



Distr.: General  
15 August 2023

English only

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## **Record of the facilitative sharing of views at the fifty-eighth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Lesotho**

**Note by the secretariat**

### **Abbreviations and acronyms**

AFOLU	agriculture, forestry and other land use
BUR	biennial update report
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency
CO <sub>2</sub> eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
COP	Conference of the Parties
ETF	enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement
FSV	facilitative sharing of views
GHG	greenhouse gas
ICA	international consultation and analysis
NAMA	nationally appropriate mitigation action
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 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.<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,

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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, para. 58(a).

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 fourteenth FSV workshop was convened at SBI 58 from 6 to 7 June 2023 in Bonn for the following 15 non-Annex I Parties for which there was a BUR and final summary report<sup>5</sup> by 22 March 2023: Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Indonesia, Lesotho, Mauritius, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. 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, Lesotho received nine written questions in advance of the FSV workshop<sup>6</sup> from the European Union, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America and addressed them in the course of its presentation. This FSV record for Lesotho summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its first BUR,<sup>7</sup> constitutes the outcome of the first round of ICA for the Party.

## II. Summary of proceedings

7. On 6 June 2023 Lesotho made a brief presentation on its first BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

8. Lesotho was represented by Mokoena France from the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture.

9. Lesotho 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 initiatives for implementing the ETF.

10. Lesotho indicated that it has established legislative, regulatory and institutional frameworks, including policies, strategies, plans and programmes to advance low-carbon development in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The Party's NDC mitigation targets address emission reductions in five sectors, namely energy, industrial processes and product use, agriculture, AFOLU and waste.

11. Lesotho highlighted that its total GHG emissions in 2017 were 5,660.44 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq and they increased between 2005 and 2017 by 20.4 per cent with emissions and removals from LULUCF, owing mainly to the energy sector. The Party explained that the main drivers of the emission trends were an increase in population growth and urbanization, economic growth and an increase in energy demand.

12. Lesotho presented key policies and measures for achieving its NDC target, including mitigation actions in the energy, AFOLU and waste sectors. In addition, the Party presented one clean development mechanism project for efficient cookstoves and five NAMAs for solar technologies, biogas, waste management, energy efficiency and forestry. The implemented mitigation actions contributed to estimated emission reductions of 167,544 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq from 2005 to 2018, with energy being the main source of emission reductions (86 per cent or 144,101 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq). If all NAMAs are implemented, the minimum GHG emission reduction is expected to be 360,638 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq per year.

13. Furthermore, Lesotho provided information on financial and technical support received from bilateral and multilateral agencies. The Party highlighted that the total support received at the time of finalizing the BUR was USD 68,791,820, which mostly came from

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

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

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

<sup>7</sup> FCCC/SBI/ICA/2022/TASR.1/LSO.

the Global Environment Facility and the Least Developed Countries Fund, in addition to non-monetized technical support received. Lesotho indicated that financial support is needed for implementing its NDC and the five NAMAs identified in the BUR.

14. Lesotho presented information on its current initiatives for enhancing its institutional arrangements for compliance with requirements under the ETF. The initiatives relate to support under CBIT for implementing a project entitled “Enabling Lesotho’s Enhanced Transparency Framework”, which will strengthen the institutional and legal frameworks, support the development of the monitoring and verification system and strengthen capacity.

15. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Lesotho on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, European Union, Germany, India, Kingdom of the Netherlands, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States.

16. Questions on the GHG inventory related to any challenges encountered in collecting data during the recent improvements to the inventories for the industrial processes and product use and waste sectors; ongoing work on implementing the national inventory system and the specific challenges it is facing; and the most important steps that resulted in the significant improvement of the Party’s monitoring and reporting of GHG emissions.

17. In response, Lesotho explained that the capacity of the responsible institutions has been built to enable the collection of better-quality data and that improved data quality is expected in its next inventory. Lesotho also explained that it is yet to develop its national inventory system through the CBIT project. However, the Party explained that some work has already been done, including identifying stakeholders in the national inventory system, and that some meetings and workshops have been conducted to ensure that such stakeholders understand their role in the national inventory system.

18. Questions on mitigation actions and their effects related to the findings of the baseline assessment of waste management and how it helped to guide policy direction; the capacity-building needed to promote greater uptake of renewable energy; the policy measures implemented to reduce emissions in the energy sector; and the major mitigation policies that resulted in a 60 per cent decrease in the emission intensity of the economy between 2005 and 2017.

19. In response, Lesotho explained that the baseline data for waste were correlated to population density and that it used such data to estimate methane emissions from landfills and to design waste management and methane capture facilities. The Party clarified that it developed its sustainable energy strategy with support from the European Union and that it is working on developing the renewable energy sector with such support. It is also working on developing the legislation needed for expanding renewable energy use. Lesotho explained that a number of policies, strategies and plans, including the solar energy policy and the climate change policy and its implementation strategy, have been put in place. In addition, between 2005 and 2018, eight mitigation actions in the energy sector, two in the AFOLU sector and one in the waste sector, as well as one clean development mechanism project, were implemented, resulting in a reduction in emissions of about 167,544 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq from 2005 to 2018.

20. Other questions related to Lesotho’s experience of the ICA process, given that it was participating in the process for the first time, and whether any key lessons had been learned from the process. In response, Lesotho explained that the process was very challenging as some of the officers who were involved in developing the BUR had left and it was not easy to communicate with the consultants during the process. Lesotho indicated that in future it intended to deal with institutions instead of individuals to ensure a timely response to any questions.

21. The presentation and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.<sup>8</sup>

22. In closing the workshop, the SBI Vice-Chair congratulated Lesotho for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the first round of the ICA process. He thanked Lesotho 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>8</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/fourteenth-fsv-workshop-part-i-0>.