Session SBI45 (2016)

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Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016 Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target Type: Before 31 August Title: CTF Table 3

Regarding mitigation actions referred to in "CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects", are there any current estimates of mitigation impacts since the respective years of implementation?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 10 October 2016

Attachment: Intermediate report.pdf

The policies and measures presented by sectors contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Bulgaria. The overall effect of their implementation will ensure the achievement of the legally binding targets for our country under the Climate and Energy package as well as the energy efficiency goals.

These measures are selected from a larger number of proposed actions after coordination with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. They are formulated so as to meet the main goal – reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Bulgaria and implementation of the existing EU legislation on climate change. Various tools were proposed to support their implementation. A performance indicator was set that is directly or indirectly related to the calculation of the expected effect, as well as target values by year.

In attached file is present an intermediate report, which contains progress of implementation of sectoral measures by the end of 2014.

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016 Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target Type: Before 31 August Title: projections

According to Figure 16, despite the decreasing trend in GHG emissions since 1990 to 2013, GHG emissions will increase during the period of 2013 to 2020 under the WEM scenario. What are the key drivers for the increasing trend?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 10 October 2016

At the Spring European Council in 2007, the EU Heads of State and Government adopted a plan and reached an agreement on the European Union's energy policy and climate change policy up to 2020.

The strategic plan is known as "the three 20 up to 2020" (20/20/20 by 2020) and is aimed at:

- 20% increase in energy efficiency;
- 20% decrease in greenhouse gas emissions compared to their levels of 1990;

• 20% share of renewable sources energy in EU's total energy consumption up to 2020, including 10% share of biofuels in transport.

Following its consistent position in the context of international negotiations for reaching a new global legally binding climate agreement, the European Union committed to a target of 30% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 compared to 1990 on the condition that the other developed countries commit themselves to a similar reduction of emissions and that developing countries pay their own contribution according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities. It was confirmed that to limit global warming to 2°C in the long run the developed countries should, as a whole, reduce their emissions by 2050 in the range of 80-95% compared to their levels of 1990 and that the EU will give its contribution.

In response to the undertaken political commitments the European Commission developed a package of legislative measures relating to: the revision of the existing Emissions Trading Scheme at Community level; the establishment of differentiated ceilings on greenhouse gas emissions for the sectors outside the scheme (transport, construction, agriculture, waste), the formulation of binding national targets for increasing the share of renewables in the energy balance and the introduction of rules to encourage the new technologies for carbon capture and storage.

The Effort Sharing Decision lays down rules for determining the contribution of Member States in the implementation of the commitments undertaken by the Community for the period 2013-2020 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from sources outside the Emission Trading Scheme (construction, agriculture, transport, waste).

Individual targets are set for each Member State regarding the sectors outside the scheme, which would lead to an overall reduction in EU emissions from the sectors outside the ETS by 10% compared to their 2005 level. The individual targets range from +20% to -20% compared to emission data of 2005. For Bulgaria the national target is +20%, allowing an increase in emissions from sectors outside the EU Emissions Trading System by 20%.

Greenhouse gas emissions are closely related to economic growth, because with increased economic activity and rising consumption of energy and natural resources. After the downturn and the slowdown as a result of the economic crisis in 2009 and 2010 it is expected that the economic growth will be recovered and accelerated after 2011. The GDP annual growth rate for the period 2010-2015 has a value at 3.3% and estimated to grow to 4.3% during 2015-2020. The gross value added behaves in the same way and is estimated to reach a growth rate of 4.54% in the period 2015-2020. The main drivers are the expected growth of foreign investments, better access of the Bulgarian industry to EU funds for Competitiveness and Innovation. From this perspective, the economic growth will be accompanied by an increase in greenhouse gases.

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