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## **Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the May– June 2021 session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Costa Rica**

**Note by the secretariat**

### **Abbreviations and acronyms**

AFOLU	agriculture, forestry and other land use
BUR	biennial update report
CO <sub>2</sub> eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
COP	Conference of the Parties
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019
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 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<sup>2</sup> the ICA modalities and guidelines,<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, para. 56.

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

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

3. 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 Costa Rica, 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. Costa Rica received 10 written questions in advance from Canada, the European Union, New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.
4. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Yeonchul Yoo, and the SBI Rapporteur, Aysin Turpanci, comprised three sessions covering the 12 Parties.
5. This FSV record for Costa Rica summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its second BUR,<sup>6</sup> constitutes the outcome of the second round of ICA for the Party.

## II. Summary of proceedings

6. On 11 June 2021, Costa Rica made a brief presentation on its second BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
7. Costa Rica was represented by Kendal Blanco and Ana Lucía Moya, from the Ministry of the Environment and Energy.
8. Costa Rica 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, and support needed and received.
9. The Party presented its NDC target under the Paris Agreement, as in its updated NDC submitted on 11 and 29 December 2020, which is to:
  - (a) Limit its net emissions to 9.11 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2030 and 106.53 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2021–2030;
  - (b) Strengthen its social, economic and environmental resilience to the effects of climate change by: increasing capacity and data sources for decision-making relating to enhancing climate resilience; including adaptation criteria in financing and planning; adapting public services, infrastructure and productive systems; and implementing nature-based solutions.
10. Costa Rica has set a long-term goal of zero net emissions by 2050. It clarified that it expects to meet its NDC target by 2050.
11. Costa Rica highlighted that its total GHG emissions, including AFOLU, were 10.88 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2015, of which 72.9 per cent were emissions from the energy sector. By 2015, emissions had increased by 34.1 per cent since 2005 but decreased by 4.9 and 7.8 per cent since 2010 and 2012, respectively. The Party explained that the decrease in emissions was driven by measures taken in the AFOLU sector, where emissions decreased by 91.2 per cent in 2010–2015, while emissions from all other sectors increased.
12. Costa Rica presented the four key policies and measures included in its second BUR: the NDC, the national carbon neutrality programme, the NAMA for coffee plantations and the NAMA for livestock. In addition, the national decarbonization plan, approved in 2019, is the current framework for implementing mitigation actions with the objective of zero net emissions by 2050. Costa Rica estimated that the national carbon neutrality programme had reduced emissions by 244 kt CO<sub>2</sub> eq in 2011–2018, over 600 farmers have been trained on enhanced agriculture practices under the coffee NAMA, which covers nearly 13,000 ha of coffee plantations, and the livestock NAMA has so far resulted in more than 600 farms implementing recommended emission reduction technologies.

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<sup>5</sup> The BURs and summary reports are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-cycle3>, respectively.

<sup>6</sup> FCCC/SBI/ICA/2020/TASR.2/CRI.

13. Furthermore, Costa Rica provided information on support needed and capacity-building needs, specifically: finance, mostly grants, for green recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic, meeting the 2050 net carbon neutrality objective and accessing zero-emission technologies in the transport, power generation, energy efficiency and waste sectors; support for long-term climate-related data collection and analysis; and capacity-building for strengthening data-driven decision- and policymaking.

14. The national climate change metrics system<sup>7</sup> was highlighted, which forms the basis for Costa Rica's transition to the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement and will provide the required information related to mitigation, adaptation and finance.

15. After the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Costa Rica on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: European Union, Germany, India, Iraq, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Switzerland and United Kingdom. The questions related to:

(a) Mitigation, specifically the challenges in scaling up projects under the livestock NAMA; examples of technologies used under the livestock NAMA; policies and measures in the energy sector; and the road map for green recovery after COVID-19;

(b) The GHG inventory, specifically the confidentiality of some of the inventory data on energy and waste; the challenges in estimating annual emissions and removals since 1990; and the advantages and challenges of submitting a national inventory report separately from the BUR;

(c) Finance, specifically needs;

(d) The open source code used in the national climate change metrics system;

(e) The challenge of submitting the second BUR on time.

16. Costa Rica provided responses to the questions referred to in paragraph 15 above, in particular, explaining that:

(a) The main challenge in scaling up projects under the livestock NAMA was the institutional arrangements that would be needed, given the specific governance and financial requirements of the NAMA; the technologies most used under the livestock NAMA were for manure management; the main measure planned in the energy sector is the electrification of the transport sector, including public transportation, as Costa Rica's power production is almost fully based on renewable sources; and the Party is currently modelling how the decarbonization plan for net zero emissions by 2050 could also be used for green recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) The confidentiality is due to data availability and Costa Rica is working with the data providers to make the data public; the challenges in estimating emissions for 1990 onward are the limited availability of data, especially from the private sector and the assessment of the land-cover map for those years (for AFOLU); and, since the requirements for reporting and details in the national inventory report are greater than for the BUR, it was decided that it is advantageous for the inventory report to be separate from the BUR;

(c) Donor finance will be essential for implementing all climate actions but there are challenges in requesting and accessing grants.

(d) Implementing an open-source national system will enable other countries transitioning to the enhanced transparency framework to avoid costs and speed up implementation of the system;

(e) The delay in submitting the second BUR was due partly to delays in obtaining approvals for Global Environment Facility funding.

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

<sup>7</sup> <http://sinamecc.go.cr/>.

<sup>8</sup> Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WutHMux9iFM>.

18. In closing the workshop, the SBI Rapporteur congratulated Costa Rica for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the third round of its ICA process. She thanked Costa Rica 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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