



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère du Développement durable
et des Infrastructures

Administration de l'environnement

Luxembourg's Initial Report

to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount
for the second commitment period

Luxembourg's report facilitating the calculation of the assigned amount pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7bis, 8 and 8bis, of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period and demonstrating its capacity to account for its emissions and assigned amount.

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1 Introduction

The 7th Conference of Parties (Durban) serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol decided, with Decision 1/CMP.7, for a second commitment period (CP2) of the Kyoto-Protocol. The implementation of this second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol was fixed with decisions 1/CMP.8 and 2/CMP.8 of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in its 8th session (Doha), in 2012.

According to paragraph 2 of Decision 2/CMP.8, Parties with a quantified emission limitation and reduction commitment inscribed in the third column of Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol shall submit to the secretariat of the UNFCCC, by 15 April 2015, a report to facilitate the calculation of its assigned amount for the second commitment period and demonstrate its capacity to account for its emissions and assigned amount. The information to be included in the report is specified in annex I to Decision 2/CMP.8.

In addition, article 19 of the Implementing Act to the European Regulation No. 525/2013 on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and for reporting other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change and repealing Decision No. 280/2004/EC requests member states to submit the above mentioned information to the Commission three months prior to the time limit for submission of that report to the UNFCCC.

Due to numerous issues with the new web-based CRF Reporter tool during the year 2015 it has been impossible to deliver a comprehensive inventory, and, consequently, an initial report in the course of that year. Calculations in this report are therefore based on the latest greenhouse gas (GHG) submission inventory to the UNFCCC, i.e. the 15th of June 2016 resubmission.

The initial report provides the requested information to facilitate the calculation of Luxembourg's assigned amount.

In particular the report contains the following information:

- a) complete inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHG not controlled by the Montreal Protocol;
- b) the identification of its selected base year for hydro fluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride;
- c) the agreement under Article 4 of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period, where the Party has reached such an agreement to fulfil its commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol jointly with other Parties;
- d) the calculation of its assigned amount pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7bis, 8 and 8bis;
- e) the calculation of its commitment period reserve;

- f) the identification of its selection of single minimum values for tree crown cover, land area and tree height for use in accounting for its activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4;
- g) the identification of its election of activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol for inclusion in its accounting for the second commitment period, in addition to those activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol that were elected in the first commitment period;
- h) the identification of whether, for each activity under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol, it intends to account annually or for the entire commitment period;
- i) the forest management reference level as inscribed in the appendix to the annex to decision 2/CMP.7;
- j) information on how emissions from harvested wood products originating from forests prior to the start of the second commitment period have been calculated in the reference level;
- k) an indication of whether it intends to apply the provisions to exclude emissions from natural disturbances for the accounting for afforestation, reforestation and forest management;
- l) a description of its national system in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 1;
- m) a description of its national registry;
- n) the calculation of the difference between the assigned amount for the second commitment period and average annual emissions for the first three years of the preceding commitment period multiplied by eight.

2 Luxembourg's information to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period

2.1 Complete inventories of emissions and removals of greenhouse gases

(a) Complete inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, recalculated in accordance with decision 4/CMP.7 for all years from 1990, or another approved base year or period under Article 3, paragraph 5, of the Kyoto Protocol, to the most recent year available, and prepared in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 2, of the Kyoto Protocol, and any relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) and the Conference of the Parties (COP). If the report is submitted at the same time as the submission of the Party's annual GHG inventories, only one inventory submission should be provided and both reports should be submitted in conjunction;

The complete GHG emission inventory has been submitted in conjunction with the 2016 annual GHG submission.

Luxembourg submitted its latest GHG inventory, comprising the National Inventory Report (NIR) and Common Reporting Format (CRF) tables, on time to the UNFCCC, i.e. by 15th April 2016. The NIR and the CRF tables were resubmitted on 15th June 2016 to correct errors in the CRF tables which were stemming from an updated version of the CRF-Reporter software.

