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Record of the facilitative sharing of views at the fifty-second to fifty-fifth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Uruguay

Note by the secretariat

Abbreviations and acronyms

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| AFOLU | agriculture, forestry and other land use |
| 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 |
| IPPU | industrial processes and product use |
| LULUCF | land use, land-use change and forestry |
| 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.¹
2. COP 17 adopted the ICA modalities and guidelines,² 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.³
3. Pursuant to the ICA modalities and guidelines, the SBI convened, from 5 to 6 November 2021 in Glasgow at SBI 52–55, the eleventh FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for the following seven non-Annex I Parties for which there was a BUR and final summary

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

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

report⁴ by 31 August 2021: Cambodia, Dominican Republic, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Oman, Tajikistan and Uruguay.

4. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Yeonchul Yoo, and the SBI Rapporteur, Constantinos Cartalis, comprised two 90-minute sessions.

5. As one of the participating Parties, Uruguay received 12 written questions in advance of the FSV workshop⁵ from Canada, the European Union, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. This FSV record for Uruguay summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its third BUR,⁶ constitutes the outcome of the third round of ICA for the Party.

II. Summary of proceedings

6. On 5 November Uruguay made a short statement⁷ on its third BUR. The statement was followed by a question and answer session.

7. Uruguay was represented by Natalie Pareja, National Climate Change Director, Ministry of Environment.

8. Uruguay presented an overview of its national circumstances and institutional arrangements, national inventory of anthropogenic GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks, mitigation actions and their effects, and support needed and received.

9. Uruguay also presented its nationally determined contributions target under the Paris Agreement, which is to reduce GHG emissions in 2025 by an absolute amount equivalent to 99.4 per cent of the level of GHG emissions in 2012. Uruguay explained that a long-term climate strategy is currently being elaborated. In addition, Uruguay announced that a Ministry of Environment was created in 2020 and, within it, the National Directorate of Climate Change. This Ministry oversees the National Climate Change Response System, which provides a framework for the coordination of all activities relating to climate change.

10. Uruguay highlighted that its total GHG emissions in 2017 were 19,709 Gg CO₂ eq, owing mainly to the AFOLU sector. Emissions increased by 8.5 per cent between 1990 and 2017 with emissions and removals from land and harvested wood products, and by 24.5 per cent without emissions and removals from land and harvested wood products. Emissions from the source categories of the AFOLU sector have increased by 28.2 per cent since 1990, owing mainly to increased methane emissions from livestock. As a result of the country's economic growth, emissions from the waste sector also increased by 51 per cent compared with 1990.

11. Uruguay presented key policies and measures for achieving its target, including its energy policy, which includes the diversification of energy sources and the optimal use of renewable energy. As a result of this policy, 97 per cent of the energy generated in the country in 2018 came from renewable sources and approximately 5,600 Gg CO₂ eq were avoided in 2005–2018. Other actions in the energy sector concern the promotion of energy efficiency, which has already led to a 2.7 per cent decrease in energy demand, and developing sustainable and efficient transport, including the promotion of electric vehicles for public and freight transportation, with estimated avoided emissions of approximately 880 Gg CO₂ eq.

12. In the agricultural sector, Uruguay is taking actions to reduce emission intensity by improving productivity of ruminant livestock, including enhancing herd efficiency and improving cattle diet. As a result of these actions, in 2017, methane emissions per kg of meat in live weight decreased by 28 per cent compared with 1990. Uruguay also presented its

⁴ The BURs and summary reports for each ICA cycle are available at <https://unfccc.int/BURs> and <https://unfccc.int/ICA-reports>, respectively.

⁵ As per decision 2/CP.17, annex IV, para. 6.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/ICA/2020/TASR.3/URY.

⁷ Uruguay also provided a pre-recorded presentation relating to its BUR, available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUmen1VrSS8&list=PLtD6YOC_kbMhZePZEIS6Rfcb0KeHSqDI&index=1.

actions in the land sector, which include conserving and expanding existing forests and plantations.

13. Furthermore, Uruguay highlighted that the international support received contributed to strengthening its technical capacity and improving the quality of its national GHG inventory, especially in the AFOLU sector. The technical and financial support received allowed Uruguay to make use of high-resolution satellite imagery to ensure a consistent representation of land for the entire country and include emissions from all land-use categories (excluding wetlands). The financial support received, in particular from Global Environment Facility, helped the Party comply with the reporting commitments under the UNFCCC and strengthen its institutional arrangements.

14. During the technical analysis of its BUR, a set of capacity-building needs were identified, including developing country-specific emission factors, methodologies for estimating emission reductions resulting from mitigation actions, and compiling data on financial resources relating to climate change, technology transfer and capacity-building.

15. Following the statement, the following Parties made interventions commending Uruguay on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: China, European Union, India, Luxemburg, Slovakia, Switzerland and United Kingdom. The questions related to:

- (a) The reasons behind the steep increase in GHG emissions from the IPPU sector since 1990;
- (b) The institutional arrangements that allowed the Party to include in its 2019 BUR a GHG inventory for 2017, thereby covering an inventory year which is two years prior to the year of the BUR submission;
- (c) The observed co-benefits between adaptation and mitigation policies in the country;
- (d) The implementation of, and the subsectors covered by, the energy efficiency strategy;
- (e) The challenges faced by the Party in compiling data on financial resources relating to climate change, technology transfer and capacity-building.

16. In response, Uruguay explained that:

- (a) Emissions from the IPPU sector have increased owing to an increase in cement production, driven by the expansion of the construction industry following national economic growth;
- (b) A decree was issued to establish the Working Group on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories to coordinate GHG data collection. Information on GHG emissions is collected by the various ministries under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment. Data availability, however, varies depending on the sector. The energy balance published annually in September provides information on the GHG emissions for the energy sector from the previous year. Information on agriculture takes longer to be collected and is only made available approximately one and a half years after the year in which the emissions occur;
- (c) Uruguay is highly vulnerable to climate change and adaptation remains a priority for the country. However, it also establishes synergies between adaptation and mitigation policy. For example, Uruguay's energy policy aims to achieve its adaptation goal through the implementation of mitigation policy measures;
- (d) Energy labels for household appliances are a good example of a measure to promote energy efficiency. The national energy efficiency plan also contains many other strategic elements, including promoting energy saving in the private sector;
- (e) The main challenge in compiling information on financial resources relating to climate change is that the funds for most of the international cooperation projects are not intended exclusively for climate change activities.

17. The statement and subsequent interventions are accessible via the webcast of the workshop.⁸

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

⁸ Available at <https://youtu.be/fQXlgXE9j8I?t=1359>.