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English only

Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the forty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Thailand

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 (FSV), with BURs and summary reports serving as input.²
4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened on 15 May 2017 in Bonn, Germany, at SBI 46, the third workshop for the FSV, open to all Parties, for 10 non-Annex I Parties, including Thailand, for which there was a BUR and a final summary report by 10 March 2017.³ Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance. As a result, Thailand received 10 written questions in advance from the following Parties: the European Union, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States of America.
5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Rapporteur, Ms. Tugba Icmeli, comprised two three-hour sessions covering five Parties in alphabetical order.

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 FSV for Thailand summarizes the proceedings and together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its BUR,⁴ constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for Thailand.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. At this workshop for the facilitative sharing of views, Thailand made a brief presentation on its BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. In its presentation, Thailand provided an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements, national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, mitigation actions and effects, support needed and received, etc. It highlighted that the total GHG emissions for 2011 amounted to 305.52 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂eq) excluding emissions and removals from the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector, and 234.58 Mt CO₂ eq including emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector, representing an increase in GHG emissions by 38.4 per cent and 12.4 per cent, respectively, from the 2000 levels. For the year 2011, the GHG emission inventory shows that, excluding LULUCF, the sectors with the most significant sources of GHG emissions were: energy, contributing 222.94 Mt CO₂ eq or 73.0 per cent of total GHG emissions, followed by agriculture contributing 52.92 Mt CO₂ eq or 17.32 per cent, industrial processes and product use contributing 18.23 or 5.97 per cent, and waste contributing 11.43 Mt CO₂ eq or XX.XX per cent.

9. Thailand presented information on its National Climate Change Master Plan (2015–2050), which included information such as its two mitigation targets: a reduction in GHG emissions from 7 to 20 per cent compared with its business as usual (BAU) scenario by the year 2020; and a reduction in energy intensity by 25 per cent by 2020 from the base year (2005) level. According to Thailand's GHG emission trajectories included in the nationally appropriate mitigation action road map (2005–2020), GHG emissions will be reduced by 24.9 Mt CO₂ eq (or 7 per cent) by 2020 compared with the BAU scenario. In 2013, a reduction of 14.34 Mt CO₂ eq was achieved, representing a reduction of 4 per cent compared with the BAU scenario. Information was also presented on mitigation actions, all of which focused on the energy sector. Information on Thailand's measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) system was also presented, with details on the institutional arrangements at both the ministerial and national levels, including the allocation of responsibilities, for areas related to GHG inventories and mitigation.

10. Thailand also presented information on the barriers encountered in the preparation of its BUR, in particular its GHG inventory, such as the absence of a mandate for data collection and information exchange, an inadequate data management system for archiving data and the difficulty in transitioning from tier 1 to tier 2 methodologies in preparing its GHG inventory. Information was also presented on the support needed, regarding the energy sector and technology needs, which were categorized within the agriculture sector, water resource management and modelling. Information on the financial support received for both adaptation and mitigation was presented, including the respective donors. Thailand shared information on the positive experiences and lessons learned from the ICA process, such as a national structure for reporting which has been established and enhanced domestic MRV for both GHG inventory and mitigation, at both the national and subnational levels. Further, Thailand underscored the value added by the technical analysis process such as identifying needs and gaps; capacity-building for local experts and enhanced institutional arrangements for the GHG inventory.

11. Over the course of the presentation, Thailand addressed the written questions submitted in advance through the secretariat by interested Parties.

12. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Thailand for its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Brazil, China, the European Union, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea and Saudi Arabia. The questions and answers were mainly focused on the following areas: the estimated reduction in the energy sector against the sectoral target,

⁴ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2016/TASR.1/THA.

based only on Thailand's national efforts; the top priorities for international support in the energy sector to reduce GHG emissions; the key priorities for the preparation of the GHG inventory; lessons learned and good practices which contributed to the enhanced sustainability of the MRV system; whether quantification is available in terms of support needed and constraints encountered in preparing this information; the challenges encountered in meeting the mitigation reduction targets; experiences in the use of ethanol in the transport sector and the treatment of emissions from bunker fuels.

13. The full details of the presentation as well as the subsequent interventions are available in the YouTube broadcast of this workshop.⁵

14. In closing the workshop, the SBI Rapporteur congratulated Thailand for successfully undergoing the FSV and completing the first round of its ICA process. She thanked Thailand and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a truly facilitative manner. She also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-m2oy1bnLzpmDRpG2pTBzUeOH3qrXIZt>.