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Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its forty-ninth session, held in Katowice from 2 to 8 December 2018

Addendum

Summary reports on multilateral assessments at the forty-ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

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Background

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its sixteenth session, 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 decided to establish the international assessment and review (IAR) process under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), which aims to promote comparability of efforts among all developed country Parties.[1] According to the modalities and procedures for IAR,[2] multilateral assessment (MA) 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 MA is to assess each Party's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

2. The first MA working group session of the third round of the IAR process was convened during SBI 49, on 3 and 7 December 2018, under the chairmanship of the SBI Chair, Mr. Emmanuel Dumisani Dlamini (Eswatini), and the SBI Vice-Chair, Mr. Naser Moghaddasi (Islamic Republic of Iran). The working group session was 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. Summary reports for each of the 11 Parties that were assessed at SBI 49 are presented below. The reports are also available on the UNFCCC website on the individual Party IAR web pages.[3]

3. In closing the MA for each Party, the Chair reminded the Party 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 all Parties and the secretariat for the successful MA working group session.

[1] Decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 40 and 44.

[2] Decision 2/CP.17, annex II.

[3] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/international-assessment-and-review/multilateral-assessment.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Canada

1. The third round of MA of Canada took place on 3 December 2018. Questions for Canada had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the following delegations: Australia, China, European Union, New Zealand, Republic of Korea and Thailand. Brazil and the United States of America submitted written questions after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Canada as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Canada.[4]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. Canada was represented by Mr. Matt Jones (Assistant Deputy Minister of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change of Environment and Climate Change Canada).

3. Mr. Jones made an opening presentation summarizing Canada's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Under the Convention, Canada made a commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 17 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Canada's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) increased by 18.1 per cent between 1990 and 2015, owing mainly to geographical, demographic and economic circumstances. Canada's population grew by 29.0 per cent between 1990 and 2015. The country's climate and geography contribute to its high energy use. The large distances between metropolitan areas and the country's low population density result in high emissions from the transport sector. In addition, Canada's economic growth was the fastest among the Group of Seven[5] largest advanced economies.

5. Mr. Jones presented the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, an initiative approved in December 2016 that encompasses most of the key policies and measures (PaMs) implemented by the Party to achieve its target. The overarching federal carbon pricing approach and backstop system is a significant new component of the Pan-Canadian Framework that integrates existing provincial carbon pricing programmes and expands to all provinces. Other significant measures are GHG regulations for both light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles, which will reduce fuel consumption of new vehicles; the federal Energy Efficient Equipment and Appliances Program, which sets efficiency standards for heating equipment and other end-use products at the highest economically feasible level; and regulations to address methane (CH_4) emissions in the oil and gas sector. Mr. Jones also mentioned the Clean Fuel Standard, a performance-based approach to transportation fuels that will encourage the use of a broad range of lower-carbon fuels such as electricity, hydrogen and renewable fuels, including renewable natural gas.

6. On the use of units from LULUCF activities, Mr. Jones explained that Canada includes the contribution of LULUCF to achieving its target, but that, at the time of the publication of its third biennial report (BR3), it was examining its approach to accounting emissions and removals from LULUCF. Since then, Canada has developed a new approach, whereby it will use reference-level accounting for managed forests and harvested wood products, and the net-net approach for emissions accounting for all other subsectors. Mr. Jones explained that additional details would shortly be made publicly available. With regard to the use of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention and other mechanisms, Mr. Jones stated that Canada is still evaluating its need to use market-based mechanisms.

7. Canada's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF in 2020 and 2030 are projected to equal 728,400 and 721,400 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (kt CO_2 eq), respectively, under the 'with measures' (WEM) scenario, which is an increase of 19.3 and

[4] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-1.

[5] Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States.

18.1 per cent, respectively, above the 1990 level. Under the 'with additional measures' (WAM) scenario, emissions in 2020 and 2030, amounting to around 690,400 and 583,400 kt CO_2 eq, respectively, are projected to be 13.0 per cent above and 4.5 per cent below the 1990 level, respectively, and 1.5 and 2.4 per cent, respectively, below the 2005 level. The 2020 projections suggest that Canada may face challenges in achieving its 2020 target under the Convention.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Brazil, China, European Union, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and United States. The questions related to the division of federal and provincial responsibilities; projected emission reductions resulting from carbon pricing; challenges related to integrating multiple provincial approaches to carbon pricing; the sources of leadership in developing the Pan-Canadian Framework; standards for internationally transferred mitigation outcomes; challenges associated with aggregating subnational PaMs for national analysis; the institutions in place for increasing ambition over time; interministerial cooperation; methodologies for estimating emissions and removals from LULUCF and how to ensure consistency in targets over time when LULUCF methodologies change; standards for green infrastructure; institutional arrangements for implementing and verifying carbon pricing; and time frames for implementing the Pan-Canadian Framework.

