

Session SBI46 (2016)

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Multilateral assessment
Questions and answers Japan

Question by European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Long term strategy

Has Japan already started to consider a long-term low greenhouse gas development strategy? If so what are envisaged goals?

What additional actions at the international level, e.g. under the UNFCCC, could speed up the decarbonization in Japan?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Each relevant ministry is in progress with the consideration on the long-term low greenhouse gas development strategy. The government will entirely formulate the long-term strategy with close cooperation between relevant ministries. Japan will put best of its efforts to work on global warming countermeasures and make maximum contribution to the global emission reductions.

Also, Japan will proceed domestic low-carbonization in cooperate with international community through relevant frameworks such as the Paris Agreement and SDGs.

Question by European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Effects of PaMs

In biennial report CTF table 3, Japan did not provide much information regarding the quantification of the effects (GHG reduction) of its policies and measures.

- Could Japan provide additional information on the effects of its policies and measures, highlighting the policies that are expected to provide the largest reductions in GHG emissions or highest removals?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Since Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures was under development at the timing of BR2 preparation, it was not possible to report the mitigation impacts of most policies and measures. After BR2 was submitted, Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures which

included the reduction target for 2030 was decided. Therefore, Japan will prepare next BR3 reflecting the contents of the Plan.

Japan will implement various mitigation actions, such as utilization of world's most-advanced energy-saving technologies, improvement of emission intensity of electricity power generation including renewable energy introduction, enhancement of fluorinated gases reduction measures, promotion of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), and utilization of forest sink to achieve the 2020 GHG emission reduction target.

Question by European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Impact of mitigation actions

During the review, Japan informed the ERT that the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures was adopted in May 2016, which sets Japan's emission reduction target for 2020 as "3.8 per cent or more emission reduction in 2020 compared to the 2005 level". During the review, Japan stated that it would formally submit this 2020 emission reduction target to the secretariat. According to the information reported in BR2, Japan's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF are estimated in 2020 to be 0.2 per cent above the 2005 level, while the projected level for 2030 is projected to decrease by 22.7 per cent below the 2005 level.

- Could Japan provide additional information on how its mitigation actions to-date have had an impact on emissions reductions?
- Please could Japan provide additional information on how believes its future implementation of actions will ensure it achieves its target?
- Is Japan prepared to implement additional emission reduction measures in case that it is foreseeable that the target for 2020 will not be fulfilled?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Various mitigation actions have contributed to the emission reductions, such as expansion of energy and power saving activities in factories under the industrial sector, and improvement of fuel efficiency and modal shift under the transport sector.

After submitting BR2, Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures was developed which aims to meet the reduction target for 2030. Japan will work on the proper implementation of policies and measures listed in the Plan to achieve the reduction target. Also, in order to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and ensure its achievement, the progress of each policy and measure will be strictly reviewed and, if necessary, the government will revise its contents in a flexible manner. As for the new 2020 emission reduction target, the progress of each policy and measure will be also strictly reviewed under the Plan for Global Warming

Countermeasures and, if necessary, the government will revise its contents in a flexible manner.

Question by Republic of Korea at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Monitoring and evaluation for the mitigation actions

Japan stated in item 3.1.1.2 on page 58 of the second biennial report, that Government Council will conduct annual review on the progress of national policies and measures and voluntary initiatives.

- a. Could you elaborate more information about the annual review process in detail?
- b. Is the annual review a legally binding or voluntary process?
- c. What are targets for the review?
- d. Does the government review mitigation actions represented in the CTF table 3?
- e. What is the structure of the Government Council?

(For example, if multiple ministries are involved, which ministry or organization is responsible for the overall coordination?)

- f. According to page 58, item 3.1.1.1, Global Warming Prevention Headquarters is responsible for the overall climate change response. Is the GWPH is also responsible for the overall evaluation for the mitigation implementation?
- g. Please explain the specific process of the review. Could you explain methodologies to establish assessment criteria and to verify mitigation performance?
- h. Is the annual review result available for the public? If it is, please provide information on where to find the result.