Details on the latest submission made to the UNFCCC in 2016 can be found in Luxembourg's National Inventory Report 2016.¹

2.2 Identification of selected base year for NF₃

(b) The identification of its selected base year for hydro fluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 8, of the Kyoto Protocol, if the Party included in Annex I did not have a quantified emission limitation and reduction target in the first commitment period, and the identification of its selected base year for nitrogen trifluoride in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 8bis, of the Kyoto Protocol, for all Parties included in Annex I with a quantified emission limitation and reduction target for the second commitment period;

¹ http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

Luxembourg has selected 1995 as the base year for nitrogen trifluoride in accordance with the available choices under Article 3(8bis) of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol.

2.3 Joint Fulfilment

(c) The agreement under Article 4 of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period, where the Party has reached such an agreement to fulfil its commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol jointly with other Parties;

Luxembourg has agreed to fulfil its commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol jointly as part of the European Union. For the second commitment period, upon adoption of the Doha amendment to the Kyoto Protocol, the European Union, its Member States and Iceland stated that the European Union and its 28 Member States intend to fulfil their reduction targets under the second commitment period jointly. The ratification decision (Council Decision (EU) 2015/1339) sets out the terms of the joint fulfilment between the Union and its Member States and Iceland. Details on the terms of the joint fulfilment and Council Decision (EU) 2015/1339 can be found in Section 2.3 of the CP2 Initial Report of the European Union.

2.4 Calculation of the assigned amount

(d) The calculation of its assigned amount pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7bis, 8 and 8bis, of the Kyoto Protocol, on the basis of its inventory referred to in paragraph 1(a) above, which is due by 15 April 2015;

As set out in the Council Decision (EU) 2015/1339 on the conclusion of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the joint fulfilment of commitments thereunder, the emission levels of Luxembourg (before application of Article 3(7bis)) in terms of tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent for the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol is 70 736 832 tonnes CO₂ eq. (see table below)

This figure corresponds to the sum of the Annual Emission Allocations (AEA) for Luxembourg for 2013 to 2020 determined pursuant to Decision No. 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council². This amount, based on global warming potential values from the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, was determined under

² Decision No 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Community's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments up to 2020 (OJ L 140, 5.6.2009, p. 136).

Annex II to Commission Decision No. 2013/162/EU³ and adjusted by Commission Decision No. 2013/634/EU⁴.

<i>year</i>	<i>AEA</i>
2013	9 539 555
2014	9 340 283
2015	9 141 012
2016	8 941 740
2017	8 742 468
2018	8 543 196
2019	8 343 925
2020	8 144 653
AEA (sum)	70 736 832

However, **the land-use change and forestry category constituted a net source of GHG emissions in 1990 for Luxembourg** (52 133 tonnes CO₂ eq). Under the terms of the joint fulfilment the assigned amounts of Luxembourg shall be equal to its respective emission levels (70 736 832 tonnes CO₂ eq), adjusted for Article 3, paragraph 7bis of the Kyoto Protocol. The net emissions in 1990 due to deforestation, where the LULUCF categories are a net source of emissions, are:

Emission Component	Reference	t CO ₂ eq.
4.B.2.1 Forest Land to Cropland	GHG inventory 2016 (Table 4.B 2016)	47 119
4.C.2.1 Forest Land to Grassland	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.C)	145 128
4.D.2.2.1 Forest Land to Flooded Land	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.D)	6 387
4.E.2.1 Forest Land to Settlements	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.E)	7 473
4.F.2.1 Forest Land to Other Land	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.F)	67 337
4.(I) N inputs to soil	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.(I))	NO
4.(II) Drainage and Rewetting	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.(II))	NO
4.(III) Direct N ₂ O from SOM Loss	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.(III))	972
4.(IV) Indirect N ₂ O	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.(IV))	NO
4.(V) Biomass Burning Emissions	GHG inventory 2016 (CRF Table 4.(V))	NO
TOTAL Deforestation Emissions in 1990		227 296

³ Commission Decision 2013/162/EU of 26 March 2013 on determining Member States' annual emission allocations for the period 2013 to 2020 pursuant to Decision No 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 90/106, 28.3.2013).

⁴ Commission Implementing Decision 2013/634/EU of 31 October 2013 on the adjustments to Member States' annual emission allocations for the period from 2013 to 2020 pursuant to Decision No 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 292/19, 1.11.2013).