9. In response, Canada provided further explanations. In particular, the Party elaborated on its existing institutions for climate-related provincial collaboration and resource-sharing. It explained that the biggest challenge it faced in developing the new Pan-Canadian Framework was the very short time frame, which limited engagement with some stakeholders. Regarding internationally transferred mitigation outcomes, Canada also explained that its focus is on ensuring that mitigation policies deliver real, measurable and additional emission reductions. The Party also provided additional information regarding the projected impacts of carbon pricing, with an expected emission reduction of approximately 50,000–60,000 kt CO_2 eq in 2030. It further explained that it has existing mechanisms and institutions in place for collaboration and information-sharing between the federal and provincial levels that assist in aggregating the impacts of provincial-level PaMs. It will be applying its new LULUCF accounting method to both its 2020 and 2030 targets in order to ensure consistency.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Czechia

1. The third round of MA of Czechia took place on 7 December 2018. Questions for Czechia had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the delegation of China. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Czechia as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Czechia.[6]

2. The working group session was co-chaired by the SBI Chair and Vice-Chair. Czechia was represented by Mr. Pavel Zámyslický (Ministry of the Environment of Czechia).

3. Mr. Zámyslický made an opening presentation summarizing Czechia's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As a European Union (EU) member State, Czechia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Czechia's emission target for sectors covered by the EU effort-sharing decision (ESD) (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)) is to limit its emission growth to 9.0 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 and reduce its emissions by 13 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030. Mr. Zámyslický mentioned that Czechia's Climate Projection Policy includes an outlook up to 2050, with an indicative goal of an 80 per cent emission reduction compared with the 2005 level.

4. Total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 35.4 per cent between 1990 and 2015. The decrease in total GHG emissions was driven mainly by factors such as the decrease in production and subsequent restructuring of the economy in the early 1990s, which was triggered by the change in the political system, as well as the economic recession caused by the 2008 global economic crisis, leading to a drop in industrial and other economic activity. In addition, the adoption of PaMs to reduce GHG emissions and the introduction of low-carbon technologies and renewable energy sources with the modernization and reform of the industrial and energy sectors, as well as improvements to agriculture and waste management practices, have had an impact on reducing GHG emissions.

5. Mr. Zámyslický presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including (1) the EU ETS and the EU directive on integrated pollution and prevention control as key measures for the energy and industry sectors; (2) support for renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, public transport and cycling, alternative vehicles, greening of agriculture and utilization of biogas; (3) the utilization of EU funds in areas such as energy efficiency of buildings, industry, greening of agriculture and renewable energy sources; (4) the New Green Savings Programme, supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in households, financed by the auctioning of EU ETS allowances; (5) the Waste Management Plan, including reducing biowaste, banning landfilling from 2024 and increased recycling and energy utilization of waste; (6) the National Emission Reduction Programme, including 23 priority measures for air and climate protection; (7) the National Action Plan for Clean Mobility, for supporting the development of alternative drives and fuels and the development of infrastructure and research and development; and (8) the funding programme for applied research, experimental development and innovation.

6. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, Czechia presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under the WEM and WAM scenarios, which is 7.8 and 8.3 per cent, respectively, below the annual emission allocation for 2020. This suggests that Czechia expects to meet its ESD target under the WEM and WAM scenarios.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Indonesia, New Zealand, Singapore and United States. The questions related to (1) the proposed EU ETS Modernisation Fund being negotiated by EU member

[6] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-2.

States; (2) major challenges in achieving an emission reduction of 80 per cent below the 2005 level by 2050; (3) further details on PaMs for the agriculture sector; and (4) plans for the energy sector, including the possibility of using carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies, the type of nuclear technologies being considered by Czechia and measures to address energy production volatility when increasing renewable energy sources in the energy mix.

8. In response, Czechia provided further explanations. In particular, the Party explained that the EU ETS Modernisation Fund is still being negotiated by the EU member States and that it intends to support 10 member States with a lower gross domestic product and a higher share of coal in their energy mix. The Fund could be used by Czechia to modernize its central heating plants, which are outdated and rely on coal for heat production. The Party explained that the sectors that will face more challenges in achieving an emission reduction of 80 per cent below the 2005 level by 2050 are the agriculture and transportation sectors as they still show an increasing trend in emissions. On the use of CCS, Czechia stated that it has no plans to implement CCS technologies and that the emission reduction potential from increasing renewable energy sources and energy efficiency is much greater in the country. Lastly, Czechia explained that plans for installing new nuclear power plants are still being considered, that the type of nuclear plant has not yet been decided and that the fluctuations in the energy supply due to the increase in renewable energy sources can be compensated by the use of natural gas.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Estonia

1. The third round of MA of Estonia took place on 3 December 2018. Questions for Estonia had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the delegation of China. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Estonia as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Estonia.[7]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. Estonia was represented by Ms. Getlyn Denks (Ministry of the Environment of Estonia).

3. Ms. Denks made an opening presentation summarizing Estonia's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, Estonia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Estonia's emission reduction target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is 11 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Estonia's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 51.0 per cent between 1990 and 2016. The decrease in total GHG emissions can be attributed mainly to the economic restructuring at the beginning of 1990s, which has been followed by a stabilization of emissions in recent years depending mainly on the weather conditions and the global economic situation.

