possible after completing process of planning mitigation measures required by the Action Plan approved by the Government of the Russian Federation (please see answer to Question 10 for more details of the Action Plan).

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**Question by** European Union at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March



**Title:** Detailed information on projections

A full sector breakdown for its historical and projected emissions, net LULUCF by gas and disaggregated HFC, PFC and SF6 emissions has not been provided. Could Russian Federation provide this information?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

For the complete and detailed data on historical GHG emissions please see in the annual GHG inventory submissions of the Russian Federation.

The detailed emissions projections will be developed in the process of implementation the Action Plan approved by the Government of the Russian Federation (please see also answer to Question 10).

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**Question by** European Union at Monday, 30 March 2015

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Projection scenarios

Could you indicate the reasons why the scenario definitions used by the Russian Federation are not consistent with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on national communications? Could you please clarify the differences between the definitions used and the UNFCCC guidelines?

**Answer by** Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Substantially, definitions are generally consistent with the UNFCC reporting guidelines. The differences are due to the fact that reported projections do not represent individual scenarios but represent averages of the three scenario families (please see also answer to Question 1). The families have been formed based on individual scenarios which take into account not always identical to each other sets of policies and measures for “with measures” and “with additional measures” scenarios.

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**Question by** European Union at Wednesday, 25 March 2015

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 31 of March

**Title:** Use of market mechanisms

Does Russian Federation intend to use market mechanisms to achieve the targets? If

yes, to which extent and what is the associated effect on the emission level projections for the period up to 2020? Is use of international credits foreseen and if so, to what extent?

In CTF table 4, the quantity of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention are presented as 16,501,174.72 ktCO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2011 and 16,336,061.40 kt CO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2012. However, these figures are inconsistent with the information in CTF table 2(e)I and appear to correspond with the sum of the assigned amount units (AAUs) and the amount of units of the mechanisms under the Kyoto Protocol in those years. Could you please clarify?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation At Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Domestic market mechanisms may be used to achieve the targets for 2020 and 2030 (please see also answer to Question 7). Use of international credits is not foreseen. Figures in CTF table 4 unfortunately are not correct. The correct information is included in the CTF table 2(e)I.

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[Question by](#) European Union at At Wednesday, 25 March 2015

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) Decoupling of economic growth from GHG emissions

To what extent is economic growth decoupled from GHG emissions?

What have been the main effects of the existing policies and measures on the emission trends? What have been the main deviations from expected results and what in your view has caused this?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The GDP of the Russian Federation in 2012 amounted to 172.9% of its 2000 level while the GHG emissions in the Energy sector had reached only 112.7% and the total GHG emissions without LULUCF - 111.8% of the 2000 level. Main deviations from the expected results were due to the unforeseen global economic crises of 2008-2009.

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[Question by](#) European Union at Wednesday, 25 March 2015

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) Estimation of LULUCF emissions and removals

How does Russian Federation estimate its LULUCF emissions and removals in its

emission levels' projections over the period? What are the methodological approaches used and how do they impact on the assessment of the progress to the QEWERT?

With reference to paragraph 14 of the TRR, is LULUCF included or excluded from the Russian QEWERT? Information provided by the Russian Federation on the contribution of the LULUCF sector to the progress in achieving the target is not consistent in CTF tables 4, 4(a)I or 4(a)II. Please clarify if this is an error and if this is the case provide corrected values.

[Answer by Russian Federation](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The forest sector is not included in the accounting of the implementation of the national target by 2020. Incorrect filling of the CTF tables 2(b) and 2(d), those are indicated in the paragraph 14 of the TRR, will be fixed in the next Biennial Report. For methodological approaches to estimate emissions and removals in the forest sector, as well as the expected impact on the value of the net emissions and removals, please see pages 23-25 of the First Biennial Report. See also answers to Questions 5 and 11.

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