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English only

Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the forty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Azerbaijan

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 the 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 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 the BURs and summary reports serving as input.
4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened on 20 and 21 May 2016 in Bonn, Germany, at SBI 44 the first workshop for the facilitative exchange of views, open to all Parties, for the 13 non-Annex I Parties, including Azerbaijan, for which there was a BUR and a final summary report by 29 February 2016.² Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance. As a result, Azerbaijan received five written questions in advance from Japan and Switzerland.
5. The first workshop, chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow, comprised three three-hour sessions. Each three-hour session covered five Parties in alphabetical order.

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 58(a).

² The BURs and summary reports are available at <<http://unfccc.int/8722.php>>.

6. This record of the facilitative sharing of views for Azerbaijan summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its BUR,³ constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for Azerbaijan.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. At the workshop, Azerbaijan made a brief presentation on its BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. In its presentation Azerbaijan provided an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements for domestic measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), as well as its national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol and emission trends, an analysis of its mitigation actions and an assessment of its financial, technological and capacity-building needs. It highlighted the significant reduction in its GHG emissions over the 1990–1998 period as a consequence of the transition from a centralized to a market economy. From 1999 to 2008, there was a continuous increase in GHG emissions, followed by a decrease in emissions in 2009 and 2010 due to the global economic crisis. The net GHG emissions in 2010 were 42,799 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. Azerbaijan also provided an overview of its mitigation actions and their effects, as well as information on support received and priority areas for future international cooperation on climate change.

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

10. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Azerbaijan for its efforts and asked for further clarification: European Union, Netherlands, Switzerland and United States of America. The questions were mainly focused on the following areas: the institutional arrangements for the preparation of the BUR and the design of the domestic MRV system; best practices in and lessons learned from the implementation of the MRV processes; improvement plans for the GHG inventory; and capacity-building needs for implementing the 2006 IPCC guidelines.

11. The full details of the presentation and of the subsequent interventions are available in the webcast of the workshop.⁴

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

³ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2015/TASR.1/AZE.

⁴ Available at <http://unfccc6.meta-fusion.com/bonn_may_2016/events/2016-05-20-10-00-facilitative-sharing-of-views-day-1/azerbaijan-1z>.