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## Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Czechia at the forty-ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

### Note by the secretariat

#### I. Background

1. The Conference of the Parties, at its sixteenth session, decided that developed country Parties should enhance the reporting in their national communications and submit biennial reports on their progress in achieving emission reductions. It also decided to establish the international assessment and review (IAR) process under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), which aims to promote comparability of efforts among all developed country Parties.<sup>1</sup> According to the modalities and procedures for IAR,<sup>2</sup> the multilateral assessment (MA) is to be conducted for each developed country Party at a working group session of the SBI, with the participation of all Parties. The aim of MA is to assess each Party's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

2. The third round of MA of Czechia took place on 7 December 2018 at a working group session during SBI 49. Such a working group session is preceded by a three-month period of questions and answers: in the first month, any Party may submit written questions to the Party being assessed, which may respond to the questions within the remaining two months. Questions for Czechia had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the delegation of China. Brazil submitted its written question one day after the deadline. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Czechia as well as the webcast of the session can be found on the IAR web page for Czechia.<sup>3</sup> The Party can submit any other observations on its MA process within two months of the working group session.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 40 and 44.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 2/CP.17, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-reports-annex-i-parties/multilateral-assessment/multilateral-assessment-of-third-biennial-reports/third-multilateral-2>.

## II. Proceedings

3. The working group session was co-chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Emmanuel Dlamini, and the SBI Vice-Chair, Mr. Naser Moghaddasi. Czechia was represented by Mr. Pavel Zámyslický (Ministry of the Environment of Czechia).

4. Mr. Zámyslický made an opening presentation, summarizing Czechia's progress in implementation towards achieving emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As a European Union (EU) member State, Czechia is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. Czechia's emission target for sectors covered by the EU effort-sharing decision (ESD) (i.e. sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)) is to limit its emission growth to 9.0 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 and reduce its emissions by 13 per cent below the 2005 level by 2030. Mr. Zámyslický mentioned that Czechia's Climate Projection Policy includes an outlook up to 2050, with an indicative goal of an 80 per cent emission reduction compared with the 2005 level.

5. Total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions excluding emissions and removals from land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) decreased by 35.4 per cent between 1990 and 2015. The decrease in total GHG emissions was driven mainly by factors such as the decrease in production and subsequent restructuring of the economy in the early 1990s, which was triggered by the change in the political system, as well as the economic recession caused by the 2008 global economic crisis, leading to a drop in industrial and other economic activity. In addition, the adoption of policies and measures (PaMs) to reduce GHG emissions and the introduction of low-carbon technologies and renewable energy sources with the modernization and reform of the industrial and energy sectors, as well as improvements to agriculture and waste management practices, have had an impact on reducing GHG emissions.

6. Mr. Zámyslický presented key PaMs implemented by the Party to achieve its target, including: (1) the EU ETS and the EU directive on integrated pollution and prevention control as key measures for the energy and industry sectors; (2) support for renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, public transport and cycling, alternative vehicles, greening of agriculture and utilization of biogas; (3) the utilization of EU funds in areas such as energy efficiency of buildings, industry, greening of agriculture and renewable energy sources; (4) the New Green Savings Programme, supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in households, financed by the auctioning of EU ETS allowances; (5) the Waste Management Plan, including reducing biowaste, banning landfilling from 2024 and increased recycling and energy utilization of waste; (6) the National Emission Reduction Programme, including 23 priority measures for air and climate protection; (7) the National Action Plan for Clean Mobility, for supporting the development of alternative drives and fuels and the development of infrastructure and research and development; and (8) the funding programme for applied research, experimental development and innovation.

7. Given that emissions from the EU ETS sectors of the Party are subject to an EU-wide cap, Czechia presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under the 'with measures' (WEM) and 'with additional measures' (WAM) scenarios, which is 7.8 and 8.3 per cent, respectively, below the annual emission allocation for 2020. This suggests that Czechia expects to meet its ESD target under the WEM and WAM scenarios.

8. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Indonesia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States of America. The questions related to: (1) the proposed EU ETS Modernisation Fund being

negotiated by EU member States; (2) major challenges in achieving an emission reduction of 80 per cent below the 2005 level by 2050; (3) further details on PaMs for the agriculture sector; and (4) plans for the energy sector, including the possibility of using carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies, the type of nuclear technologies being considered by Czechia and measures to address energy production volatility when increasing renewable energy sources in the energy mix.

9. In response, Czechia provided further explanations. In particular, the Party explained that the EU ETS Modernisation Fund is still being negotiated by the EU member States and that it intends to support 10 member States with a lower gross domestic product and a higher share of coal in their energy mix. The Fund could be used by Czechia to modernize its central heating plants which are outdated and rely on coal for heat production. The Party explained that the sectors that will face more challenges in achieving an emission reduction of 80 per cent below the 2005 level by 2050 are the agriculture and the transportation sectors as they still show an increasing trend in emissions. On the use of CCS, Czechia stated that it has no plans to implement CCS technologies and that the emission reduction potential from the increase of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency is much greater in the country. Lastly, Czechia explained that plans for installing new nuclear power plants are still being considered, that the type of nuclear plant has not yet been decided and that the fluctuations in the energy supply due to the increase in renewable energy sources can be compensated by the use of natural gas.

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