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

First of all, voluntary initiatives conducted by business entities are reviewed together with policies and measures carried out by the government under “The Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures”.

- a. The Global Warming Prevention Headquarters (GWPH) strictly reviews the status of the

following: attainment of targets by gas or sector; related indices; progress of individual policies and measures, taking into account the periodical review/evaluation by related ministries' Councils.

b. This review process is defined under the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures which was endorsed by the Cabinet.

c. In order to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and ensure its achievement, the progress of each policy and measure will be reviewed every year and, if necessary, the government will revise its content in a flexible manner.

d. Until 2015, the government reviewed the progress of the policies and measures listed in the Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement, which include some policies and measures listed in CTF table 3. Since this year, the government has reviewed the progress of policies and measures under the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures, which defined the new 2020 emission reduction target. BR3 will reflect the contents of this Plan.

e. Each relevant Ministry established its own councils, whose members are composed of external experts. For example, Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry hold the council jointly. The both ministries are working cooperatively on the review process.

f. GWPH is in charge of the monitoring of the plan.

g. In this process, following information are reviewed annually: the value of relevant indices of the previous year (when the value of the previous year is difficult to be presented, the value of two years before is acceptable), the prospect of the relevant indices for each measure from the starting year to 2030 (every year, as long as the data is available), the implementation status of measures conducted in the previous year which confirm the prospect of the relevant indices, the contents of measures which are being carried out in the relevant year, policies and measures including budgets, tax system revisions, bills and other relevant governmental plans planned to be proceeded in the next year and onwards. In addition, based on these information, the government evaluates each policy and measure, identify delayed ones, and discuss measures to enhance and reinforce them. In order to evaluate each measure, the government sets evaluation indices for each of them, and the government ensures to carry out evaluation based on these indices.

h. It is available on the website of Ministry of the Environment. (Japanese only)
<<http://www.env.go.jp/earth/ondanka/kptap/progress.html>>

Question by Republic of Korea at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Domestic Plan

The second biennial report states that Japan plans to develop Global Warming Countermeasure Plan.

- a. Please explain the specific contents of the plan.
- b. Does the plan have a legal binding force?
- c. How does the government ensure implementation of the plan?

(For example, is the government going to establish a roadmap? or is there any procedure that the government can prepare additional measures if the plans are not implemented as they are planned.

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

a. The Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures is Japan's sole general plan for global warming prevention which was developed based on the Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures to promote global warming countermeasures comprehensively and strategically. This plan prescribes the targets of emissions reduction and removal of GHG, the basic matters on measures to be taken by businesses and the public etc., and policies to be implemented by the National Government and Local Government. The table of contents of the Plan is as below.

1. Basic direction regarding the promotion of globalwarming countermeasures
 1. Direction to pursue
 2. Basic concept
2. GHG reduction target
 1. Japan's GHG emission reductions target
 2. Japan's GHG emission status
 3. GHG emission reduction targets by gas or sector
 4. Targets for individual policies and measures
 5. planning period
3. Polices and measures for achieving targets
 1. Basic role of national government, local governments, businesses and citizens
 2. Measures and Policies for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction and Removal
 3. Actions by national and the Local Governments
 4. Basic matters regarding measures to be taken by the Local Governments
 5. Expected Efforts of Business Operators with Large Emissions in Particular

6. Promotion of nationwide campaign
7. Promotion of global emission reduction, international collaboration and cooperation
4. Progress Management of the Plan
 1. Progress management of the Plan
 2. Methodologies to evaluate efforts by the public, and research and development
 3. Establishment of the implementation system

b. This plan is decided under the Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures.

c. In order to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and ensure the achievement of the Plan, the progress of each policy and measure will be strictly reviewed every year and, if necessary, the government will revise its contents in a flexible manner.

