



**DRAFT**

Distr.: General  
7 September 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: Kuwait**

**Note by the secretariat**

### **Abbreviations and acronyms**

BUR	biennial update report
CO <sub>2</sub> eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
COP	Conference of the Parties
FSV	facilitative sharing of views
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>
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>

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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).

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

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 Kuwait, 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. Kuwait received 14 written questions in advance from Australia, the European Union, Japan, 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 Kuwait 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 14 June 2021, Kuwait made a brief presentation on its first BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. Kuwait was represented by national experts from the Environment Public Authority.

9. Kuwait presented its NDC target under the Paris Agreement, according to which it aims to move towards a low-carbon economy while adapting to climate change. In doing so, Kuwait attaches great importance to diversifying its sources of energy production by 2035 so as to avoid an increase of its GHG emissions. During the workshop, Kuwait mentioned that it is currently preparing a low-carbon strategy that will be the basis of an updated NDC to be submitted in 2025.

10. Kuwait highlighted that its total GHG emissions were 86,336 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2016 and increased between 1994 and 2016 by 138.4 per cent including emissions and removals from land. The Party explained that the majority of its GHG emissions in 2016 were from the energy sector (82,557 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq), followed by the industrial processes and product use sector (1,932 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq) and waste sector (1,707 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq) sectors.

11. Kuwait presented key policies and measures for achieving its voluntary target. The Party's mitigation actions are currently focused on the energy sector, including projects on flare gas recovery, increasing the use of renewable energy and improving efficiency in electricity distribution. In addition, the Party presented future mitigation opportunities identified in four sectors: power supply, transport, industry and waste.

12. Furthermore, Kuwait provided information on support, explaining that the Party in general does not receive external financial support to implement its projects on mitigation and adaptation, but has received financial and technical support from the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Environment Programme for its preparation of national communications and BUR. The Party also presented its capacity-building needs in relation to increasing public awareness on climate change, enhancing coordination among national stakeholders, and better integration of climate change consideration into national and sectoral policies. In addition, the Party presented its efforts in preparing for the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement, including the plan to introduce an automated system for preparing its national GHG inventory.

13. After the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Kuwait on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, European Union, Finland, Germany, India, Switzerland and United Kingdom. The questions related to updates on the future mitigation opportunities identified in the BUR; net decrease in forest land in recent years; policies and measures to reduce per capita electricity consumption; lessons learned from the project on renewable energy expansion that combines solar and wind technologies; lessons learned and future plans on the projects related to flare gas recovery;

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<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/2020/TASR.1/KWT.

plans for measurement and reporting of fluorinated gas emissions; challenges in preparing the national GHG inventory; planned updates of the domestic MRV system.

14. Regarding the questions related to renewable energy, Kuwait explained that its efforts in promoting the use of renewable energy are relatively new and required significant preparatory work, such as mapping of solar radiation in different locations, preliminary analysis of investments in wind energy, and pilot studies to measure viability and suitability of renewable energy technologies. The Shagaya renewable energy project launched in 2018 builds on the results of the preparatory work and, the Party clarified, has advanced and currently has the capacity of generating approximately 4 GW by 2030. Kuwait mentioned that expanding the use of renewable energy can bring multiple benefits including GHG emission reductions and job creation.

15. In addition, with regard to flare gas recovery the Party explained that it has two recovery units at the Mina Al Ahmadi and Mina Abdullah refineries and that implementing the flare gas recovery projects significantly contributes to the Party's efforts to address climate change. In relation to fluorinated gases, the Party clarified that despite the challenges with severe climatic conditions, it is making efforts to reduce the use of refrigerants that may have harmful effects on the ozone layer. Kuwait mentioned that it has established a national ozone committee and is making continuous efforts to identify suitable alternatives in cooperation with international experts. With regard to future mitigation opportunities, Kuwait clarified that several projects are under development in the power supply, transport, industry and waste sectors.

16. In response to the question on GHG inventory preparation, the Party answered that it faces several constraints and challenges, including the lack of accurate databases and weak cooperation arrangements among national agencies in data collection. Regarding the planned updates of the domestic MRV system, the Party clarified that it originally planned to introduce an electronic, online reporting system from early 2020, but experienced a delay in operationalizing the system owing to the ongoing pandemic. The Party explained that it is nonetheless continuing efforts and expects to implement the planned updates soon. The Party explained that, once operational, the new online system will help its national entities to collect and verify necessary GHG data, which will be the basis of the Party's reporting under the Convention.

17. The presentation and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.<sup>7</sup>

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

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<sup>7</sup> Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nI2q3y1b9MM>.