



6 August 2019

Record of the facilitative sharing of views during the fiftieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: South Africa

I. Background and mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) decided by decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 63, to conduct under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) international consultation and analysis (ICA) of biennial update reports (BURs) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive and respectful of national sovereignty. This process aims to increase transparency of the mitigation actions and their effects reported by non-Annex I Parties.
2. The COP, by decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 56, adopted the ICA modalities and guidelines contained in annex IV to the same decision. According to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the ICA process consists of two steps: a technical analysis of the BURs of non-Annex I Parties by teams of technical experts, resulting in a summary report for each Party; and a facilitative sharing of views, with the BURs and summary reports serving as input.¹
3. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened on 19 June 2019 in Bonn, Germany, at SBI 50, the seventh workshop for the facilitative sharing of views, open to all Parties, for the nine non-Annex I Parties, including South Africa, for which there was a BUR and a final summary report by 15 March 2019.² Interested Parties were able to submit written questions in advance. As a result, South Africa received 13 written questions in advance from the following Parties: Canada, European Union, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.
4. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Chair and SBI Vice-Chair, Emmanuel Dlamini and Yeonachul Yoo, comprised two three-hour sessions and covered the nine Parties in alphabetical order.
5. This record of the facilitative sharing of views for South Africa summarizes the proceedings and together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its second BUR³ constitutes the outcome of the second round of ICA for South Africa.

II. Summary of proceedings

6. On 19 June 2019, South Africa made a brief presentation on its second BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.
7. In its presentation, South Africa provided an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements, national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, mitigation actions and effects, and support needed and received. It highlighted that total net GHG emissions, including agriculture, forestry and other land use, were 518,297 gigagrams of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ eq) in 2012 and increased by 16.2 per cent between 2000 and 2012, owing mainly to emissions from energy industries (accounting

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, para. 3.

² The BURs and the summary reports are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-cycle2>, respectively.

³ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2018/TASR.2/ZAF.

for 63.2 per cent of total emissions), transport (accounting for 10.7 per cent of total emissions) and manufacturing industries and construction (accounting for 9.1 per cent of total emissions).

8. South Africa provided an overview of its mitigation actions and their effects, as well as emission projections and progress towards its nationally determined contribution target of enabling GHG emissions to peak between 2020 and 2025, plateau for approximately a decade and decline in absolute terms thereafter. South Africa has implemented mitigation actions that contributed to estimated cumulative GHG emission reductions of 593.4 Mt CO₂ eq in the period 2000–2014. These include the use of a carbon tax, carbon offsets, Desired Emission Reduction Outcomes for sectors, company-level carbon budgets and regulatory standards. Carbon tax and carbon budgets are aligned and are of a voluntary nature; however, they represent a good incentive for companies to reduce their taxes and keep track of their emissions.

9. In addition, South Africa provided information on monetized and non-monetized support received. For the period 2000–2014, the Party received international bilateral and multilateral financial support amounting to USD 3,273.5 million. Of this, USD 294.7 million and USD 2,978.8 million were in the form of grants and loans, respectively. South Africa discussed the constraints related to the initiation, implementation and scaling up of mitigation actions due to a lack of measurement, reporting and verification methodologies, institutional arrangements and trained human resources to implement programmes and projects. South Africa also provided information on the process of developing and approving national reports to the secretariat.

10. Over the course of the presentation, South Africa explained that it had provided online responses to written questions submitted in advance, through the secretariat, by interested Parties.

11. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending South Africa for its effort and asked questions seeking further clarification: Brazil, Canada, European Union, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and United States of America. The questions and answers were mainly focused on the following areas: the modalities the Party has chosen to report on adaptation (that is, whether or not they are included in the BUR), the relationship between the carbon tax and the carbon budget collection of data on fluorinated gases, stakeholder consultation and independent review process during the preparation of the BUR, operationalizing the web-based monitoring and evaluation system platform prototype and the use of the BUR in a domestic context.

12. The full details of the presentation and subsequent interventions are available in the Skype broadcast of this workshop.⁴

13. In closing the workshop, the SBI Chair congratulated South Africa for successfully undergoing the facilitative sharing of views and completing the second round of its ICA process. He thanked South Africa and all other participating Parties for engaging in the workshop in a truly facilitative manner. He also thanked the secretariat for its support.

⁴ <https://attend-emea.broadcast.skype.com/en-US/2a6c12ad-406a-4f33-b686-f78ff5822208/b2e24e5b-c603-4de7-92e7-26af2ad11acd/player?cid=37s4i2d7jzdoyntohbkojx5lonzmbdnccrblsibuwyuav5zxuhna&rid=EMEA>