5. Ms. Denks presented PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including the three main strategic documents adopted in 2017, namely the "General Principles of Climate Policy until 2050", the "Climate Change Adaptation Development Plan until 2030" and the "Estonian Energy Development Plan until 2030". The sectoral strategies and implementation plans take into account these vision documents and provide objectives, policy instruments, measures and activities across sectors. Estonia listed some of the implemented PaMs in the last years by sector, such as renovating boiler houses and support for renewable energy for the energy sector; renovating public and private buildings and a zero-energy standard for buildings; modern public transport and electromobility for transportation; introducing effective fertilization technologies for agriculture; and circular economy for the waste sector. Ms. Denks gave examples of the successful implementation of electromobility in the country and the free public transport offered in the capital city, Tallinn, and plans to expand the practice to other cities. Estonia is directing 100 per cent of the revenue from the EU ETS aviation auctions to supporting innovative solutions in start-ups.

6. Use of units from LULUCF activities is not included in the target. With regard to the use of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention and other mechanisms, the Party expects to exceed its 2020 target and therefore does not plan to use the market-based mechanisms to meet its Kyoto Protocol target.

7. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, Estonia presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under the WEM scenario, which is 6,008.68 kt CO_2 eq. The projected emissions for 2020 are below the annual emission allocation for 2020 (6,023.72 kt CO_2 eq) and therefore Estonia expects to meet its target under the WEM scenario.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Canada, Malaysia and United States. The questions related to the process used to monitor and check progress on existing strategies and the institutional arrangements to enable this; the strategy and challenges in addressing emissions of fluorinated gases (F-gases) as part of the long-term strategy of the Party; the implemented

[7] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-3.

PaMs to promote electric vehicles; and the allocation of innovation financing to start-up companies.

9. In response, Estonia provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that ministries are responsible for implementing the strategic plans in their respective areas and report biannually on progress to the Government. The Party clarified that F-gases are addressed under the EU F-gas regulation, which applies to the Party. In addition, there are ongoing studies in Estonia on possible alternatives to using F-gases. Regarding the promotion of electric vehicles, the Party stated that there are various measures implemented, such as support for the necessary infrastructure. On the start-up companies to be supported, Estonia explained that they are selected via different calls for proposals, and the proposed idea and its economic viability are considered during the selection.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the European Union

1. The third round of MA of the EU took place on 3 December 2018. Questions for the Party had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the following delegations: Australia, China, New Zealand, Republic of Korea and Turkey. Brazil and the United States submitted written questions after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by the EU as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for the EU.[8]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. The Party was represented by Ms. Elina Bardram (Head of Unit in the Directorate-General for Climate Action of the European Commission).

3. Ms. Bardram made an opening presentation summarizing the Party's progress in implementation towards achieving the emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. Under the Convention, the EU made a commitment to reduce its GHG emissions by 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. The emission reduction target encompasses large GHG emissions sources under the EU ETS, with the goal of reducing emissions by 21 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020, and non-EU ETS sectors pursuant to the ESD. Under the ESD, the EU has a target of reducing its total emissions to 10 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 22 per cent between 1990 and 2017. The decrease in total GHG emissions can be attributed mainly to factors and drivers such as the increased use of renewable energy sources, the shift from coal to gas in electricity and heat production, energy efficiency improvements, structural changes in the economy with reduced activity in the industrial sector and growth in the service sector, economic recession, changes in prevailing weather patterns, and policies at both the EU and the member State level. These drivers also led to the decoupling of gross domestic product and GHG emissions in the EU, which was emphasized by the Party during the MA session. The only major sector with increased emissions between 1990 and 2015 was the transport sector.

5. Ms. Bardram presented key PaMs implemented to achieve the Party's 2020 target, and also highlighted the envisaged continuation and further strengthening of those PaMs for progressing towards 2030 targets as part of the Party's nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement. The key overarching cross-sectoral policy in the EU is the 2020 climate and energy package, adopted in 2009, which includes the revised EU ETS and the ESD, which are critical for attaining the EU-wide emission reduction target by 2020. Ms. Bardram emphasized that the implementation of PaMs has not only led to sizeable emission reductions and the decoupling of GHG emissions from economic growth, but also brought about other benefits, such as energy savings, improving air quality and creating new jobs.

6. Emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector are not included in the 2020 target under the Convention. With regard to the use of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention and other mechanisms, EU member States are generally allowed to use units from the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms as well as new market mechanisms for compliance purposes, subject to a number of restrictions in terms of origin and type of project and up to an established limit.

