

## Session SBI41 (2014)

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

**Question from:** China at Monday, 29 September 2014

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

**Title:** clarification on national target

1. As an EU member, Latvia has not pledged a national mitigation target under the UNFCCC. For sectors not covered by the EU-ETS, the target for Latvia is to limit emission growth to 17% above the 2005 level by 2020. However, it is not clear how much effort Latvia is going to make on sectors covered by the EU-ETS, nor the efforts as a whole, compared with its base year level. Additional information is needed in order to make its effort transparent.
2. PFCs are not covered in the target of Latvia, nor included in the projection. Can Latvia provide clarification on this issue, e.g. why PFCs are not used in Latvia?

**Answered by:** Latvia at Thursday, 27 November 2014

Please find Latvia's answer in the attachment "Answer\_MA\_Latvia\_27112014"

**Attachment:** Answer\_MA\_Latvia\_27112014:

**Answer by Latvia**

For the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, the EU, its 28 Member States and Iceland have inscribed a commitment of reducing average annual emissions by 20 % during the 2013-2020 period, as compared to base year, to be fulfilled jointly. The 2009 'Climate and Energy package' provides an integrated package of policies and measures to implement the international obligations of the EU and its Member States under the Kyoto's second commitment period.

The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:

(a) a 21% reduction in EU ETS sector emissions by 2020 compared to 2005: the EU ETS Directive provides an EU-wide cap

(b) a reduction of around 10% by 2020 compared to 2005 for the sectors that are not covered by the EU ETS:

The EU ETS is a market based mechanism setting an EU-wide cap on the total amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted by operators. As a result, emissions cannot exceed this cap. In the EU as a whole, in 2013, total verified emissions under the EU ETS were 182 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq below the cap for that year. Verified 2013 emissions decreased by 4 % compared to verified emissions in the year 2012. Compared to 2005 verified emissions (scope-corrected), the reduction achieved in 2013 was about 19 %. EU ETS GHG emissions were reduced by 8.04% in the period 2005-2013. While the production amount and capacities in the industrial installations have increased

significantly, for example, in the cement production plant the GHG intensity (tCO<sub>2</sub> per production ton) has decreased by 35,4% from 1,13 tCO<sub>2</sub>/prod.ton to 0,73 t CO<sub>2</sub>/prod.ton. Production of energy from fuel has been decoupled from GHG emissions as well. The amount of energy produced from fuel has decreased by 7.8%, but GHG emissions from fuel combustion activities have decreased by 17.3%. The use of biomass has increased by more than 102%.

#### ETS achievements

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ETS operators	93	99	92	85	79	77	75	75	67
ETS annual allocation (allowance)	4 070 285	4 475 757	4 950 056	3 727 535	4 859 121	4 750 285	4 621 515	4 991 646	2 665 069
ETS verified emissions (tons)	2 854 424	2 940 685	2 849 210	2 742 918	2 489 797	3 240 172	2 923 455	2 740 013	2 649 814
ETS share in total GHG emission amount	25,82%	25,52%	23,79%	23,86%	22,95%	27,03%	26,24%	24,96%	23,98%
EU ETS biomass (TJ)	2191,67	2563,80	2528,01	2717,76	2887,60	3248,22	3433,84	4416,31	5624,339

Therefore in Latvia it has been proving that the EU ETS is acting as significant instrument for the GHG emission reduction. The system (the EU-wide EU ETS emission reduction goal and EU-wide harmonized requirements) has facilitated the GHG emission reduction without affecting the competitiveness and growth of the companies and without creating the unreasonable costs and burdens.

Referring to all above mentioned, Latvia has not planned to set separate GHG emission reduction target to the Latvia's ETS operators (installations) as the EU ETS is a market-based mechanism that is created for all its participants. We have to take into account that Latvia's ETS operators are part of EU ETS and the setting of the additional targets or efforts will negatively impact Latvia's operators (companies) competitiveness and growth comparing to other EU ETS operators.

