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Record of the facilitative sharing of views at the fifty-first session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: India

Note by the secretariat

Abbreviations and acronyms

BUR	biennial update report
COP	Conference of the Parties
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
CO ₂ eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
FSV	facilitative sharing of views
GHG	greenhouse gas
ICA	international consultation and analysis
ISA	International Solar Alliance
LULUCF	land use, land-use change and forestry
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
NDC	nationally determined contribution
non-Annex I Party	Party not included in Annex I to the Convention
QA	quality assurance
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
2006 IPCC Guidelines	<i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i>

I. Background and mandate

1. COP 16 decided to conduct, under the SBI, ICA of BURs from non-Annex I Parties, in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty, with the aim of increasing the transparency of the mitigation actions and their effects reported by those Parties.¹
2. COP 17 adopted² the ICA modalities and guidelines,³ according to which the ICA process consists of two steps: technical analysis of non-Annex I Parties' BURs by teams of technical experts, resulting in a summary report for each Party; and FSV, to which the BURs and summary reports serve as input.⁴

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

² Decision 2/CP.17, para. 56.

³ Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

⁴ Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, para. 3.

3. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened, on 9 December 2019 in Madrid at SBI 51, the eighth FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for the five non-Annex I Parties, including India, for which there was a BUR and final summary report by 30 September 2019.⁵ Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance through the secretariat. India received 11 written questions in advance from Canada, the European Union, New Zealand, Turkey and the United States of America and addressed them in the course of its presentation.
4. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Chair, Emmanuel Dumisani Dlamini, and Vice-Chair, Naser Moghaddasi, comprised one three-hour and one one-hour session and covered the five Parties in alphabetical order.
5. This FSV record for India summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its second BUR,⁶ constitutes the outcome of the second round of ICA for the Party.

II. Summary of proceedings

6. India made a brief presentation on its second BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
7. India was represented by Jaivardhan Bhatt from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Amit Garg.
8. In its presentation, India provided an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements, national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, mitigation actions and their effects, including policies, plans, constraints and gaps, and support needed and received.
9. India presented its NDC target under the Paris Agreement, which is to reduce emission intensity by 33–35 per cent by 2030 compared with the 2005 level and noted that it had already made significant progress towards this target, having achieved a 21 per cent reduction in emission intensity between 2005 and 2014. India clarified that it expects to meet and possibly exceed its NDC target.
10. India highlighted that its total GHG emissions for 2014 were 2,607,488.12 Gg CO₂ eq without emissions and removals from LULUCF and 2,306,295.43 Gg CO₂ eq with emissions and removals from LULUCF, owing mainly to emissions from the energy, agriculture and industrial processes and product use sectors, with the energy sector contributing the most, namely 73.2 per cent, to the total GHG emissions without LULUCF. India explained that energy consumption is the key driver for CO₂ emissions, while agriculture is the key sector contributing methane and nitrous oxide emissions, from rice production and enteric fermentation.
11. India presented its key sectoral policies and measures, including those involving renewable energy, to achieve its NDC 2030 target of 40 per cent power generation capacity from non-fossil fuel sources. The Party has made significant progress to date by achieving over 37 per cent for that target. India saw a 65 per cent increase in solar capacity from 2014 to 2019, when the global growth rate was 25–30 per cent. The Party provided information on its successes in the area of renewable energy, notably in relation to ISA, corporate voluntary commitments and clean coal technologies. ISA was established by India and France and its framework agreement has been ratified by 63 countries. The success of corporate voluntary commitments is demonstrated by Indian multinational corporations such as TATA Motors and Infosys committing to exclusively using renewable energy for electricity consumption by 2030 and Mahindra & Mahindra committing to achieving the same by 2040. Regarding clean coal technologies, India highlighted its success in phasing out 170 old and inefficient thermal power units and improving existing plants. In addition, the Party noted that between

⁵ The BURs and the summary reports are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURS> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-cycle2>, respectively.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2019/TASR.2/IND.

2015 and 2019, there had been a steady reduction of over 10 per cent, from approximately 700 to 657 g, in its coal consumption per unit of power.

12. India highlighted other initiatives, such as the development of energy saving technologies involving more efficient combustion. The Party is addressing the key challenge of losses in electricity transmission and distribution by investing in its single national grid. Such losses have been reduced by 25 per cent over the past 10 years, to 20 per cent. The Party highlighted that a 1 per cent reduction in losses is equivalent to the power needed to run approximately one million electric cars for a whole year and could lead to an annual emission reduction of approximately 11 Mt CO₂.

13. India provided an overview of its Perform, Achieve and Trade scheme, the aim of which is to improve sectoral industrial energy efficiency. Between 2012 and 2015, the scheme contributed to emission reductions of approximately 31 Mt CO₂, and it is projected to have reduced emissions by a further 60 Mt CO₂ between 2016 and 2019. The Party also provided information on clean and efficient energy use, including for street lighting, energy conservation building codes and green buildings. In addition, initiatives in the transport sector were highlighted, including a national biofuels policy; introducing fuel efficiency regulations from 1 January 2020 that are equivalent to Euro 6 emission standards; mass rapid transport systems; and a transport policy for all new vehicles, including a target of 30 per cent of all vehicles being electric by 2030, and installing chargers; as well as other initiatives in the agriculture and forestry sectors.

14. Regarding its domestic MRV, India provided information on institutional arrangements, including approximately 15 different programmes. None of these programmes currently involve the measurement of GHG emissions but establishing domestic MRV should rectify this. India also provided information on finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received. The Party indicated that capacity-building needs outlined in its BUR had not been addressed and suggested that Parties need to explore how they can be fulfilled.

15. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending India on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, China, European Union, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and United States. The questions were related to challenges in establishing an integrated and sustainable MRV system; institutional arrangements and the Party's needs for meeting its biennial reporting requirements; the approach to stakeholder involvement in the QA process and the extent to which the QA of GHG inventories improves the inventory process; challenges encountered with data gathering for using tier 2 methodologies and applying the 2006 IPCC Guidelines; emission reductions achieved from using waste-to-energy technology and the co-benefits of mitigation action related to employment generation in the renewable energy industry; financial needs to meet targets, and the technology required to further implement renewable energy technologies; capacity constraints affecting the recalculation of activity data; national successes, barriers and constraints in the area of solar energy capacity and carbon capture utilization and storage technologies.

16. India provided responses, in particular explaining that the integration of new stakeholder institutions into the domestic MRV system is deemed important and is evolving over time; technical advisory and steering committees perform a critical function in the QA of GHG inventories, the QA process of GHG inventory is well established and those involved have received relevant training in using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines; carbon capture utilization and storage technologies are currently at the experimental stage, involving various research projects; the waste sector is an emerging field offering significant potential for reducing GHG emissions but this potential has not yet been assessed and therefore such assessment represents a capacity-building need; India intends to increase awareness worldwide of ISA and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure that represent two highly important initiatives; there is a clear recognition that capacity-building is required to establish a more robust system. The Party also explained that other capacity-building needs related to the GHG inventory, such as for using higher-tier methodologies for reporting, are clearly outlined in its BUR.

17. The presentation and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.⁷

18. In closing the workshop, the SBI Vice-Chair congratulated India for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the second round of its ICA process. He thanked India and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a facilitative manner. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁷ Available at <https://unfccc-cop25.streamworld.de/webcast/facilitative-sharing-of-views>.