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Record of the facilitative sharing of views under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at the UNFCCC Climate Dialogues 2020: Paraguay

Note by the secretariat

Abbreviations and acronyms

BUR	biennial update report
CO ₂ 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
REDD+	reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (decision 1/CP.16, para. 70)
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.¹
2. COP 17 adopted² the ICA modalities and guidelines,³ 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.⁴

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

² Decision 2/CP.17, para. 56.

³ Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

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

3. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened remotely, from 24 to 27 November 2020 at the UNFCCC Climate Dialogues 2020, the ninth FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for the 17 non-Annex I Parties, including Paraguay, for which there was a BUR and final summary report by 31 July 2020.⁵ Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance through the secretariat. Paraguay received six written questions in advance from the European Union, New Zealand and the United States of America.
4. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Yeonchul Yoo, and SBI Rapporteur, Constantinos Cartalis, comprised five sessions and covered the 17 Parties.
5. This FSV record for Paraguay summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its second BUR,⁶ constitutes the outcome of the second round of ICA for the Party.

II. Summary of proceedings

6. On 25 November 2020, Paraguay made a brief presentation on its third BUR, including the technical annex with information on REDD+ that was submitted on a voluntary basis by Paraguay in conjunction with its third BUR in accordance with decision 14/CP.19. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
7. The Party was represented by Stephanie Petta Noldin, Head of Inventory and Reports, Department of the National Directorate of Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Paraguay.
8. In its presentation, Paraguay 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, support needed and received, and REDD+ activities.
9. Paraguay presented information on its national climate change mitigation plan framed within its NDC, that aims at 20 per cent emission reductions by 2030, compared to the base year 2000; the plan establishes seven main strategic lines of action: optimization of the sustainable use of biomass; diversification of the energy matrix; promotion of energy efficiency; promotion of sustainable renewable energies, clean technologies, fuel quality and biofuels; improvement of the public transportation system; enhancement of forest plantations and agricultural and forestry practices; and improvement of waste management.
10. Paraguay highlighted that its total GHG emissions were 51,293.28 Gg CO₂ eq in 2015 including AFOLU and that they decreased by 7.9 per cent since 1990, owing mainly to emission reductions in the agriculture sector. The Party explained that the main reason for the decrease in emissions is a reduction in the levels of deforestation.
11. Paraguay presented key policies and measures for achieving its target, including its national plans and policies as well as its MRV system. The national climate change mitigation plan defines some sectoral plans, which will be developed from 2021 onward and will be framed in line with the NDC commitment to be achieved by 2030. Paraguay also explained that it has advanced the implementation of its MRV system, which covers GHG inventories, a climate change platform (for mitigation and adaptation actions) and a registry system. In addition, Paraguay provided information on its REDD+ technical annex and results for 2015–2017, amounting to a reduction in total emissions of 26,793,311 t CO₂ eq for the period reported.
12. Furthermore, Paraguay provided information on support received and needed, and capacity-building needs. The priority areas highlighted by Paraguay where the capacities of national technicians are in need of improvement are the GHG inventory, MRV of mitigation measures, methodologies to determine mitigation potential, design of adaptation projects and implementation of adaptation measures. Paraguay has received support in strengthening

⁵ The BURs and the summary reports are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-cycle2>, respectively.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2019/TASR.2/PRY.

capacities through cooperation with the Latin American Greenhouse Gas Inventory Network and with South–South cooperation and other donors and agencies.

13. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Brazil on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: European Union, India, Luxembourg, Mexico and Singapore. The questions were related to (a) GHG inventories: preparation of key category analysis; (b) mitigation actions: main actions to be implemented by sector targeted in the national climate change mitigation plan, key technologies to be applied in different sectors and further details on the improvements made in the domestic MRV system; and (c) support received and needed: key advantages of regional training activities and how these activities can complement other international capacity-building activities.

14. Paraguay provided responses, in particular explaining that (a) regarding the key category analysis, a tier 1 method was used to estimate emissions and key categories, noting that in the near future, it will move to tier 2 and that it has developed a trend methodology for the identification of key categories; in addition, the Party is working with the academia and other key stakeholders for enhancing the preparation of the GHG inventory (e.g. for developing new emission factors); (b) Paraguay is not focusing on only one sector, but on most of the sectors (land use, land-use change and forestry, agriculture, waste and energy), which will be included in the updated NDC; for example, there will be a law to address deforestation in a specific area; regarding the MRV system, it was explained that some improvements were made in the past two years and currently there is national platform for climate change within the public website of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. The system is at an early stage and will be completed by the end of 2022; and (c) concerning the capacity-building activities, Paraguay has received support from the Latin American Greenhouse Gas Inventory Network, Euroclima and the Chilean Government; the advantages of such exchanges is that establishing connection between countries in the same region facing similar difficulties and processes facilitates finding solutions for common issues.

15. The presentation and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.⁷

16. In closing the workshop, the SBI Rapporteur congratulated Paraguay for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the second round of its ICA process. He thanked Paraguay and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a facilitative manner. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁷ Available at <https://vimeo.com/484503794> (at 01:20:00).