



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Czechia at the forty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Note by the secretariat

I. Background

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decision 1/CP.16, decided that developed country Parties should enhance the reporting in their national communications and submit biennial reports on their progress in achieving emission reductions. It also established a new process under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) – the international assessment and review (IAR) of emissions and removals related to developed country Parties' quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets – that aims to promote the comparability of efforts among all developed country Parties. The second round of the IAR process is to be conducted during the period 2016–2017 (the first round of the IAR process was conducted during the period 2014–2015).

2. According to the modalities and procedures for IAR specified in annex II to decision 2/CP.17, the multilateral assessment (MA), being part of the IAR process, is to be conducted for each developed country Party at a working group session of the SBI, with the participation of all Parties. The aim of the MA is to assess each Party's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

3. The second round of MA of Czechia took place at a working group session during SBI 45, on 12 November 2016. Such a working group session is preceded by a three-month period of questions and answers; in the first month, any Party may submit written questions to the Party being assessed, which may respond to the questions within the remaining two months. Questions for Czechia had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Japan and Switzerland. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Czechia can be found on the IAR web page for Czechia.¹

¹ <<https://unfccc.int/9723.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Rapporteur, Mr. Sidat Yaffa. Czechia was represented by Mr. Pavel Zamyslicky, Director and National Focal Point, Energy and Climate Protection Department, Ministry of the Environment.

5. Mr. Zamyslicky made an opening presentation, summarizing Czechia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Czechia is an upper middle income European Union member State, which joined the European Union on 1 May 2004. It is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint European Union economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Under the European Union effort-sharing decision, Czechia has a target to limit the growth of its emissions from the sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) to 9 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. In addition, Czechia has committed to achieving a 13 per cent share of renewables in gross final energy consumption and 50.67 PJ of additional energy savings by 2020.

6. From 1990 to 2014, total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions excluding land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) decreased by 36.8 per cent. Following the introduction of the EU ETS in 2005, emissions from the EU ETS sectors decreased by 19.2 per cent by 2014. This is a significant reduction in emissions, as these sectors constitute 54 per cent of the total GHG emissions of Czechia. Emissions from the non-ETS sectors also decreased over the same period, despite a target to limit the growth in emissions to 9 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. Total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF are projected to further decrease by 2020 under the 'with existing measures' and 'with additional measures' emission projection scenarios, decreasing by 39 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Therefore, Czechia is expected to achieve its 2020 targets. In addition, Czechia demonstrated a decoupling of growth in gross domestic product (GDP), from energy use and GHG emissions: during the period 1990–2014, GDP increased by 42 per cent, while energy use and GHG emissions decreased by 17 and 37 per cent, respectively.

7. Mr. Zamyslicky presented the key policies and measures to mitigate Czechia's GHG emissions, including support for renewable energy sources; energy efficiency; public transport and cycling; alternative vehicles; greening of agriculture; utilization of biogas; and waste management. He also provided information on the new State Energy Policy, adopted in 2015, which is aimed at decreasing fossil fuel use and increasing the use of renewable energy sources and nuclear energy. Czechia also developed the Low Carbon Development Strategy until 2030, which includes targets that are in line with the international commitments of the European Union and covers key economic sectors.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, India, New Zealand and Switzerland. Questions were related to: the policies and measures aimed at improving energy efficiency in the public, building and transport sectors; assessment of mitigation impacts; the frequency with which Czechia updates its projections; and options for collaboration with experts from other countries. In response, Czechia provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Czechia.

9. In closing, the SBI Rapporteur reminded Czechia that it can submit any other observations on its MA process within two months of the working group session, and that they will form part of its Party record for the MA. The SBI Rapporteur thanked the delegation of Czechia, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.