Question by China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: projections for LULUCF sector

Since Japan intends to account the contribution of LULUCF sector, could Japan provide information on projections for LULUCF, or at least identify key factors influencing the resources/removals for the coming years?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

The information on projection for LULUCF sector is reported in the "projection" chapter. Please refer to the description of the relevant part in the chapter. It is projected that the net removals from LULUCF sector will decrease due mainly to aging of forests in the future. The contribution of the LULUCF will be accounted in accordance with the accounting approach under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. The expected accounted amount of the LULUCF in FY2020 and FY2030 are as follows:
FY2020: approximately 38 million t-CO₂ from forests, approximately 7.7 million t-CO₂ from agricultural soil, and approximately 1.2million t-CO₂ from revegetation.
FY2030: approximately 27.8 million t-CO₂ from forests, approximately 7.9 million t-CO₂ from agricultural soil, and approximately 1.2million t-CO₂ from revegetation.

[Question by China](#) at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: improvement in activities

As the ERT pointed out in the TRR, the annual rate of projected improvement in activities such as energy efficiency, fuel switching and decarburization is significantly higher than that the rate occurred over the period 1990-2020 (TRR, para 51). Could Japan further explain on this issue?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

Japan's 2030 emission reduction target (26.0 % reduction by 2030 compared to 2013 (25.4 % reduction compared to 2005)) is a feasible target, which is based on technically sound prospect of policies, measures, and technologies.

In particular, Japan will surely promote following mitigation measures:

1. Promotion of low-carbon electricity by thorough energy efficiency and conservation at the same level as the significant energy efficiency improvement after the oil crisis, maximum introduction of renewable energy, promotion of high efficiency in thermal power generation, and utilization of nuclear power generations whose safety is approved, and
2. Mitigation measures by each industry under the industrial sector, nationwide campaigns under the residential and transport sector, and initiatives by national and local government.

[Question by China](#) at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: credits from the JCM

According to the website of JCM, a dozen of joint projects have already been carried out by the governments of Japan and the partner countries. How many credits have been generated from those projects so far? How many other projects have been planned? And what is the plan of Japan to use those credits to achieve the 2020 target?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

Japan has signed bilateral document for the JCM with 17 partner countries. There are 105

projects including pipelines among which 16 projects were registered as JCM projects. About 500t-CO₂ were issued from 5 JCM registered projects so far. Credits acquired from the JCM will be used to achieve Japan's emission reduction target of 2020. The exact amount of JCM credits to be used is not estimated. The latest information on the JCM is publicly available in the following website:

<<https://www.jcm.go.jp/>>

Question by China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: thermal power plants

Could Japan provide information on the estimated impacts of the promotion of high-efficiency thermal power generation? Has Japan considered to facilitate the diffusion of such advanced technologies among coal-rich developing countries by providing support through the mechanisms under the UNFCCC?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Replacement of old type coal power plants by Japan's state-of-the-art coal power plants will be able to reduce CO₂ emissions from the power plants by more than 10%.

Question by China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: key additional measures

Since Japan did not report WAM or WOM scenarios in the projection section, could Japan provide information on the key additional measures it will consider to take to achieve its new 2020 targets contained in the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

To meet the reduction target, Japan will implement various mitigation actions, such as utilization of world's most-advanced energy-saving technologies, improvement of emission intensity of electricity power generation including renewable energy introduction, enhancement of fluorinated gases reduction measures, promotion of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), and utilization of forest sink.

[Question by](#) China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures

As the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures was adopted in May 2016, could Japan provide information on estimated impacts of key mitigation actions for major sectors, e.g. energy supply and consumption, as well as transport sector?

[Answer by](#) Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Japan will implement mitigation measures such as thorough energy efficiency and conservation, maximum introduction of renewable energy, promotion of high efficiency in thermal power generation, and utilization of nuclear power generations whose safety is approved. The mitigation effect from measures such as promotion of the thorough use of renewable energy sources, promotion of high efficiency in thermal power generation, and utilization of nuclear power generations whose safety is approved, is estimated as 188 million t-CO₂ in 2030.

As for transport sector, Japan will promoting next-generation vehicles, improvement of fuel efficiency. The mitigation effect of these measures is estimated as 24 million t-CO₂ in 2030.

[Question by](#) China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) changes in 2020 target and usage of market-based mechanisms

Since Japan has updated the 2020 emission reduction target according to the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures, could Japan explain the reasons for this change and share the

considerations on using units from the international market-based mechanisms to achieve a more ambitious mitigation goal?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

The previous 2020 reduction target was decided without taking into account the emission reduction effect of nuclear power plants. The target was updated in time with the development of Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures.

