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English only

Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the forty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Colombia

Note by the secretariat

I. Background and mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) decided by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 63, to conduct under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) international consultation and analysis (ICA) of biennial update reports (BURs) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty. This process aims to increase transparency of the mitigation actions and their effects reported by non-Annex I Parties.
2. The COP, by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 56, adopted the modalities and guidelines for international consultation and analysis contained in annex IV to the same decision (hereinafter referred to as the ICA modalities and guidelines). The COP further decided that the first round of ICA would be conducted for developing country Parties commencing within six months of the submission of the first round of BURs by developing country Parties.¹
3. According to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the ICA process consists of two steps: a technical analysis of the BURs of non-Annex I Parties by a team of technical experts, resulting in a summary report for each Party; and a facilitative sharing of views, with BURs and summary reports serving as an input.²
4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened on 10 November 2016 in Marrakech, Morocco, at SBI 45, the second workshop for the facilitative sharing of views, open to all Parties, for the seven non-Annex I Parties, including Colombia, for which there was a BUR and a final summary report by 30 September 2016.³ Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance. As a result, Colombia received 14 written questions in advance from the following Parties: European Union, New Zealand, Peru, Switzerland and United States of America.
5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow, comprised two three-hour sessions.

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 58(a).

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 3.

³ The BURs and the summary reports are available at <http://unfccc.int/8722.php> and <http://unfccc.int/10054.php>, respectively.

6. This record of the facilitative sharing of views for Colombia summarizes the proceedings and together with the summary report of the technical analysis of its BUR⁴ constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for Colombia.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. At this workshop for the facilitative sharing of views, Colombia made a brief presentation on its BUR, including the technical annex, with information on REDD-plus⁵, it submitted on a voluntary basis together with its first BUR, in accordance with decision 14/CP.19. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. In its presentation Colombia provided an overview of its national circumstances, institutional arrangements, and inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol. The total GHG emissions in 2012 was 178.3 Mt carbon dioxide equivalent, and they were mainly from the energy (44 per cent) and agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) (43 per cent) sectors. Contributions from the waste (8 per cent) and industrial processes and product use (IPPU) (5 per cent) sectors had minor impact on the total emissions. Colombia's BUR provided a comparison of the GHG emissions by sector in various years (1990, 1994, 2000, 2004, 2010 and 2012). In its presentation, Colombia provided a detailed explanation of its mitigation actions and their effects: 12 nationally appropriate mitigation actions that cover the AFOLU, transport, energy and IPPU sectors have been defined under the Colombian Low Carbon Development Strategy, and 5 of them are at an initial stage of implementation. The Party also provided information on its activities related to REDD-plus and its participation in carbon markets; Colombia has 198 clean development mechanism projects at different stages of implementation. In addition, Colombia provided information on its measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) system, the support received and the needs identified to enhance its national GHG inventory, mitigation and adaptation efforts, and reporting under the Convention.

9. Over the course of the presentation, Colombia addressed written questions submitted to it in advance through the secretariat by interested Parties.

10. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Colombia for its efforts and asked for further clarification: European Union, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America. The questions were mainly focused on the following areas: how the process of the technical analysis, especially the identification of capacity-building needs, helped Colombia to shape its MRV system; the MRV system for land use and land-use change sector emissions and the lessons learned from the process to measure the impact of mitigation actions in that sector; and clarification of UNFCCC guidelines and the challenges encountered in following these guidelines.

11. The full details of the presentation and of the subsequent interventions are available in the webcast of this workshop.⁶

12. In closing the workshop, the SBI Chair congratulated Colombia for successfully undergoing the facilitative sharing of views and completing the first round of its ICA process. He thanked Colombia and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a truly facilitative manner. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2016/TASR.1/COL.

⁵ In decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, the COP encouraged developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

⁶ <http://unfccc.cloud.streamworld.de/webcast/sbi-facilitative-sharing-of-views-part-1>.