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English only

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

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 BUR 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 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 Israel, for which there is 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, Israel received six written questions in advance from the following Parties: the European Union, New Zealand, Palestine and the United States of America.
5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow, 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 Israel 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 Israel.

II. Summary of proceedings

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

8. In its presentation, Israel 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, and experience and lessons learned from the ICA process. It highlighted that the total GHG emissions for 2013 were 78.36 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂ eq), excluding forestry sector, representing an increase of 13 per cent from the 2000 level of emissions of the main GHGs (CO₂, methane and nitrous oxide), which totalled 75.62 Mt CO₂ eq in 2013, compared with 66.95 Mt CO₂ eq in 2000. Population and economic growth were the main drivers of this increase in emissions. In 2013, the energy sector was the most significant source of emissions, contributing 82 per cent to the total GHG emissions. Therefore, Israel is focusing its mitigation efforts on a gradual transition from coal power generation to the use of natural gas and renewable energy sources.

9. Israel set a national mitigation target for 2030 of 81.70 Mt CO₂ eq, a reduction of 22.6 per cent compared with the business as usual scenario of 105.54 Mt CO₂ eq. In order to achieve this target, a national mitigation plan has been approved by the Government of Israel in April 2016. The plan includes regulatory measures in the power sector, the promotion of energy efficiency and green buildings, extending the public transport network, and increasing vehicle efficiency. Israel also presented its national adaptation plan, which includes reducing damage to life and property, increasing ecosystem resilience and promoting education and awareness.

10. Israel also provided information on the focus areas for capacity-building, including the preparation of Israel's national inventory report, the enhancement of institutional arrangements for GHG reporting and the identification and closure of knowledge gaps on mitigation alternatives.

11. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Israel for its effort and asked questions seeking further clarification: Brazil, China, New Zealand and Palestine. The questions and answers were mainly focused on the following areas: the engagement of stakeholders, particularly the private sector; the development process for the mitigation action plan; the estimation of emissions; and renewable energy generation.

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

13. In closing the workshop, the SBI Chair congratulated Israel for successfully undergoing the FSV and completing the first round of its ICA process. He thanked Israel 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/ISR.

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