7. The Party's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF in 2020 and 2030 are projected to be 4,212,961.07 and 3,987,736.85 kt CO_2 eq, respectively, under the WEM scenario, which is a decrease of 26.2 and 30.2 per cent, respectively, below the 1990 level. Under the WAM scenario, emissions in 2020 and 2030, amounting to 4,179,456.57 and 3,871,983.62 kt CO_2 eq, respectively, are projected to be lower than those in 1990 by 26.8 and 32.2 per cent,

[8] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-0.

respectively. The 2020 projections suggest that the EU expects to overachieve its 2020 target under the Convention.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Brazil, China, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Switzerland and United States. The questions related to key assumptions used for projections and how projections from individual member States were incorporated into the Party's projections; drivers behind the decoupling of GHG emissions from economic growth; the use of auction revenues from the EU ETS to support climate action at the international level; the importance of security, solidarity and trust as 'soft' factors embedded in the EU 2030 climate and energy framework for achieving climate policy goals; the impact of the Party's long-term climate-neutral strategy on the achievement of the 2020 target; the role of domestically produced biomass in energy use and its effects across different sectors; use of emission reduction units (ERUs) and certified emission reductions (CERs) in the aviation sector as part of the EU ETS; improvements in monitoring and quantifying results of energy efficiency PaMs; further clarification of the no-debit rule in the land-use sector; and the role of innovation and modernization funds in meeting the target.

9. In response, the EU provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that the key assumptions used for projections were taken from European Commission reference documents prepared in consultation with national experts and the Joint Research Centre. It also explained that the decoupling of GHG emissions from economic growth was a result mainly of the implementation of the climate and energy package in a holistic and inclusive manner, thus ensuring its impact across all economic sectors and the involvement of all stakeholders. As part of the implementation of the package, 50 per cent of auction revenue from the EU ETS should be channelled to supporting climate and environmental actions, but this percentage varies across member States. Also, there is no threshold set on using such revenue for international financial support. For the purpose of the EU ETS, ERUs and CERs are exchanged for European emission allowances and are thus eligible for use under the EU ETS, including for the aviation sector.

10. Furthermore, the EU explained that the principles of security, solidarity and trust embedded in the EU 2030 climate and energy framework have been operationalized through various means and approaches, including innovation and modernization funds aimed at supporting the just transition to a low-carbon economy for 10 member States that are still dependent on carbon-intensive energy sources. The 2020 target under the Convention is expected to be achieved independently of the Party's long-term climate-neutral strategy, which is focused on post-2020 climate action. With regard to the use of biomass and its impacts on various sectors, the EU expects that land-use sectors included in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol will generate emission credits in the range of 106–120 Mt CO_2 eq in 2020; as per the no-debit rule for the LULUCF sector, there will be two compliance periods, 2021–2025 and 2026–2030. The EU elaborated that the comprehensive monitoring mechanism regulation is used for monitoring and quantifying the results of energy efficiency PaMs, which will be further strengthened by the new energy union governance regulation.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of France

1. The third round of MA of France took place on 3 December 2018. Questions for France had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the following delegations: Australia, China, Republic of Korea, Thailand and United States. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by France as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for France.[9]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. France was represented by Mr. Laurent Michel (General Director for Climate and Energy in the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of France).

3. Mr. Michel made an opening presentation summarizing France's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, France is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. France's emission reduction target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020 and 37 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030. In addition to the joint EU commitment, France has committed under its Energy Transition for Green Growth Act (August 2015) to achieving a 40 per cent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 and a 75 per cent reduction by 2050 compared with the 1990 level.

4. France's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 16.1 per cent between 1990 and 2016, owing mainly to improvements in energy and carbon efficiency in the manufacturing industries sector and to a reduction of GHG emissions from electricity production and urban heating.

5. Mr. Michel presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including the National Low Carbon Strategy, France's main policy framework relating to climate change, which defines carbon budgets for three five-year periods (2015–2018, 2019–2023 and 2024–2028), with shares by sector (e.g. transport, buildings and industry). Mr. Michel also presented the multi-year plan for energy for 2018–2028 and its objectives and actions: (1) lowering fossil energy consumption by a third by 2028 by, for example, closing four coal plants by 2022 and replacing one million oil boilers by 2023; (2) lowering energy consumption, for example through retrofits and renewable energy integration in buildings and by having 4.8 million electric vehicles on the road by 2028; and (3) diversifying the energy mix by developing renewable energies and reducing the share of nuclear power.

6. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, France presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under the WEM scenario, which is 20 per cent below the 2005 level. France expects to meet the 2020 target (14 per cent) under the WEM scenario. Further, France presented the projected level of emissions by 2030 from non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM scenario, which is 28 per cent below the 2005 level. France explained that it would need additional measures in order to meet the 2030 target (37 per cent).

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Brazil, Japan and United States. The questions related to internal coordination for developing projections; the review of the National Low Carbon Strategy and its impact on targets and policies; and experience of and plans for CCS. In response, France provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that projections are validated by the relevant ministries; that it has indicators to evaluate the National Low Carbon Strategy and that every two years those indicators are assessed, including the impact of PaMs on GHG emissions; and that it is currently experimenting with carbon capture and use, and that geological storage of CO_2 is only at the research stage and has not progressed further due to the low price of carbon.

