



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Hungary 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 Hungary 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 Hungary had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Hungary can be found on the IAR web page for Hungary.¹

¹ <<https://unfccc.int/9710.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow. Hungary was represented by Ms. Barbara Botos, Head of Department, Department for Climate Policy, Ministry of National Development.

5. Ms. Botos made an opening presentation, summarizing Hungary's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. As a member State of the European Union, Hungary is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint European Union quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Under the European Union effort-sharing decision, Hungary has a target to limit the growth of its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading System to 10 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020. In addition, Hungary has committed to reach a 14.65 per cent share of renewables in gross final energy consumption by 2020.

6. Ms. Botos presented emission trends and key policies and measures for achieving Hungary's 2020 targets. In 2014, total GHG emissions (excluding land use, land-use change and forestry) were 47.8 per cent below the base-year level (average GHG emissions from 1985 to 1987). During this time period, the most significant GHG emission reductions occurred in the energy sector, which remains the largest source of GHG emissions in Hungary. Key policies and measures presented by Ms. Botos include the first National Climate Change Strategy 2008–2025, which identifies climate mitigation policies relating to energy efficiency in buildings, renewable energy utilization, transport and afforestation. She also highlighted that the second National Climate Change Strategy 2017–2030 is currently under review and should be finalized in 2017. Lastly, Ms. Botos presented the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, which includes national energy strategy scenarios and targets.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: India and Republic of Korea. These questions related to Hungary's GHG emission projections and the estimation of the mitigation impacts of individual mitigation actions. In response, Hungary provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Hungary.

8. In closing, the SBI Chair reminded Hungary 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 Chair thanked the delegation of Hungary, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.
