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English only

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

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 Ghana, 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, Ghana received 11 written questions in advance from European Union, Germany, Japan, New Zealand and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
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 Ghana 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 Ghana.

II. Summary of proceedings

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

8. In its presentation Ghana provided an overview of its national circumstances, institutional arrangements and national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, an analysis of its mitigation actions and an assessment of support needed and received. It stated that the 2006 IPCC guidelines and software were used to estimate its GHG emissions. It presented the emission trends from 1990 to 2012 for different sectors, showing an increase in emissions over that period mainly in the AFOLU and energy sectors, driven by land-use change and increase in energy demand, respectively. Ghana also provided an overview of its 10 mitigation actions and their effects, as well as a list of sectors and activities that received support and where further support is needed.

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

10. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Ghana for its efforts and asked for further clarification: Canada, European Union, Germany, Japan, New Zealand and United States of America. The questions were mainly focused on the following areas: future improvements to the preparation of the GHG inventory; best practices and lessons learned that could be useful for the preparation of subsequent BURs; actions taken internally to develop the domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements; and the ex post evaluation of implemented and finalized mitigation actions.

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 workshop, the SBI Chair congratulated Ghana for a successful facilitative sharing of views and completing the first round of the ICA process. He thanked Ghana 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/GHA.

⁴ Available at <http://unfccc6.meta-fusion.com/bonn_may_2016/events/2016-05-20-10-00-facilitative-sharing-of-views-day-1/ghana-2>.