

## Session SBI50 (2019)

Session starts: 15-03-2019 00:00:00 [GMT+1]

Session ends: 08-06-2019 23:59:59 [GMT+1]



A compilation of questions to –  
and answers by – the Russian Federation  
exported 11 June 2019 by the UNFCCC secretariat

Question by Turkey at Thursday, 11 April 2019

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 12 April

Title: The national system for GHG inventories

What are the key challenges, if any, Roshydromet faces in fulfilling its tasks related to the national system for GHG inventories? To what extent and how does Roshydromet overcome them?

*[Based on the information given in Paragraph 9 of the document FCCC/TRR.3/RUS]*

Answer by Russian Federation, Saturday, 08 June 2019

The first challenge is the need to comply with the deadline of the annual inventory submission. First of all, this requires ensuring timely collection of activity data, both available in the system of federal statistics (which is not difficult), or missing in this system. Roshydromet coordinates work on the collection of missing data, conducted by other participants of the national system. In addition, Roshydromet organizes, on an annual or ad hoc basis, the voluntary submission of the necessary activity data by a number of companies that are not members of the national system but engaged in the emission-related economic activities. Some specialized analytical companies or individual experts are making analysis of markets in order to obtain activity data to estimate emissions of fluorine-containing gases.

Timely submission of the QC reports by the participants of the national system also plays an important role in ensuring timeliness of the annual inventory submission. Roshydromet seeks to work closely and promptly with other participants in this process, responding to emerging issues and promptly recalculating emissions and making necessary changes to the NIR and CRF in response to comments received. In the last years the national inventory was submitted to the UNFCCC in time.

Another challenge is the development national methodologies and/or national emission factors for some key categories. This requires additional financial, human and intellectual resources. This problem is mainly solved by including these activities in the work plans of the participants of the national system in order to allocate the necessary resources. Specialists from companies, research institutions and higher schools are also involved in solving these problems, on a commercial or voluntary basis.

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Question by European Union at Thursday, 11 April 2019

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 12 April

Title: Long term low greenhouse gas emission development strategy

*How is Russian Federation progressing in the development of a long-term low GHG strategy under the Paris Agreement? Does Russian Federation intend to develop a timeline and scenarios for achieving climate neutrality, i.e. a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases? Has Russian Federation considered the risks and uncertainties regarding the development of the forest carbon sink due to impacts of climate change in a longer time perspective?*

Answer by Russian Federation, Saturday, 08 June 2019

Following the signature of the Paris Agreement in the beginning of the 2016, the Russian Federation developed an Action Plan with a package of policies and measures for enhancing state regulation of greenhouse gas emissions in a view for preparation for the ratification of the Paris Agreement. The Action Plan was endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation in the end of the 2016 (order no. 2344 of 3 November 2016), and currently it is under the implementation. The development of a strategy for long-term social and economic development with low greenhouse gas emission level up to the 2050 is a part of the Action Plan referred to above. The development of the strategy is seen on the basis and in conjunction with other policies and measures included in the Action Plan, in particular, President Decree on National Target for Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction by 2030 and Federal Law on State Regulation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions that are currently under development. The draft strategy for long-term social and economic development with low greenhouse gas emission level up to the 2050 will be developed by the end of the 2019.

The Russian Federation has not yet considered the development of timeline and scenarios for achieving climate neutrality. Nevertheless on January 1, 2019, the federal law on compensatory forest restoration entered into force (Federal Law 212-FZ of 19.07.2018). According to it, the compensatory forest restoration is to offset deforested areas with equivalent areas of forest plantations by operating entities that utilize forest lands for the purposes other than forest management practices. In addition the federal law on enhancement of regulatory measures for forest conservation will become active from July 1, 2019 (Federal Law 538-FZ of 27.12.2018). It enforces conservation practices for especially protected forest lands including nature reserves, urban forests and other forest lands with a special status.

We are indeed aware of potential risks and uncertainties regarding to forest carbon sink due to impacts of climate change in a longer time perspective. We recognize that negative effects of climate change are shown as enhanced frequency of traditional forest disturbances such forest wild fires, insect and fungi outbreaks, stand decays from droughts and windfalls from hurricanes. These effects are the subject of various scientific studies conducted in the Russian Federation. To adequately meet the challenges, an Action Plan for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Enforcement of Forest Conservation and Sustainable Management and Increase of Carbon Sequestration is currently under development. It includes the measures for maintaining carbon removals through enhanced struggle against forest fires, restriction of land degradation and restoration

of degraded territories. The implementation of it envisages involvement of Forestry Service, Ministry of Nature Resources, Russian Academy of Science, Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and other national and regional government authorities. The Action Plan will be submitted to the Government of the Russian Federation for approval in the end of 2019.

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Question by European Union at Thursday, 11 April 2019

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 12 April

Title: Effects of policies and measures

After 1998 GHG emissions in the Russian Federation have slowly but steadily increased, mainly as a result of increased fuel consumption and industrial production.