[9] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-4.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Germany

1. The third round of MA of Germany took place on 7 December 2018. Questions for Germany had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the following delegations: Australia, China, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Thailand and United States. Brazil and the United States submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Germany as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Germany.[10]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. Germany was represented by Ms. Nicole Wilke (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany).

3. Ms. Wilke made an opening presentation summarizing Germany's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, Germany is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Germany's emission reduction target from sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020. Germany has also set itself a national target of at least a 40 per cent emission reduction by 2020 compared with the 1990 level, which does not include emission reductions from the LULUCF sector or use of market-based mechanisms.

4. Germany's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 27.9 per cent between 1990 and 2015, owing mainly to a shift from the use of solid fuels to lower-emission liquid and gaseous fuels since 1990; an increase in the use of renewable energy sources and the resulting substitution of fossil fuels; the commissioning of more efficient industrial plants and facilities; changes in conditions for raising livestock and reduction in the livestock population; and compliance with statutory provisions on waste management, which have significantly reduced CH_4 emissions.

5. Ms. Wilke presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including the EU ETS, which is the most critical for Germany's contribution to achieving the joint EU emission reduction target for 2020; the Renewable Energy Sources Act; electricity-saving and conservation measures, such the Energy Saving Ordinance; and energy efficiency measures funded by the Special Energy and Climate Fund, the Energy Efficiency Fund and the National Climate Initiative, including promotional programmes for buildings funded by the German KfW Development Bank. Other measures that are expected to deliver significant emission reductions are the inclusion of lignite-fired power plants on standby for reserve capacity; the market incentive programme for renewable energy sources; the implementation of EU regulation 517/2014, which involves reducing emissions of F-gases to 70 per cent below the 1990 level by 2030, and EU directive 2006/40/EC, which bans the use of F-gases with a global warming potential higher than 150 in new types of car; and the funding programme for energy checks in small and medium-sized enterprises.

6. On the use of units from LULUCF activities, Germany does not intend to account for the contribution of LULUCF to achieving the joint EU target. With regard to the use of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention and other mechanisms, Germany does not intend to use such units towards achieving either the joint EU target or its national target; however, there is a potential need to use units from market-based mechanisms (e.g. the clean development mechanism) to meet the target for the non-EU ETS sectors.

7. Germany's total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF in 2020 are projected to be 34.7 and 35.5 per cent below the 1990 level under the WEM and WAM scenarios, respectively. Given that its emissions from the EU ETS sectors are subject to an EU-wide cap, Germany explained that the level of emissions by 2020 from non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios is projected to be above the Party's annual emission allocation for 2020 by

[10] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-5.

3.7 and 1.9 per cent, respectively. Therefore, Germany may face challenges in meeting its target for these sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios. The 2020 projections suggest that Germany may also face challenges in achieving its national target (a 40 per cent emission reduction by 2020 compared with the 1990 level) without the implementation of additional measures.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Marshall Islands and United States. The questions related to Germany's position regarding the target of net zero emissions by 2050 recently announced by the EU; the projected time frame for Germany to reduce its dependence on coal for electricity production and the reasons why it may not have been possible to reach the national target using options for reducing emissions from power capacities based on coal use; how Germany would seek to attain the target of a reduction of emissions in the transport sector by 2030 and what mitigation efforts have been planned for this sector; why Germany has been successful in reducing emissions of non-CO_2 GHGs and in which areas and, in particular, whether Germany managed to achieve reductions of non-CO_2 GHGs in the areas considered to be "high-hanging fruit"; which additional policies Germany is considering to achieve emission reductions of non-CO_2 GHGs in order to achieve national carbon neutrality as specified in the national 2050 climate action plan; institutional arrangements and information on the consortium of institutions that prepared the GHG emission projection scenarios, including their roles; and whether the aggregation of sectoral projections to obtain a long-term projection of national emissions was calculated using optimization or only by ranking abatement costs with the aim of allocating emission reductions to each subsector.

9. In response, Germany provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that the GHG emission projections are estimated by a research consortium comprising three scientific and technical institutions using different methodological approaches and specialized models for different sectors; the institutions are responsible for modelling different sectors, subsectors or categories in accordance with their expertise and the latest available data. Germany also explained that the reduction in CH_4 emissions by around 54 per cent since 1990 is due in particular to measures and legal provisions introduced in the waste management sector and increased recovery and use of CH_4 for electricity generation, while the reduction in N_2O emissions by around 41 per cent since 1990 is due to the reduction of emissions from adipic acid production.

10. In addition, Germany indicated that reducing non-CO_2 emissions in the agriculture sector is difficult because there are few technological options for emission mitigation. Regarding the transport sector, Germany indicated that emission reduction actions to achieve its targets are currently being discussed in dedicated working groups tasked with proposing a set of possible measures in early 2019, such as supporting and extending public transport, using electric mobility in public transport, shifting to rail transport and improving air quality in cities, including through the use of public electric buses. Germany also indicated that the 2050 climate action plan includes goals for extensive carbon neutrality by 2050 in accordance with the recent announcement of the European Commission.

