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Record of the facilitative sharing of views at the fifty-ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Burundi

Note by the secretariat

Abbreviations and acronyms

BUR	biennial update report
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency
CO ₂ eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
COP	Conference of the Parties
FSV	facilitative sharing of views
GHG	greenhouse gas
ICA	international consultation and analysis
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 that ICA of BURs from non-Annex I Parties would be conducted under the SBI in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty, with the aim of increasing the transparency of mitigation actions and their effects reported by those Parties.¹
2. COP 17 adopted the ICA modalities and guidelines² 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.³
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.⁴
4. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the fifteenth FSV workshop was convened at SBI 59 from 3 to 4 December 2023 in the United Arab Emirates for the following

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

³ Decision 2/CP.17, para. 58(a).

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

14 non-Annex I Parties for which there was a BUR and final summary report⁵ by 15 September 2023: Albania, Burundi, Colombia, Eritrea, Honduras, Israel, Lebanon, Malawi, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Vanuatu. The workshop was open to all Parties.

5. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Gonzalo Guaiquil, comprised three three-hour sessions.

6. As one of the participating Parties, Burundi received five written questions in advance of the FSV workshop⁶ from the European Union, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and addressed them via the FSV portal. This FSV record for Burundi summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its first BUR,⁷ constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for the Party.

II. Summary of proceedings

7. On 3 December 2023 Burundi made a brief presentation on its first BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. Burundi was represented by Prosper Dodiko from the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock.

9. Burundi presented 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, support needed and received, and preparations at the national level for implementing the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.

10. Burundi highlighted that it is a net sink, which had capacity for GHG removals of 11,218 Gg CO₂ eq in 2019, an increase of 1,670.9 per cent since 2005. Its total GHG emissions without removals from land use, land-use change and forestry increased by 98 per cent between 2005 and 2019, owing mainly to the energy sector. The Party explained that its negative emission balance is due to the absorptive capacity of its land use, land-use change and forestry sector. The increase in removals is mainly attributable to the land category, with the total woodland area increasing from 36,129 ha in 2005 to 403,601 ha in 2019 and the total forest land area increasing from 175,735 ha to 201,564 ha in the same period.

11. Burundi presented its 2015 nationally determined contribution target under the Paris Agreement, which is to reduce its emissions by 3 per cent compared to the business-as-usual scenario unconditionally (and 20 per cent conditionally) in 2030. Burundi also presented key policies and measures for achieving its target, including reforestation, restoring degraded environments, promoting use of improved wood and charcoal stoves, developing hydroelectric power stations, using renewable energy (e.g. solar and biogas), promoting energy efficiency, promoting use of public transport and electric vehicles, and using organo-mineral fertilizers. The mitigation actions across all sectors are expected to lead to avoided emissions of 45,337.69 Gg CO₂ eq and carbon sequestration of 17,132.42 Gg CO₂ eq between 2019 and 2030. In addition, the Party provided a high-level summary of its participation in clean development mechanism projects focused on improving cooking stoves.

12. Furthermore, Burundi provided information on support needed and received, and capacity-building needs. It highlighted capacity constraints in various aspects of climate change management, including in preparing national communications and BURs, and monitoring and coordinating climate change studies and action. It received USD 352,000 from the Global Environment Facility and technical assistance from the United Nations Environment Programme for preparing its first BUR. Training programmes under the Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update

⁵ The BURs and summary reports for each ICA cycle are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-reports> respectively.

⁶ As per decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, para. 6.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2023/TASR.1/BDI.

Reports by non-Annex I Parties of the United Nations Environment Programme have addressed gaps in capacity in relation to the national GHG inventory and the identification of mitigation measures. However, additional support is needed, such as USD 500,000 for establishing a coordinated and operational national system for the preparation of national communications and BURs on a continuous basis, for implementing legal instruments to support and sustain institutional and measurement, reporting and verification frameworks, and for strengthening a climate observation and forecasting system. A further USD 400,000 is needed for GHG inventories, as well as for ongoing improvements to financial project management and the consolidation of the national measurement, reporting and verification system.

13. Burundi presented information on its current initiatives for enhancing its institutional arrangements for compliance with requirements under the enhanced transparency framework, including a CBIT project launched in March 2023. Burundi also launched a project for preparing its biennial transparency report in September 2023.

14. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Burundi on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: European Union, India, Malawi, Netherlands (Kingdom of the) and United Kingdom.

15. Questions on mitigation actions and their effects related to Burundi's plan for sustaining carbon negativity in terms of forest cover; community engagement and their efforts to help develop the renewable energy sector; the strategies for achieving the transition from synthetic to organic fertilizers in agriculture; lessons learned from reporting on mitigation actions and effects; and the Government's plan to retain knowledge from reporting the first biennial update report.

16. In response, Burundi explained that its efforts in the forest sector include afforestation and reforestation programmes to increase forest cover to 20 per cent of its national territory (from its current level of 17 per cent). Burundi's Director General of Energy has outlined strategies for supporting the transition to renewable energy, including sensitization, increasing private sector involvement and ongoing projects such as providing 2,000 villages in Burundi with access to renewable energy. The Party also mentioned the establishment of a factory for producing fertilizer that is a blend of organic and mineral components as a step towards the transition from synthetic to organic fertilizers. In addition, it discussed challenges in using the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change software for biennial update reporting, but noted ongoing improvements under the CBIT project, such as enhancing data collection and archiving. The CBIT project will also support the improvement of the institutional arrangements for reporting under the UNFCCC.

17. The presentation and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.⁸

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

⁸ Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/fifteenth-facilitative-sharing-of-views-fsv-workshop-under-the-international-consultation-and>.