Total 3.(7bis) Emissions	Deforestation emissions x 8 years	1 818 372
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The table below summarises the responsibilities of Luxembourg and calculates the respective Assigned Amount:

<i>Emissions Component</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>tCO₂</i>
Emissions covered by Decision (EU) 406/2009	Table 1 of Annex 1 of the Council Decision (EU) 2015/1339	70 736 832
1990 LUC Emissions x 8 KP Article 3, paragraph 7bis	GHG inventory submitted in 2016	1 818 372
Total = Luxembourg's Assigned Amount	SUM	72 555 204

Thus, **Luxembourg's assigned amount** pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7bis, 8 and 8bis of the Kyoto Protocol and the joint fulfilment agreement is equal to **72 555 204 tonnes CO₂ eq.**

As was the case for the first commitment period, the joint assigned amount units will not be issued separately but instead, the assigned amounts of each member of the joint fulfilment agreement and the assigned amount of the European Union are recorded in the compilation and accounting database and the EU and each of the Member States and Iceland can issue their respective assigned amount units in their respective registries.

2.5 Calculation of commitment period reserve

(e) The calculation of its commitment period reserve in accordance with decision 11/CMP.1 or any subsequent revision thereof related to the calculation of the commitment period reserve;

In accordance with decision 11/CMP.1, paragraph 6, and decision 1/CMP.8, paragraph 18, 'each Party included in Annex I shall maintain, in its national registry, a commitment period reserve which should not drop below 90 per cent of the Party's assigned amount calculated pursuant to Article 3(7) and (8) of the Kyoto Protocol, or 100 per cent of eight times its most recent inventory, whichever is lowest'. Luxembourg has interpreted the 'most recent inventory' as the year 2014 which will be reviewed by October 2016 and was submitted to the UNFCCC on 15th June 2016.⁵

Therefore Luxembourg's commitment period reserve is calculated as:

Either

Luxembourg's Adjusted Assigned Amount x 90%

⁵ http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

$$72\,555\,204 \times 0.90 = 62\,299\,684 \text{ assigned amount units}$$

Or

$$2014 \text{ Total Emissions}^6 \times \text{Total years of the second commitment period}$$

$$10\,770\,581 \times 8 = 86\,164\,648 \text{ assigned amount units}$$

Since the lower of the two numbers is the one corresponding to 90 per cent of Luxembourg's assigned amount, **Luxembourg's Commitment Period Reserve is therefore 62 299 684 tonnes CO₂ eq (or assigned amount units).**

2.6 Identification of single minimum values under Article 3(3) and 3(4) of the Kyoto Protocol

(f) The identification of its selection of single minimum values for tree crown cover, land area and tree height for use in accounting for its activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol, if the Party included in Annex I did not select a definition of forest for the first commitment period, together with a justification of the consistency of those values with the information that has been historically reported to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations or other international bodies, and in the case of difference, an explanation of why and how such values were chosen, in accordance with decisions 16/CMP.1 and 2/CMP.7. If the Party included in Annex I selected its forest definition for the first commitment period, the definition for the second commitment period shall be the same;

As Luxembourg selected already a definition of forest for the first commitment period, this definition shall be the same. The forest definition Luxembourg uses for Kyoto reporting is⁷:

Land Use Class	Definition
Forestland	<p>All forest and wooded land according to the FAO TBRA2000 definition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum land area: 0.5 ha • Minimum crown cover: 10 % • Minimum height: 5 m. <p>In the geodata set, forest land has been sub-divided into the forest types as defined below.</p>
Conifers:	Including all forest land with > 10 % crown cover and on which more than 75 percent of the tree crown cover consists of coniferous species.

⁶ Emissions total is taken from CRF Summary Table 2 (excluding LULUCF)

⁷ Text taken from Luxembourg's National Inventory Report 2016, p. 435, available at: http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

Land Use Class	Definition
Deciduous:	Including all forest land with > 10 % crown cover and on which more than 75 percent of the tree crown cover consists of broadleaved species
Mixed (coniferous and deciduous):	With > 10 % crown cover and less than 75 % crown cover of one class.