Credits obtained through JCM will be used to achieve Japan's 2020 emission reduction target. The amount of JCM credit to be used to achieve the target is not estimated.

Question by Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Additional measures

In page 86 Japan states that “the estimated total GHG emissions in FY2020 under a ‘with measures’ scenario are approximately 1,399 million t-CO₂ equivalent, which are an increase by 0.2% from the base year FY2005 (1,397million ton). However, they aim to be by 3.8% below the base year by implementing additional mitigation measures and using removals from LULUCF sector”. Could Japan please give more details regarding additional mitigation measures and using removals from LULUCF sector?

What are the initiatives to put the additional measures in place?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

To meet the reduction target, Japan will implement various mitigation actions, such as utilization of world’s most-advanced energy-saving technologies, improvement of emission intensity of electricity power generation including renewable energy introduction, enhancement of fluorinated gases reduction measures, promotion of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), and utilization of forest sink.

The initiatives of the measures in LULUCF are, 1) measures for managing forest carbon sink, 2) measures for sinks in agricultural soils and 3) promotion of urban greening which were referred in section 3.1.2.1 (2) of the BR2.

The contribution of removals from LULUCF is projected in accordance with the accounting approach under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. The projections of accounted removals in FY2020: approximately 38 million t-CO₂ from forests, approximately

7.7 million t-CO₂ from agricultural soil, and approximately 1.2million t-CO₂ from revegetation.

Question by United States of America at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Biofuel policies

The initiatives in the transport sector indicate that the Government will promote the research and development of technologies aimed at practical use of biofuels. Are there any specific transportation sector policies in place promoting biofuel use (e.g., minimum blending requirements, production targets)? Are there plans to treat different biofuels preferentially, and if so how?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

In the announcement based on “Act on the Promotion of the Use of Non-fossil Energy Sources and Effective Use of Fossil Energy Source Materials by Energy Suppliers”, there is a target set against petroleum refiners to utilize 500 thousand KL/year (oil equivalent) of bioethanol as a mixture with automobile gasoline by 2017.

This announcement gives favorable treatment to next-generation “cellulosic-ethanol”, which is free from concerns of food production competitions, allowing petroleum refiners to double-count the introduction amount.

Question by United States of America at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Biomass policies

The initiatives in the energy conversion sector, power from renewable energy sources includes a discussion about promoting the use of biomass energy. What type of policies or frameworks are under consideration for promoting biomass use and achieving the stated aim of the use of local biomass energy in 100 regions in 5 years? Are there targets for the total

amount (or percentage) of biomass use? Are any provisions planned for treatment of CO₂ emissions from biomass energy? For example, will all biomass be treated the same or will some (like waste sources) be treated preferentially? If so how will that be determined?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

100 of Biomass Industrialized Area are to be selected by 2018. Supports are provided on the necessary research and design, and facility improvements, for fulfilling the projects of each concept at the selected areas.

In the the energy mix for 2030, it's estimated that 22 – 24% of the electricity will come from renewable energy, in which biomass to be 3.7 – 4.6%.

We have no provisions planned for treatment of CO₂ emissions from biomass energy in the energy transformation sector.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

[Type](#): Before 28 February

[Title](#): CTF Table 3: Current estimates

In “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, mitigation impacts were estimated only for 2020. Are there any current estimates of mitigation impacts since the respective years of implementation?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

The mitigation impact at year 2030 is estimated in addition to year 2020. Mitigation impacts for other years are not estimated.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

[Category](#): All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type](#): Before 28 February

[Title](#): Total GHG Emissions

In BR1, in table 6(a) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'with measures' scenario", the GHG emissions projected for 2020 were 46,000.00 kt CO₂ eq (with LULUCF) and 1,364,000.00 kt CO₂ eq (without LULUCF). In regards to BR2, the GHG emissions projected for 2020 were 1,363,161.37 kt CO₂ eq (with LULUCF) and 1,399,465.40 kt CO₂ eq (without LULUCF).