11. Finally, Germany explained that, in the process of developing targets for individual sectors, an analysis of the possible emission reduction potential was performed for each sector, followed by in-depth consultations with the associated stakeholders. Possible abatement options were therefore not only identified theoretically but also through a combined approach involving discussions with all actors in the respective sectors. In developing the programme of action, now that 2030 targets for individual sectors have been defined, Germany is once again consulting with stakeholders and defining the measures to be put in place as part of the process of developing the targets indicated above to be concluded [in?] the next year and as part of the planned legislation needed to be established.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Hungary

1. The third round of the MA of Hungary took place on 7 December 2018. Questions for Hungary had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the delegation of China. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Hungary as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Hungary.[11]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair. Hungary was represented by Mr. Tibor Schaffhauser (Deputy Head of the Climate Policy Department of the Ministry for Innovation and Technology of Hungary).

3. Mr. Schaffhauser made an opening presentation summarizing Hungary's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, Hungary is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Hungary's emission reduction target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is to limit its emission growth to 10 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Hungary's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 34.9 per cent between 1990 and 2015, owing mainly to the economic downturn due to the transition to a more energy-efficient market economy and Hungary's implementation of climate-related PaMs.

5. Mr. Schaffhauser presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including the EU ETS; the fuel switch to renewable energies and natural gas, mainly for buildings, heating and transport; the warmth of home programme, which aims at reducing household energy expenses by replacing outdated household machines, boilers, doors and windows; and the economy-wide decarbonization road map, which also includes research, development and innovation.

6. On the use of units from LULUCF activities, since Hungary is an EU member State, the LULUCF sector is not covered by its target and thus does not contribute to the achievement of the target. Hungary does not intend to use units from market-based mechanisms.

7. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, Hungary explained that emissions by 2020 from non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios are projected to be below the Party's annual emission allocation for 2020 by 25.9 and 26.1 per cent, respectively. Hungary expects to achieve its target under the WEM and WAM scenarios.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Republic of Korea, Singapore and United States. The questions related to the new EU ETS Modernisation Fund and Hungary's emission trends for F-gases and the waste sector. In response, Hungary provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that, with regard to F-gas emissions and the waste sector, new PaMs are planned or have already been implemented.

[11] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-6.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Latvia

1. The third round of MA of Latvia took place on 3 December 2018. Questions for Latvia had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the delegations of China and New Zealand. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Latvia as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Latvia.[12]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. Latvia was represented by Ms. Ilze Pruse (Director of the Climate Change Department of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia).

3. Ms. Pruse made an opening presentation summarizing Latvia's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, Latvia committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Latvia's emission limitation target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is 17 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Latvia's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 57 per cent between 1990 and 2016, owing mainly to its transition from a centrally planned to a market economy and to its decarbonization through increased use of natural gas and biomass and decreased use of coal (by 94 per cent since 1990).

5. Ms. Pruse presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including the EU ETS; various PaMs aimed at increasing energy efficiency in the building sector; the taxation of GHG emissions since 2006, with gradually extended coverage; and awareness-raising, including via social media. Latvia's emissions from sectors covered by the EU ETS decreased by 28 per cent from 2005 to 2017, owing mainly to the switch from fossil fuels to biomass. The PaMs in the building sector are implemented at the national and municipal level and currently focus on public and multi-apartment buildings. The main measures are awareness-raising, energy auditing, establishing energy management systems (mandatory for large municipalities and large enterprises), setting energy performance requirements, and providing grants and repayable guaranteed low-interest loans.

6. According to the report on the technical review of Latvia's BR3,[13] the LULUCF sector is not included in the Party's target. The EU generally allows its member States to use certain market-based mechanisms for compliance purposes, but in 2013–2016 Latvia did not use units from market-based mechanisms.

7. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, Latvia presented the projected level by 2020 of its emissions from sectors not covered by the EU ETS. According to the report on the technical review of Latvia's BR3, the projected emission levels for non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios are 7.8 and 9.0 per cent, respectively, below the annual emission allocation for 2020. Latvia expects to meet its target under both scenarios.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the delegations of Canada, Japan and the United States. The questions related to flexible financing tools to promote the retrofitting of apartment buildings; past fluctuations in changes in forest carbon stock; policies anticipated to be implemented in the LULUCF sector; and how results of sensitivity analysis carried out for projections have been used in policy planning. In response, Latvia provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that a group of PaMs has been used to address energy consumption in buildings. Regarding economic measures, the Party started by providing grants, but is currently using loan-based measures, including loans that turn partly into grants if the energy efficiency target is overachieved. Latvia also explained that the active role of municipalities is key in

[12] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-7.

