



04 July 2018

English only

Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the forty-eighth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Singapore

Note by the secretariat

I. Background and mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 63, decided to conduct under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) an 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 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 and would commence within six months of the submission of the first round of BURs by developing country Parties,¹ and that the frequency of participation in subsequent rounds of ICA by developing country Parties, based on their respective capabilities and national circumstances, and [with] special flexibility for small island developing States and the least developed country Parties, will be determined by the frequency of the submission of BURs.

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 (FSV), with BURs and summary reports serving as input.²

4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened on 4 May 2018 in Bonn, Germany, at SBI 48, the fifth workshop for the facilitative exchange of views, open to all Parties, for two non-Annex I Parties, including Singapore, for which there was a BUR and a final summary report by 9 February 2018.³ Interested Parties were able to submit written

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 58(a).

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, paragraph 3.

³ The BURs and the summary reports are available at <https://unfccc.int/process/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-convention/biennial-update-reports-0> and

questions in advance. As a result, Singapore received 18 written questions in advance from the following Parties: the European Union, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America

5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Rapporteur, Ms. Tugba Icmeli (Turkey), comprised a two-hour session covered the two Parties in alphabetical order.

6. This record of the FSV for Singapore summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its second BUR,⁴ constitutes the outcome of the second round of ICA for Singapore.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. At the workshop, Singapore made a brief presentation on its BUR, including an information note to the UNFCCC (on international bunker fuels) that was submitted on a voluntary basis by Singapore through its second BUR, in accordance with decision 14/CP.19. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. In its presentation, Singapore provided an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements, national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, mitigation actions and effects, and experiences and lessons learned. Singapore explained that it involves all levels of government as reflected in its institutional arrangements to ensure effective coordination of Singapore's domestic and international policies, plans and actions on climate change. It highlighted that the total GHG emissions were 48.09 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂ eq) including land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) in 2012, of which 47.12 Mt CO₂ eq comes from the energy sector (fuel combustion). In addition, Singapore provided information on its 2020 pledge to reduce GHG emissions by 16 per cent below the business-as-usual scenario. Singapore reported removals of GHG emissions by the LULUCF sector for the first time in its second BUR, estimated at 0.24 Mt CO₂ eq in 2012, and has engaged international experts to set up a system to capture data on emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector.

9. It also provided an overview of its mitigation actions and their effects and described some of its key mitigation measures in the following sectors: energy, adopting more efficient technologies and increasing the deployment of solar photovoltaics; industry, with energy efficiency programmes and co-generation plants; transport, including increasing the use of public transport, improving the fuel efficiency of private vehicles and test-bed electric vehicles; building, with 'green mark' certification for all new buildings and existing building when retrofitted, as well as energy efficiency of tenanted spaces; household, through a mandatory energy labelling scheme, minimum energy performance standards and smart home technologies; and waste and water, by aiming to increase the overall recycling rate, reduce plastic incineration and improve the efficiency of desalination and used water treatment. Singapore also highlighted the carbon tax to be introduced in 2019, which will cover around of 80 per cent of emissions from the energy sector (emissions from power generation).

10. Singapore also presented information on its experience with the preparation of the BUR, highlighting the need for planning, coordination and scheduling of work and ensuring that the suggestions from the previous technical analysis summary report are taken into

<https://unfccc.int/process/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/biennial-update-reports-and-international-consultation-and-analysis/international-consultation-and-analysis-process/ica-documents-cycle-1> respectively.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2017/TASR.2/SGP.

account. In addition, Singapore mentioned the importance of overcoming the challenges of ensuring that the personnel involved in BUR preparation are familiar with the “UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” (decision 2/CP.17, annex III) and ensuring coherency among the various leading agencies responsible for preparing information for specific chapters of the BUR through increased communication. Similarly, Singapore prepared for participation in the FSV while ensuring it could overcome the challenge of coordinating responses to written questions submitted in advance for FSV.

11. Singapore mentioned that its small size, dense urban landscape and geographical constraints (limited land area, low wind speeds, low tidal range, lack of geothermal resources and lack of large river systems for hydropower) limit the potential for alternative energy options and therefore continues to face a challenge regarding its emission reduction potential.

12. Over the course of the presentation, Singapore addressed written questions submitted in advance, through the secretariat, by interested Parties.

13. After the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Singapore for its effort and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, Chile, European Union, Germany, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa and Sudan. The questions and answers were mainly focused on the following areas: improvements to and challenges with GHG inventory reporting and transitioning to the use of the *IPCC 2006 Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*; training personnel for GHG inventory management; tracking GHG emissions from climate change mitigation actions; regulatory measures used; energy efficiency strategies; LULUCF as part of Singapore’s 2020 pledge; Singapore’s approach and experiences with measurement; reporting and verification of GHG emissions and mitigation actions; support needed and received; tracking climate finance; and suggestions for improvement to the ICA process.

14. The full details of the presentation as well as subsequent interventions are available in the Skype Broadcast of the workshop.⁵

15. In closing the workshop, the SBI Rapporteur Ms. Icmeli congratulated Singapore for successfully undergoing the FSV and completing the second round of its ICA process. She thanked Singapore and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a truly facilitative manner. She also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁵ <https://join-emea.broadcast.skype.com/unfccc365.onmicrosoft.com/b0e30302a2b8488f87b3970577edd7d1>.