Could Japan please explain why the projections in BR2 are above to those projections contained in BR1 (Totals with and without LULUCF), particularly the difference between the values related to the total with LULUCF?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

As per the custom footnotes for CTF Table 6(a) in the BR1, projections of CO₂, CH₄, N₂O emissions including from LULUCF for 2020 have not been estimated (reported as "NE"). Therefore, the "Total with LULUCF" for 2020 was just only the total amount of HFCs, PFCs and SF₆ emissions. On the other hand, the BR2 reports projections of CO₂, CH₄, N₂O emissions including from LULUCF for 2020. Therefore, "Total with LULUCF" for 2020 includes all necessary gases. This is the major factor for the difference in the emission projections (Total with LULUCF) between BR1 and BR2.

The main reason of increase of emissions without LULUCF is the update of estimation methodologies for the annual GHG inventory (the base data of the projection), which caused the increase of historical GHG emissions.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

[Type](#): Before 28 February

[Title](#): Tables 6(a) , 6(b) and 6 (c) - BR1 and BR2

In BR1, Japan reported tables 6(a) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'with measures' scenario", 6 (b) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'without measures' scenario" and 6 (c) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'with additional measures' scenario". Could Japan please explain why in BR2 only table 6(a) was reported?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

In BR1, as well as in BR2, Japan reported only Table 6(a) "Information on updated

greenhouse gas projections under a 'with measures' scenario", and did not report Table 6(b) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'without measures' scenario" and 6(c) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'with additional measures' scenario".

[Question by Brazil](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) CTF Table 3 - Lessons learned and Barriers

In "CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects", only 9 mitigation actions were quantified. Please, inform the reasons for not quantifying mitigation impacts for the other mitigation actions reported in table 3. What are the difficulties to do so?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

Since Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures was under development at the timing of BR2 preparation, it was not possible to report the mitigation impacts of most policies and measures. After BR2 was submitted, Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures which included the reduction target for 2030 was decided. Therefore, Japan will prepare next BR3 reflecting the contents of the Plan.

[Question by France](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) Transport Sector-Promotion of Traffic Flow Improvements

Progress in achievement of quantified Economy-Wide Emission Reduction Targets and Relevant Information/Table 3-1 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide mission reduction target : information on mitigation actions and their effects (CTF Table 3).

Transport Sector-Promotion of Traffic Flow Improvements and

Promotion of the Environmentally-friendly Usages/The Government is implementing various traffic flow improvements to ensure that drivers will experience comfortable driving without having to worry about traffic congestion. These improvements include enhancement of ring roads and other arterial road networks, which also ultimately help reduce CO2 emissions, and promoting smart use of existing road networks.

Question : please describe us how are implemented enhancement of ring roads and other arterial road networks, and how existing road networks are optimized, all this in order to improve flow.

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Measures to enhance ring roads and other arterial road networks: The government is improving ring roads in the three major metropolitan areas and arterial hi-standard highway.

Measures to optimize existing road networks: The government is implementing pinpoint measures using big-data from ETC (Electronic Toll Collection 2.0 etc., to improve traffic congestion and functions of the highways as low-cost and early as possible, and, introduction of "the same arrival and departure the same fee" system etc., to shift the vehicle traffic from inner metropolitan loop to the outer loop .

Question by France at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Progress in achievement of quantified Economy-Wide Emission Reduction Targets and Relevan

Progress in achievement of quantified Economy-Wide Emission Reduction Targets and Relevant Information/Table 3-1 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide mission reduction target : information on mitigation actions and their effects (CTF Table 3).

Transport sector- More Efficient Logistics/Modal shifts :

Reduce CO2 emissions on energy consumption in the transport sector by improving the efficiency of truck transport and promoting modal shifts to trains and coastal shipping

The Government will improve the efficiency of truck transport by encouraging the use of larger trucks such as large CNG trucks and promoting cooperative transport and delivery by logistics operators etc. within regions. Introduction of large containers (over 31 ft), which is efficient to promote use and phasing out from larger trucks use and promotion of eco-rail mark etc. will be promoted to

achieve the modal shift to rail freight transport and introduction of trucks with separable trailers and promotion of eco-ship mark etc. will be promoted to achieve the modal shift to maritime vessel transport.