[13] FCCC/TRR.3/LVA.

implementing energy efficiency measures: municipalities with energy management systems in place that actively advocate energy efficiency measures demonstrate greater achievements. Latvia further explained that it is exploring options for allowing energy efficiency measures to be implemented in multi-apartment buildings even if a minority of the apartment owners are not in agreement. Regarding changes in forest carbon stock, the Party explained that its forest is mature and sustainable forest management is in place. There are plans to include new forestry sector measures in the national energy and climate plan, which will outline the PaMs aimed at achieving the Party's target for 2030. Latvia also explained that it is currently developing new projections, which include the new PaMs for ensuring the achievement of its target for 2030, and that sensitivity analysis will be carried out for those projections.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Lithuania

1. The third round of MA of Lithuania took place on 3 December 2018. Questions for Lithuania had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the delegation of China. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Lithuania as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Lithuania.[14]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair. Lithuania was represented by Mr. Tomas Aukštinaitis (Head of the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania).

3. Mr. Aukštinaitis made an opening presentation summarizing Lithuania's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, Lithuania committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Lithuania's emission limitation target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is 15 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020.

4. Lithuania's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 58 per cent between 1990 and 2016, owing mainly to its transition from a centrally planned to a market economy.

5. Mr. Aukštinaitis presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including a multi-apartment building modernization programme, energy efficiency agreements with energy producers, promoting the use of renewable energy, investments in public transportation and cycling infrastructure, and promoting sustainable farming. According to the report on the technical review of Lithuania's BR3,[15] Lithuania is not planning to use units from LULUCF activities or market-based mechanisms to reach its target.

6. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, Lithuania presented the projected level by 2020 of its emissions from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under the WEM and WAM scenarios. According to the report on the technical review of Lithuania's BR3, the projected level of emissions for non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios is 10.9 and 14.7 per cent, respectively, below the annual emission allocation for 2020. Lithuania expects to meet its target under both scenarios.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the delegations of Canada and the United States. The questions related to the specific policies in place to promote renewable energy; past fluctuations in changes in forest carbon stock; and policies anticipated to be implemented in the LULUCF sector. In response, Lithuania provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that the EU ETS and EU structural funds contributed to increasing the use of renewable energy by energy and industrial plants. Grants provided through the Party's climate change programme for the residential sector also supported the uptake of renewable energy. On forestry, the Party explained that drought, forest fire and pests caused a decrease in the forest carbon sink. The national climate change strategy is currently under review and its implementation plan is being updated: the Party's afforestation targets for up until 2030 will most likely be increased by about 3,000 ha/year.

[14] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-9.

[15] FCCC/TRR.3/LTU.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the Netherlands

1. The third round of MA of the Netherlands took place on 7 December 2018. Questions for the Netherlands had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the following delegations: China, New Zealand, Republic of Korea and Thailand. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by the Netherlands as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for the Netherlands.[16]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair. The Netherlands was represented by Mr. Ivo de Zwaan (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy of the Netherlands).

3. Mr. de Zwaan made an opening presentation summarizing the Netherland's progress towards achieving the emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, the Netherlands is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. The Netherland's emission reduction target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is 16 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

4. The Netherland's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 11.6 per cent between 1990 and 2015. The decrease in total GHG emissions can be attributed mainly to decreases in emissions from the industrial processes and product use, agriculture and waste sectors and the notable decrease in emissions from energy use in non-energy industries. Mr. de Zwaan stated that provisional estimates for 2017 also showed a continuous decrease of GHG emissions in 2017.

5. Mr. de Zwaan described a number of key PaMs that were delivering GHG emission reductions in the building and transport sectors. A key issue in the buildings sector is the increase in emissions, mostly from the use of natural gas for heating homes in the winter season. To stimulate PaMs to reduce emissions from the housing sector, the national Government and regional and local authorities have introduced subsidy schemes to deliver efficiency improvements, including improving insulation and promoting more efficient boilers to reduce the use of natural gas. These subsidy schemes have been implemented for many decades and they change over time on the basis of lessons learned and the improved quality of insulation materials. In addition, other PaMs, such as building permits for new buildings and renovated buildings, ensure an ongoing increase in the minimum energy performance standards of buildings. Agreements between government and building societies are also used to improve the performance of social housing. The most successful measure in homes has been the replacement of single glazing with high-efficiency glass, with over 250,000 improvements undertaken.

6. The Netherlands has a target to ensure that 10 per cent of new cars are electric or hybrid by 2020. PaMs for the transport sector include a general policy of the Government entering into agreements, known as Green Deals, with organizations, which allow for a targeted acceleration towards more sustainable energy. The Ministry of Transport has entered into Green Deals with 15 organizations and regional governments and this includes a number of actions to be delivered between 2016 and 2020, such as joint action to promote electric vehicles (EVs) and a "Formula-E team". The inclusion of the Dutch grid operator helps to ensure that the infrastructure is available for charging EVs. Financial instruments are also used to increase the uptake of EVs and these change each fiscal year. Evidence has shown that, since 2015, there has been a noticeable increase in EV uptake, with a slowdown occurring in 2018. With new plug-in models available and extended ranges of EVs, the Netherlands expects the share of EVs to continue increasing in the future.

[16] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-11.

