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Record of the facilitative sharing of views at the fifty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Namibia

Note by the secretariat

Abbreviations and acronyms

2006 IPCC Guidelines	<i>2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i>
2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines	<i>2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories</i>
AFOLU	agriculture, forestry and other land use
BUR	biennial update report
CBIT	Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
CO ₂ 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
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPPU	industrial processes and product use
MRV	measurement, reporting and verification
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

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, para. 63.

² Decision 2/CP.17, annex IV.

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 on 7 and 8 June 2022 in Bonn at SBI 56 the twelfth FSV workshop, open to all Parties, for the following nine non-Annex I Parties for which there was a BUR and final summary report⁴ by 21 March 2022: Chile, Cuba, Egypt, Malaysia, Namibia, Panama, Singapore, Thailand and Zambia.

4. The workshop, chaired by the SBI Vice-Chair, Juan Carlos Monterrey Gomez, comprised two two-hour sessions and one 90-minute session.

5. As one of the participating Parties, Namibia received seven written questions in advance of the FSV workshop⁵ from Australia, European Union, New Zealand and Thailand and addressed them in the course of its presentation. This FSV record for Namibia summarizes the proceedings and, together with the summary report on the technical analysis of its fourth BUR,⁶ constitutes the outcome of the fourth round of ICA for the Party.

II. Summary of proceedings

6. On 7 June 2022 Namibia made a brief presentation on its fourth BUR. The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

7. Namibia was represented by Reagan Sibanga Chunga from the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism.

8. Namibia 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, key constraints, gaps and related needs, including support needed and received for mitigation and adaptation activities, preparing national communications and BURs and initiatives relating to the transition to ETF.

9. Namibia also presented its nationally determined contribution target under the Paris Agreement, which is to reduce GHG emissions by about 89 per cent by 2030 compared with the 'business as usual' scenario. As of 2015, about 27 per cent of electricity in the country is generated through renewable energy sources, and Namibia is striving to achieve at least 70 per cent of electricity generation from renewable sources by 2030. Namibia presented information on its areas for improvement in reporting in order to comply with requirements under the ETF. The Party is preparing itself for the transition to the ETF through a CBIT project funded by the Global Environment Facility. The initiatives under this project relate to formalizing and setting up a sustainable institutional framework through a memorandum of agreement with key stakeholders (i.e. data providers); developing templates for activity data collection for all sectors of the national GHG inventory and for reporting on support received and needed as well as mitigation actions; developing an MRV portal, which will be a data depository; and capacity-building on the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and the IPCC Inventory Software. Namibia's first biennial transparency report is being prepared for joint submission with its fifth national communication.

10. Namibia highlighted that its total GHG emissions in 2016 were 21,260 Gg CO₂ eq and they increased between 1990 and 2016 by 8.0 per cent without land and harvested wood products and by 49.9 per cent with emissions and removals from land and harvested wood products, owing mainly to the energy and AFOLU sectors. The Party explained that the main drivers behind the emission trends were a rise in emissions from enteric fermentation, deforestation and an increase in the number of vehicles in road transportation.

11. Namibia presented key policies and measures for achieving its target, including increasing the renewable energy share in electricity generation, energy efficiency activities,

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

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/2021/TASR.4/NAM.

efficient passenger and freight transport, afforestation and reforestation, restoration of grassland, reduction of wood consumption, improved livestock and agriculture practices, improved solid and liquid waste management and waste to energy activities (three of the waste to energy activities are under the clean development mechanism). The total mitigation potential across the energy, IPPU, AFOLU and waste sectors is 3,804.6 Gg CO₂ eq by 2025, 10,144 Gg CO₂ eq by 2030 and 20,888.6 Gg CO₂ eq by 2035. Although most of its mitigation actions are in the energy sector, Namibia also expects large GHG emission reductions in the AFOLU sector by 2035.

