



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Kazakhstan at the forty-third 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 first round of the IAR process is to be 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 first MA of Kazakhstan took place at a working group session during SBI 43, on 1 December 2015. 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 Kazakhstan had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: Brazil, China, European Union, New Zealand, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Kazakhstan can be found on the IAR web page for Kazakhstan.¹

¹ <<http://unfccc.int/9128.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. Kazakhstan was represented by Ms. Gulmira Sergazina, Ministry of Energy.

5. Ms. Sergazina made an opening presentation, summarizing Kazakhstan's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. The presentation also summarized the country's economic profile and its greenhouse gas (GHG) emission trends and contributing sectors. The GHG emissions in the country declined by 57.2 per cent from 1990 to 1999 and since then have been growing, mostly owing to economic development. About 80 per cent of the GHG emissions are attributed to the energy sector.

6. Measures taken to reach the economy-wide target of a 30 per cent reduction in GHG emissions by 2020 compared with the 1990 level include legislative instruments and financial mechanisms and incentives, such as the laws on energy saving, on energy efficiency and on feed-in tariffs for renewable energy sources. As described in strategic policy documents, such as those for the green economy concept and the Kazakhstan 2050 strategy, by 2020 Kazakhstan intends to: reduce its energy intensity per gross domestic product (GDP) by 25 per cent; reduce its carbon dioxide emissions from electricity production to the level of 2012; and increase the share of renewable energy in its total primary energy supply to 3 per cent through the installation of wind and solar power.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Canada, China, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States of America. The questions were on: the GHG projections; progress towards reaching the target; the development of a national emissions trading system; plans to implement carbon storage technologies; the increase of energy efficiency in the energy supply; the potential of hydro, wind and solar energy; policies and measures to promote renewable energy; the scope of the green economy concept; and measures to reduce the carbon intensity of the GDP. In response, Kazakhstan provided further explanations. Furthermore, a written answer was provided by Kazakhstan after the MA session in response to the question of the United States during the session regarding the difference in projections reported in the third to sixth national communications and the first biennial report. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Kazakhstan.

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