Question : Concerning the use of large trucks, is Japan facing specific problems with existing road infrastructures ? Can you elaborate on the impacts of the use of larger trucks ?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

According to the estimation based on the results of load tests carried out by the government and other relevant institutions, the impact of 20ft truck affecting the deterioration of concrete floorboard on road bridges is equivalent to that of about 4,000 10ft trucks. It means that illegally overweighted large trucks, accounting for 0.3% of the whole traffic, are causing 90% of the domestic road deterioration. Recently, the number of illegally overweighted trucks has increased by about 30%. Therefore, the government will reinforce the measures to enhance the effectiveness of regulation including measures for freight owners by utilizing IT for measurement of vehicle body weight and identification of vehicles.

Question by Australia at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Feed-in-tariff policy

Has Japan quantified the contribution of its feed-in-tariff scheme for renewable energy to the achievement of its 2020 target? If so, please specify the annual or cumulative abatement from this scheme.

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

The contribution of the feed-in-tariff scheme for renewable energy to the achievement of 2020 target is not quantified. Japan will implement comprehensive mitigation measures, such as thorough energy efficiency and conservation, improvement of carbon-intensity of electricity including renewable energy introduction, enhancement of measures to reduce fluorinated gases emissions, utilization of Joint Credit Mechanisms, and forest sink strategies.

Question by Australia at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Japan's Voluntary Action Plans

Referring to Japan's Voluntary Action Plans for Industry, how effective has this policy been for reducing emissions in the industrial sector? Please provide examples of any co-benefits from this policy?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

CO2 emissions from industrial sector was reduced by 13.9 % from 1990 (502 million t-CO2) to 2013 (432 million t-CO2) due to mitigation measures such as promotion of energy saving activities and voluntary action plans by industry organizations. The voluntary action plans by industry organizations contributed to share best practices with member companies of the industry organizations, which affected to promotion of further energy-savings.

Based on the voluntary action plans, industry organizations developed "the industries' action plans towards a low carbon society", which aim on a long term perspective to promote cooperation between different industries or sectors, international contributions through dissemination of advanced technologies and materials, and, development and dissemination of innovative technologies.

Question by Australia at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: International units and JCM units

Does Japan intend to use international units or JCM units to contribute to its 2020 or 2030 emissions reduction targets? If so, can Japan quantify the abatement required from these sources to meet these targets, on either an annual or cumulative basis?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Credits acquired from the JCM will be used to achieve Japan's emission reduction target of 2020. The JCM is not included as a basis of the bottom-up calculation of Japan's emission reduction target of 2030, but the amount of emission reductions and removals acquired by Japan under the JCM will be appropriately counted as Japan's reduction. For the either targets, the exact amount of JCM credits to be used is not estimated.

Question by Thailand at Monday, 20 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Transparency of Supports to NAI

In Table 5-5 Provision of public financial support and Table 5-7 Provision of technology development and transfer support, the timeframe of implementation in each project/country should be provided.

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Japan's BR2 is reported based on UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties and common reporting formats (CTF). The table 5-5 and 5-7 are reported using the CTF and all required information is answered in the tables. We understand that timeframe of implementation in each project/country isn't required.

Question by Thailand at Monday, 20 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Mitigation Actions and Their Effects

In Section 3.1.2: Policies and Measures on Mitigation Actions and Their Effects, it is not clear and not presented on "Effects of Mitigation Actions" in Japan and the counterpart countries (such as CDM and JCM).

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Credits acquired from the JCM will be used to achieve Japan's emission reduction target of 2020. The exact amount of JCM credits to be used is not estimated.

Japan has been constructively engaging in the UNFCCC negotiations on market mechanisms over several years, aiming at developing proper accounting rules, including how to avoid double counting. The issue of double counting may occur in all market mechanisms including the CDM in which mitigation outcomes are transferred internationally and, therefore, it should be dealt with internationally.