12. Furthermore, Namibia provided information on support received and needed and its capacity-building needs. It received support from the Global Environment Facility to implement a CBIT project that will help to alleviate constraints and gaps. Namibia also received support from the Global Environment Facility to prepare its first biennial transparency report and fifth national communication. Major challenges faced by Namibia include limited technical capacity in using the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and the IPCC Inventory Software; limited capacity within the coordinating institution, the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (e.g. high staff turnover); limited financial resources to set up a sustainable institutional arrangement; difficulties in accessing funds through the Global Environment Facility processes, thereby leading to gaps from one BUR to the next; and development of templates to track support received and needed, including support for attaining the nationally determined contribution targets. The current domestic MRV system is supported by three national working groups: the GHG working group, the mitigation working group and the vulnerability and assessment working group. However, the current arrangement was set up on an ad hoc basis. Hence, there is a need to develop a more robust and sustainable institutional arrangement to meet the requirements under the ETF.

13. Following the presentation, the following Parties made interventions commending Namibia on its efforts and asked questions seeking further clarification: Australia, China, European Union, Germany, India, Malawi, Sudan, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

14. Questions on the GHG inventory related to the increase in emissions in the energy sector in 1990–2016; the increase in removals from the forest sink; reporting of emissions in the IPPU sector, in particular, the chemical, metal and electronic sectors; sources of hydrofluorocarbon data; and enabling conditions for national experts to estimate GHG emissions.

15. In response, Namibia explained that road transport is the major contributor of emissions in the energy sector, as the number of vehicles tripled from 1990 to 2016. Better management of forest resources and an increase in the number of areas placed under conservation and protection contributed to an increased forest sink in Namibia. Emissions from the chemical, metal and electronic sectors are reported as not occurring in Namibia's GHG inventory as products relating to these sectors are imported from the neighbouring countries. Hydrofluorocarbon data were collected from the Ozone Unit, under the Ministry of Industrialisation and Trade. Namibia is working with customs officials and the Ministry of Finance to further improve the quality of data collected. Regarding enabling conditions for national experts to estimate GHG emissions, the Party explained that it has six certified GHG inventory experts from various sectors who have gone through the training on quality assurance in inventory compilation provided by the UNFCCC secretariat and the Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports by non-Annex I Parties. These experts need to be capacitated on the use of the IPCC Inventory Software and the 2006 IPCC Guidelines. The sector leads need more human resources for GHG inventory preparation.

16. The question on the mitigation actions and their effects related to planned projects and policies to increase the renewable energy share in the power mix.

17. In response, Namibia explained that it is planning a hydropower plant on its border with Angola, for which the feasibility study has been completed on the Namibian side. Another breakthrough for renewable energy penetration in Namibia is the Independent Power Producers Policy. Several independent power producers are now producing renewable energy (i.e. solar and wind power) and feeding the power into the national grid. Further policies and

plans aimed at opening up the renewable energy market also came into effect, namely, the 2017 National Renewable Energy Policy and the National Integrated Resource Plan, a 20-year development plan (2016–2035) for Namibia’s electricity sector.

18. The question on constraints and gaps, and related needs related to support received from the Green Climate Fund to implement an ecosystem-based adaptation project.

19. In response, Namibia explained that Namibia received almost USD 1 billion from the Green Climate Fund through its accredited entity, the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia. Namibia is working very closely with the accredited entity on elaborating adaptation projects with mitigation co-benefits and trying to bring other entities on board to be accredited in order to facilitate the process of accessing funds.

20. Other questions related to plans to develop a sustainable institutional arrangement for the preparation of national communications and BURs, including any lessons learned; and progress made and lessons learned so far in implementing the CBIT project. In response, Namibia explained that one of the reasons for applying for the CBIT project was to set up a sustainable institutional arrangement. Currently, Namibia is working with key stakeholders to establish a memorandum of agreement for GHG data exchange. In the long run, Namibia intends to revise its climate change policy and elevate it to a climate change act, thereby empowering various institutions involved in reporting. In addition, Namibia started implementation of the CBIT project in June 2022 by developing the MRV portal as an initial activity. It drafted the memorandum of agreement with some key stakeholders, which is currently under legal review. At this stage of the project, there are not many lessons learned that can be shared.

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

22. In closing the workshop, the SBI Vice-Chair congratulated Namibia for successfully undergoing FSV and completing the fourth round of its ICA process. He thanked Namibia 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://unfccc.int/event/12th-workshop-for-the-facilitative-sharing-of-views/part-2>.