Permanently unstocked basal areas, which are directly connected with forest in terms of space and forestry enterprise and contribute directly to its management (such as forestal hauling systems, wood storage places, forest glades, forest roads), also represent forests. Areas which are used in short rotation with a rotation period of up to thirty years as well as forest arboretums, forest seed orchards, Christmas tree plantations and plantations of woody plants for the purpose of obtaining fruits such as walnut or sweet chestnut do not account as forests but represent cropland. Rows of trees (except shelter belts for wind protection) and areas with woody plants in a park structure are not forest land.

2.7 The identification of election of additional activities under article 3(4) of the Kyoto Protocol for inclusion in the accounting for the second commitment period

(g) The identification of its election of activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol for inclusion in its accounting for the second commitment period, in addition to those activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol that were elected in the first commitment period, together with information on how its national system under Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol will identify land areas associated with all additional elected activities and how the Party ensures that land that was accounted for under activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol in the first commitment period continues to be accounted for in subsequent commitment periods, in accordance with decisions 16/CMP.1 and 2/CMP.7;

Luxembourg did not elect any activity under Article 3, paragraph 4 of the Kyoto Protocol for the first commitment period.

For the second commitment period, Luxembourg does not elect any other activity under Article 3, paragraph 4 of the Kyoto Protocol besides forest management, which is a mandatory activity.

2.8 Accounting annually or for the entire commitment period for activities under Article 3(3) and 3(4) of the Kyoto Protocol

(h) The identification of whether, for each activity under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol, it intends to account annually or for the entire commitment period;

Luxembourg will account for the entire second commitment period for the activities under Articles 3(3) and 3(4) of the Kyoto Protocol.

2.9 Information on Forest Management Reference Level

(i) The forest management reference level as inscribed in the appendix to the annex to decision 2/CMP.7, any technical corrections as contained in the inventory report for the first year of the second commitment period and references to those sections in the national inventory report where such information is reported consistent with the requirements of decision 2/CMP.7, annex, paragraph 14⁸;

According to the Decision 2/CMP.7 anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and sinks, resulting from forest management under Article 3(4), shall be counted against the Forest Management Reference Level (FMRL) for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. The FMRL is a projection of the average annual net emissions of Forest Management in the second commitment period based on historical data and policy decisions. Luxembourg did not submit an individual FMRL and as a consequence the JRC common approach was used to calculate the FMRL for Luxembourg.

For Luxembourg, a FMRL of -0.418 millions of tonnes CO₂ eq. per year was reported⁹.

According to Decision 2/CMP.7, annex, paragraph 14 Parties shall demonstrate methodological consistency between the reference level and reporting for forest management during the second commitment period. Parties shall make technical correction of FMRL when methodological changes in the calculation of the time series appear, new historical data are available or pools were not taken into account in FMRL. The FMRL calculated by the JRC common approach is based on publicly available data from FAO as well as a range of parameters which have not been verified by Luxembourg. In its latest submission (June 2016), Luxembourg has significantly improved its

⁸ Parties shall include the submission pursuant to decision 2/CMP.6, paragraph 4, and the corresponding technical assessment report pursuant to decision 2/CMP.6, paragraph 5, as annexes to the report. Any technical corrections resulting from recommendations in the technical assessment report shall be reported in the inventory submission for the first year of the second commitment period.

⁹ Decision 2/CMP.7 : Durban Climate Change Conference: Land use, land-use change and forestry, Appendix I, p.19 (available on the UNFCCC website: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cmp7/eng/10a01.pdf>)

calculations in the LULCUF sector by including data from its second national forest inventory. In order to maintain a methodological consistency between the reference level and reporting for forest management during the second commitment period Luxembourg has the intention to carry out a detailed revision of its FMRL and a subsequent technical correction.

2.10 Information on Harvested Wood Products

(j) Information on how emissions from harvested wood products originating from forests prior to the start of the second commitment period have been calculated in the reference level in accordance with decision 2/CMP.7, annex, paragraph 16;

The FMRL value employed in Luxembourg assumes instantaneous oxidation of HWP. The data on HWP currently available in Luxembourg cannot be used in its current form (see NIR 2016¹⁰). Luxembourg will aim to improve the collection of data on HWP. If the data can be improved, a technical correction to the FMRL will be applied and past emissions linked to harvested wood products will be included.