These accounting rules need to be developed under the UNFCCC as soon as possible and Japan is willing to contribute to the processes for establishing such rules.

Question by Thailand at Monday, 20 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Transparency

In Section 3.1 Mitigation actions and their effects, what are the "best available technologies: BATs"? Are they the same definition of IEA?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Best Available Technologies (BATs) mean low-carbon technologies that meet a certain efficiency standard. The government published "the list of advanced and high-efficiency equipment designated by Ministry of the Environment" as examples of BATs in the industrial sector. The definition of BATs is developed based on Japan's national circumstances and doesn't necessarily correspond to IEA's definition.

Question by Thailand at Monday, 20 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Consistency of emission sources

In Figure 1-20: Trends of Factor of change of energy-related CO2 emissions, emissions in 2013 is mainly dominated by “Factor of GDP per Capita”, which is not agreed by the reason given in Section 1.1.3 (increased solid fuel consumption for electricity power generation). Is the reason explaining the trends of emissions consistent?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

Section 1.1.3 mentions the "increased solid fuel consumption for electricity power generation" as one of the factors for the emission increase from 2005 to 2013. On the other hand, Figure 1-20 describes factors of emission changes compared to the previous year through 1990 to 2013. "Increased solid fuel consumption for electricity power generation" has significant impact on "Factor of Carbon intensity" and Fig 1-19 indicates that after FY2011, the suspension of all nuclear power plants in Japan due to Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11th, 2011 leads to the increase in fired power generation and the increase of “Factor of Carbon intensity”. Therefore, the explanation on the factor of emission change is consistent.

[Question by Thailand](#) at Monday, 20 February 2017

[Category](#): All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type](#): Before 28 February

[Title](#): Transparency of emission sources

In Section 1.1.3 Trends in GHG Emissions and Removals by Gas, CO2 emissions from Energy Industries in 2013 increased drastically. Japan provided reason as follow “The main driving factor for the increase in CO2 emissions compared to FY2005 is the increased solid fuel consumption for electricity power generation”. What is SOLID fuel used?

[Answer by Japan](#), Friday, 21 April 2017

Coal was the solid fuel consumed for electricity power generation which is one of the factors for emission increase since FY2005.

[Question by Thailand](#) at Monday, 20 February 2017

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

emission reduction target

Type: Before 28 February

Title: IPCC Methodology

Section 1: Description of GHG Emissions and Removals. In Section 1.1.1.2, it mentions "Country-specific methodologies are also used for some source/sink categories". Besides IPCC methodology, how and why Japan used in such "country-specific methodologies". What is the transparency of such methodologies ?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

Methodologies for source/sink categories are selected in line with the decision trees in the IPCC Guidelines. For source/sink categories where country specific methodologies are to bring more accurate and adequate estimations, country specific methodologies are applied. Details of the methodologies are provided in NIR of the Annual GHG inventory.

Question by Thailand at Monday, 20 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Consistency of emissions years

In Section 1, The BR2 used both FYxxxx and CYxxxx in explanation of the GHG emissions. How they differ. If FYxxxx and CYxxxx are not on the same reference (month), how Japan described the changes in GHG emissions. What are the consistency and comparability of Japanese emissions (when FYxxxx and CYxxxx are compared)?

Answer by Japan, Friday, 21 April 2017

FY stands for Fiscal year (April - March), and CY stands for Calendar year (January - December). In Japan, most of the national statistics are on a fiscal year basis and therefore the emissions are calculated on a fiscal year basis. However, for some statistics, only calendar year basis figures are available, therefore emissions are estimated on a calendar year basis for such emission sources/gases.

Emissions estimation on a fiscal year basis is accepted as a consistent method by Second meeting of lead reviewers (see URL below), and in the Annual Review Report for Japan's GHG inventory for 2003 a preference of continuing the fiscal year basis reporting is mentioned.

http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/application/pdf/conc_rec2.pdf
It is not possible to compare all of the emissions between fiscal year basis and calendar year basis because calendar year basis estimations are not provided for all of the emission sources.



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UNFCCC - LAST PAGE OF EXPORT