7. The Netherlands continues to evaluate and improve its policies and consults extensively with all its stakeholders, and Mr. de Zwaan highlighted in particular its "broad-based coalition". This coalition ensures that stakeholders are consulted on key PaMs, including the 2030 National Climate Agreement currently in preparation. The Netherlands aims to enhance its GHG emission reduction target to 49 per cent by 2030 compared with the 1990 level. There are five sectors as part of the coalition, with stakeholders from each sector represented, all working towards the enhanced 2030 target. Furthermore, Mr. de Zwaan outlined that the Netherlands' Parliament is currently discussing a Climate Act that aims to set an emission reduction target of 90 per cent by 2050.

8. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, the Netherlands presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios, which is 11.4 and 12.3 per cent, respectively, below the annual emission allocation for 2020. The Netherlands expects to meet the target under the WEM scenario.

9. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Indonesia, Japan and United States. The questions related to the use of projections in implementing PaMs; the status and implications of the legal case advocating stronger federal government climate change mitigation for future planning; whether there are regulations ensuring that EV charging systems use renewable energy; and to provide an update on how the Netherlands is progressing towards the 14 per cent renewable energy goal under the Agreement for Sustainable Growth.

10. In response, the Netherlands provided further explanations. In particular, the Party explained that projections are always used to update its PaMs; for example, the projections prepared by the Netherlands were a major input to the discussions for the new 2030 climate agreement and the projections are regularly updated on the basis of experience and practice. The Netherlands outlined that since 2015 there has been an ongoing high-profile court case for the State to reduce emissions by 25 per cent by 2020. Currently the State is appealing the decision, mostly on the grounds of an objection on principle; however, the Party believes that it is in reach of achieving the 25 per cent target with additional PaMs, including implementing the phase-out of coal-fired power stations much earlier than originally planned. The Party highlighted that there was more work to do regarding renewable energy and there were challenges in meeting these targets because of the country's fairly flat geography. Currently 5–6 per cent of total energy use is from renewable energy and the aim is to increase this to 14 per cent by 2023. Offshore and onshore wind technologies are the main renewable energy technologies that the Netherlands is investigating. It highlighted that large offshore wind parks no longer require State subsidies because the cost of producing electricity from wind has declined substantially.

Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Slovakia

1. The third round of MA of Slovakia took place on 7 December 2018. Questions for Slovakia had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session at SBI 49 by the delegation of China. Brazil submitted written questions one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Slovakia as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Slovakia.[17]

2. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair. Slovakia was represented by Ms. Gabriela Fischerova (Ministry of Environment of Slovakia).

3. Ms. Fischerova made an opening presentation summarizing Slovakia's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As an EU member State, Slovakia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Slovakia's emission reduction target for sectors covered by the EU ESD (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU ETS) is to limit its emission growth to 13 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 and reduce its emissions by 12 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030.

4. Slovakia's total GHG emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 44.5 per cent between 1990 and 2016, owing mainly to stricter air protection legislation after 1990, introducing fees for basic pollutants, implementing best available technologies in renovations, the shift from oil and coal to natural gas and renewables, as well as to the restructuring of the economy to less energy-intensive activities.

5. Ms. Fischerova presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including those at the EU level, as well as the key strategies at the national level, including the National Reform Programme, National Sustainable Development Strategy for the Slovak Republic, the new National Environmental Strategy (which is in the last stages of preparation), the updated Strategy for the Adaptation of Slovak Republic to Impacts of Climate Change, and the long-term low-carbon strategy (under development). Ms. Fischerova pointed out progress regarding improved energy efficiency and the increased share of renewables, as well as the ongoing discussions on the phasing out of coal subsidies.

6. On the use of units from LULUCF activities, LULUCF is not included in the target, but the sector has increased as a CO_2 sink in the last three years. With regard to the use of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention and other mechanisms, a limited number of CERs and ERUs may be used to achieve the target, although it is likely that such credits will represent efforts beyond the target.

7. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of Slovakia are subject to an EU-wide cap, the Party presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under the WEM and WAM scenarios. According to the Party's BR3, the projected level of emissions under the WEM and WAM scenarios from non-EU ETS sectors is 22.3 and 25.4 per cent, respectively, below Slovakia's annual emission allocation for 2020. This suggests that Slovakia expects to meet its target for non-EU ETS sectors under the WEM and WAM scenarios.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: New Zealand, Republic of Korea and United States. The questions related to the newly proposed EU ETS Modernisation Fund, phasing out coal subsidies and implemented waste measures. In response, Slovakia provided further explanations. In particular, it explained that it is preparing the legislation for the next phase of the EU ETS, including the Modernisation Fund. The focus would be on seeking support for the fuel switch (particularly for district heating plants, which are still using coal) and renovation of the distribution network, along with other energy efficiency projects. Regarding the phasing out of coal subsidies, the Party clarified that, according to the documents under preparation for approval by the Government, the preliminary deadline for the end of coal burning is by the

[17] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-13.

end of 2023. The changes in the waste sector are linked to the push towards the waste-to-energy approach and recycling practices. Lots of new legislation has been implemented in the sector, including the obligation for municipalities to have their own waste management plans and the increased fees for landfills.