



Distr.: General  
25 August 2021

English only

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## **Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the May–June 2021 session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Antigua and Barbuda**

**Note by the secretariat**

### **Abbreviations and acronyms**

BUR	biennial update report
COP	Conference of the Parties
FSV	facilitative sharing of views
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gas
ICA	international consultation and analysis
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
NDC	nationally determined contribution
non-Annex I Party	Party not included in Annex I to the Convention
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation

### **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.<sup>1</sup>
2. COP 17 adopted the ICA modalities and guidelines<sup>2</sup> and 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.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

<sup>3</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, paras. 56 and 58(a).

3. According to the ICA modalities and guidelines, 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.<sup>4</sup>
4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened remotely, from 2 to 14 June 2021 at its May–June 2021 session, the tenth FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for the 12 non-Annex I Parties, including Antigua and Barbuda, for which there was a BUR and final summary report by 31 March 2021.<sup>5</sup> Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance through the secretariat. Antigua and Barbuda received 13 written questions in advance from Australia, Canada, the European Union, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.
5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Yeonchul Yoo, and the SBI Rapporteur, Aysin Turpanci, comprised three sessions covering the 12 Parties.
6. This FSV record for Antigua and Barbuda summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its first BUR,<sup>6</sup> constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for the Party.

## **II. Summary of proceedings**

7. On 11 June 2021, Antigua and Barbuda made a brief presentation on its first BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
8. Antigua and Barbuda was represented by Aaliyah Tuitt from the Ministry of Health and the Environment.
9. Antigua and Barbuda presented information on its NDC target under the Paris Agreement. The Party submitted its initial NDC in 2015 containing conditional and unconditional targets for both mitigation and adaptation. The Party plans to submit an updated NDC in 2021 and a national adaptation plan in 2022.
10. According to Antigua and Barbuda's first BUR, its net GHG emissions equal 844.28 Gg carbon dioxide equivalent (2015 inventory). The largest contribution to the emissions comes from key categories in the energy and land use, land-use change and forestry sectors. The Party mentioned that currently they are preparing a new GHG inventory for their Fourth National Communication and they will be focusing on the years from 2016 to 2019. This will be the first time Antigua and Barbuda calculates GHG emission inventory for several years in one inventory submission.
11. Antigua and Barbuda presented information on its climate policies and measures and indicated that its climate change country programme outlines its climate change priorities. The Party's climate actions are focused on energy supply and adaptation with energy supply components. The Party

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

<sup>5</sup> The BURs and summary reports are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-cycle1>, respectively.

<sup>6</sup> FCCC/SBI/ICA/2021/TASR.1/ATG.

stated that it developed a set of indicators to track impacts<sup>7</sup> of the progress achieved with regard to mitigation actions but that successful implementation is based on the transparency and availability of data sources. Antigua and Barbuda's MRV system is being strengthened and, once operational, will facilitate the tracking of the indicators and the transition to the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement.

12. Furthermore, Antigua and Barbuda provided information on support received and needed. It indicated that it has received significant support to implement its climate actions. Among active funders are the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund. However, costs related to climate change responses are increasing. Antigua and Barbuda indicated that, as estimated, it will need USD 450–650 million to meet initial NDC targets for adaptation by 2030 and an additional USD 350–500 million to meet initial NDC targets for mitigation by 2030.

13. Antigua and Barbuda presented its capacity-building needs. During the technical review process of the Party's first BUR, the following capacity-building needs were identified by the country and the team of technical experts: enhancing technical capacity of local experts to use Collect Earth tool<sup>8</sup>, enhancing national technical capacity to compile GHG inventories and increasing awareness on the relevance and transparency of data to reporting the achievement of commitments.

14. As Antigua and Barbuda highlighted, to assist the process of transitioning to the enhanced transparency framework, the Party is strengthening its MRV system. It is also taking steps to transition to submitting a biennial transparency report and plans to submit its first as a stand-alone report.

15. After the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Antigua and Barbuda on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, China, European Union, Germany, Iraq, Luxembourg, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States. The questions related to institutional and MRV arrangements, mitigation actions, environmental legislation, engagement with stakeholders in the private sector, technology strategy and road map, sustainable procurement policy, mangrove forest protection and managing and financing climate initiatives.

16. Antigua and Barbuda provided responses, in particular explaining that the capacities of technical staff will need to be built in order to overcome the

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<sup>7</sup> According to the first BUR of Antigua and Barbuda, the majority of Antigua and Barbuda's mitigation actions are focused on energy supply or adaptation projects with energy supply elements, most of which are under implementation. Tracking the impact of these actions will be an important process for monitoring progress towards NDCs, national strategies and SDGs. Quantitative information on the impacts and progress of these actions is measured using a set of linked indicators (for example, the indicators for the actions/projects in energy supply sector are: GHG emissions mitigated from the energy sector, GHG emission from electricity generation attributed to desalination, installed off-grid renewable energy capacity, and etc.). A full list of these indicators is available in Mitigation Annex B: Indicator Registry of the Antigua and Barbuda's first BUR.

<sup>8</sup> Collect Earth is a tool that enables data collection through Google Earth. In conjunction with Google Earth, Bing Maps and Google Earth Engine, users can analyze high and very high resolution satellite imagery for a wide variety of purposes, including: Support multi-phase National Forest Inventories; Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) assessments; Monitoring agricultural land and urban areas; and etc.. The tool can be accessed at: <https://collect.earth/home>

challenges posed by MRV arrangements. Antigua and Barbuda engages the private sector in the process of consultations on the content of the BUR. Antigua and Barbuda updated its national environmental legislation in 2015, 2019 and 2020. The Party will be adopting regulations related to the Paris Agreement in 2023, after the Paris rule book is complete. The Party has amended its procurement legislation and they will be including sustainable procurement provisions in the amended national procurement legislation next year. As the Party explained, the costs related to transitioning to and implementing the Paris Agreement are quite high, and there are difficulties with receiving finance from the international funds. Although the Party has ambitious targets and projects, it faces challenges to access adequate funding.

17. The presentation and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.<sup>9</sup>

18. In closing the workshop, the SBI Rapporteur congratulated Antigua and Barbuda for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the first round of its ICA process. She thanked Antigua and Barbuda and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a facilitative manner. She also thanked the secretariat for its support.

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<sup>9</sup> Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WutHMux9iFM>. [minute 10:00]