



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

¹ <<https://unfccc.int/9711.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow. Italy was represented by Mr. Riccardo De Laurentis, Institute for the protection of the Environment (ISPRA).

5. Mr. De Laurentis made an opening presentation, summarizing Italy'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, Italy 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. As part of this target, Italy's emission reduction target from sectors covered by the European Union effort-sharing decision (i.e. sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading System (non-ETS sectors)) is 13 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

6. Mr. De Laurentis presented emission trends and the key policies and measures for achieving Italy's emission reduction targets. He highlighted that Italy's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions excluding land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) in 2014 were 19.8 per cent below the 1990 level. He also provided an overview of Italy's key policies and measures that are driving its GHG emission trends, including: policies and measures to increase the share of renewable energy sources in the energy mix, such as feed-in tariff schemes and other economic incentives; increasing energy efficiency and energy performance in the building sector; and infrastructural measures as well as policies to increase energy efficiency and the share of biofuels in the transport sector. He further elaborated on Italy's experiences with and approaches for estimating and quantifying the effects of its mitigation policies and measures. Through these efforts, Italy will contribute its part to achieving the joint European Union quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, and likely overachieve its 2020 target for non-ETS sectors. He stated that Italy aims to further reduce its GHG emissions from non-ETS sectors by 22 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Canada, India and New Zealand. The questions raised by these Parties addressed Italy's existing and planned policies and measures with regard to LULUCF, renewable energy and the use of biofuels, as well as how these policies and measures drive the increase of forest cover, the application of renewable energy sources in the energy sector and the application of biofuels in the transport sector. One question was particularly focused on Italy's experiences with assessing and quantifying the effects of its policies and measures. In response, Italy provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Italy.

8. In closing, the SBI Chair reminded Italy 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 Italy, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.