2.11 Information on the exclusion of emissions from natural disturbances

(k) An indication of whether it intends to apply the provisions to exclude emissions from natural disturbances for the accounting for afforestation and reforestation under Article 3, paragraph 3, of the Kyoto Protocol and/or forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol during the second commitment period in accordance with decision 2/CMP.7, annex, paragraph 33, and any relevant supplementary methodological guidance developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and adopted by the CMP and the COP, including:

- (i) Country-specific information on the background level of emissions associated with annual natural disturbances that have been included in its forest management reference level;
- (ii) Information on how the background level(s) for afforestation and reforestation under Article 3, paragraph 3, of the Kyoto Protocol and/or forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol have been estimated, and information on how it avoids the expectation of net credits or net debits during the commitment period, including information on how a margin is established, if a margin is needed;

¹⁰ Luxembourg's National Inventory Report 2016, p. 475, available at:
http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

Luxembourg intends to apply the provisions to exclude emissions from natural disturbances for the accounting for afforestation and reforestation under Article 3, paragraph 3, of the Kyoto Protocol and forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol during the second commitment period.

Historical data shows that damage caused by wind storms is the major cause of natural disturbances. In the past, most wood lost after wind storms has however been recovered through salvage logging and hence the provision for natural disturbances could not have been applied. It seems unlikely that Luxembourg will apply the provision in the future. The provision has to be regarded more as a safeguard in case Luxembourg will be hit by major storm events, with no or partial salvage logging.

Luxembourg has chosen Option (ii) to apply the provision of natural disturbances:

Luxembourg has calculated the background level and the margin for natural disturbances according to the methodology described in the 2013 KP Supplement (see NIR 2016, section 11.1.4)¹¹. Due to the small number of natural disturbances over the course of the analysed time series, the default method cannot be used as the standard deviation is always greater than the mean average over the remaining periods. As a consequence the background level has been set to the minimum level of historical time series, which is zero.

2.12 Description of the National System

(l) A description of its national system in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, reported in accordance with the “Guidelines for the preparation of the information required under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol”, if the Party included in Annex I did not have a quantified emission limitation and reduction target in the first commitment period;

A basic description has been provided in conjunction with the initial report for the first commitment period under the Kyoto-Protocol. As part of the annual GHG emission inventory submission, Luxembourg provided a detailed description of the national system as well as updates to structures and institutional arrangements organized within the national system. The latest updated description is contained in Luxembourg’s National Inventory Report 2016.¹²

¹¹ Luxembourg’s National Inventory Report 2016, p. 533, available at:
http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

¹² Luxembourg’s National Inventory Report 2016, p. 47 and following, available at:
http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

2.13 Description of the National Registry

(m) A description of its national registry, reported in accordance with the “Guidelines for the preparation of the information required under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol”, if the Party included in Annex I did not have a quantified emission limitation and reduction target in the first commitment period.

Luxembourg provided a description of the national registry in the report to calculate the assigned amount of the first commitment period. Subsequently changes (updates to structures, function, security measures and changes in institutional arrangements organized within the national registry) that occurred related to the national registry were reported as part of the annual supplementary information under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol included in the national inventory report. The latest updated description is contained in Luxembourg’s 6th National Communication¹³ and in the National Inventory Report 2016.¹⁴

2.14 The calculation of the difference between the assigned amount for the second commitment period and average annual emissions for the first three years of the preceding commitment period multiplied by eight

In line with the terms of the joint fulfilment of the European Union, its Member States and Iceland under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol, Article 3(7ter) is applied to the joint assigned amount of the second commitment period. So no specific information for the Luxembourg is to be reported.

¹³ Luxembourg’s 6th National Communication 2014, p. 139 and following, available at http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_natcom/submitted_natcom/application/pdf/dev_nc6_final.pdf

¹⁴ Luxembourg’s National Inventory Report 2016, p. 46, available at: http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/application/zip/lux-2016-nir-15jun16.zip

ANNEX 1: JOINT FULFILMENT AGREEMENT

Council Decision (EU) 2015/1339 and Council Decision (EU) 2015/1340 can be found in the following URL link:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L:2015:207:FULL&from=EN>