For the non ETS sector, EU legislation (the Effort Sharing Decision - *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*) sets for all Member States binding annual emissions allocations from 2013 to 2020. The national target for Latvia is to limit emission growth to 17 per cent above 2005 level emissions by 2020.

According to the latest projections (with existing measures), emissions in Latvia in the non-ETS sectors are projected to be 18.5% above the 2005 level, but with additional measures, that has been envisaged, 14.8% under the 2005 level. Thereby Latvia shall fulfil its commitments for second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. More detailed information on Latvia's efforts in limitation of the emission growth for sectors not covered by the EU-ETS, is reported in Latvia's Sixth National Communication and First Biennial Report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Chapter 4 "Policies and Measures").

#### PFCs:

According to the following information there have not been any PFC emissions in Latvia (indicated as "NO" in CRF tables) from 1995 (base year) till 2012:

1) A research was published in 2004 in Latvia. It was concluded that none of the enterprises in Latvia produces, operates, imports or exports installations containing PFCs. The overall survey of HFC, PFC and SF<sub>6</sub> emissions covering data for period from 1995 till 2003 was carried out. This survey serves as a good basis for emission inventories for the following years because it contains useful information on emission sources of fluorinated greenhouse gases (F gases) in Latvia as well as includes available activity, consumption data and emission estimation methodology. Within the survey, a plenty of questionnaire forms were elaborated and sent to the enterprises, which were the potential users/producers of F gases (i.e. PFCs). It was concluded, that none of the enterprises produces, operates, imports or exports installations containing PFCs in Latvia. A similar situation with zero PFC emissions is also observed in Latvia`s neighbouring countries Lithuania and Estonia;

2) There is *“The Register of chemical substances and chemical mixtures”* (Chemicals Register) in Latvia. Within the EU the use and reporting of different F gases is regulated by the Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006. This Regulation addresses the containment, use, recovery and destruction of the fluorinated greenhouse gases (i.e. PFC) the labelling and disposal of products and equipment containing those gases; the reporting of information on those gases. Article 8 of the Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 envisages, that by 31 March 2008 and every year thereafter, each producer, importer and exporter of F gases shall communicate to the Commission by way of a report, sending the same information to the competent authority of the Member State concerned, the following data in respect of the preceding calendar year - total production of each fluorinated greenhouse gas in the Community, the quantities of each fluorinated greenhouse gas it has placed on the market in the Community and any quantities of each fluorinated greenhouse gas recycled, reclaimed or destroyed. According to this, The Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 is an obligation for producers, importers, exporters within EU member states to report data on F gases (i.e. PFC) amounts. In Latvia Chemicals Register is maintained by Latvian Environment Geology and Meteorology Centre and it is defined with national legislation (Regulations No. 575 of Cabinet of Ministers, the Republic of Latvia on accounting order and database of chemical substances and mixtures, on 29th of June 2010). Data from the Chemicals Register is used annually in the preparation of Latvia`s GHG inventory. Until now information on production, import or export of PFCs has not been received in the Chemicals Register.

As it is described in reporting guidelines<sup>123</sup> on annual GHG inventories, the PFCs are used mainly in the electronics sector (semiconductor manufacture), aluminium production or usage as refrigerants (mainly in blends with HFCs and HCFCs). In Latvia there is no manufacturing of aluminium or semiconductors (indicated as “NO” in CRF tables), but in CRF 2.F.8 subcategory “Electrical Equipment” SF<sub>6</sub> is used instead of PFCs. Whereas in 2.F.1. category “Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Equipment”, HFCs are used instead of PFCs. Consequently, as the PFCs are not used in Latvia, the target and projections of PFCs are not given.

1. <http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gl/invs5b.html>

2 [http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gp/english/3\\_Industry.pdf](http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gp/english/3_Industry.pdf)

3 <http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/vol3.html>