*Could Russian Federation provide more detailed information about the mitigation potential of key measures such as:*

- *Energy Saving and Improving Energy Efficiency and Amending Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation (Law No. 261- FZ of 23 November 2009)*
- *State programme Energy Efficiency and Energy Development (Decree No. 321 of 15 April 2014; updated in 2015, 2016 and 2017, with the latest change in Decree No. 375 of 31 March 2017)*
- *Measures to stimulate the production of electricity by establishing facilities using renewable energy sources (approved by order no. 1839-p of 4 October 2012)*
- *Transport strategy of the Russian Federation to 2030 (order no. 1734-r of 22 November 2008; updated by Decree No. 1032-r of 11 June 2014)*
- *State programme Development of Agriculture and Regulation of Agricultural Products, Raw Materials and Foodstuffs for 2013–2020 (approved by Decree No. 717 of 14 July 2012; updated by relevant resolutions in 2013–2017)*
- *State programme Development of Forestry for the period 2013– 2020 (approved by resolution no. 318 of 15 April 2014; amended by resolution no. 319 of 31 March 2017)*
- *Comprehensive Strategy for Municipal Solid Waste Management (order no. 298 of 14 August 2013)*

*Can the Russian Federation provide information regarding which economic sectors are expected to contribute most to planned reductions in the GHG emissions?*

Answer by Russian Federation, Saturday, 08 June 2019

We acknowledge the observation of the European Union on the slow but steady growth of our greenhouse gas emissions as a consequence of socio-economic development of the Russian Federation. Indeed, the development leads to increase in fuel consumption and industrial production. However, it should be noted that the growth in greenhouse gas emissions indicate the signs of decoupling emission trends from the GDP.

We have to admit that it is not always possible to provide quantitative estimates of the mitigation potential of some policies and measured referred to in the question of the European Union. It is because few policies may have qualitative rather than quantitative results, which cannot be estimated in absolute numbers of greenhouse gas reduction. Besides, many of them complement each other. Owing to cross-cutting nature, their effects may be displayed in different sectors.

**The Federal Law on Energy Saving and Improving Energy Efficiency and Amending Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation (No. 261- FZ of 23 November 2009)** provide for legislative arrangements and institutional incentives for enhancement of energy saving and efficient use of fuel and energy resources at operation facilities. The Government of the Russian Federation established a set of target indicators in the area of energy efficiency and energy saving. In line with provisions of this law, the regional authorities developed regional energy efficiency and saving programs. With the aim at reducing market disproportions and provision of financial and taxation incentives for energy saving and enhancement of energy efficiency the Federal Law foresees a certain measures of state support for reduction of consumption of the energy resources. These *inter alia* include cooperative financing energy efficiency and energy saving commitments of regional and municipal authorities; assistance in investments in the area of energy saving including dissemination of advanced technologies and house construction with high energy efficiency standards; provision incentives for production and sales of commodities with high energy efficiency performance etc. As indicated above, the mitigation potential of these measures is difficult to assess, but taken together they significantly contribute to greenhouse gas emission reduction in the energy, industrial and municipal sector as well as in private households.

**State programme on Energy Efficiency and Energy Development (Decree No. 321 of 15 April 2014; updated in 2015, 2016 and 2017, with the latest change in Decree No. 375 of 31 March 2017)** was approved by the Government of the Russian Federation in 2014 for the period until 2024. The program aims at development and introduction of energy efficient and energy saving technologies, decentralized power generation and increase in the share of renewable energy sources. The implementation of the program should be assisted by the use of traditional energy and most environmentally friendly fossil fuels, including natural gas. A special emphasis is paid at improvement of environmental performance of fossil fuels in general. The main objectives of the program include:

**Modernization and development of the industry based on advanced technologies:**

- associated petroleum gas utilization rate of at least 95 per cent (in 2018, the utilization rate was about 85.1 per cent);

- increase of fuel consumption per power output from 315,5 g.c.e./KWh in 2014 to 285.4 g.c.e./KWh in 2024 (in 2018, the actual fuel consumption per power output was 1.4 g.c.e./KWh less than in 2017 and made 309.8 g.c.e./KWh, which became the minimum in the last twenty years).

The mitigation potential of this objective is estimated as 11.6 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> eq.

#### Development of renewable energy:

- Increase in power of facilities based on renewable energy to 4.5 per cent;
- Commissioning of new economically feasible generating capacities running on renewable energy sources;
- Development of national research and development base and advancing of renewable energy technologies, boosting production of major and secondary process equipment and components for renewable energy in the Russian Federation.

By 2024, **power generation based on renewable energy facilities** should be **around 4.5 per cent of total**. In the long term – **by 2035** – it is expected to achieve **more than 10-fold increase of electricity production** in power plants, operating on the basis of non-traditional (excluding hydroelectric) renewable energy, up to 18-27 Bln kWh from 2 Bln kWh in 2014. In 2018, the actual electricity production in power plants based on renewable energy was 421.7 M kWh. The mitigation potential of this objective is estimated as 166.6 Kt of CO<sub>2</sub> eq.

The order of the Government of the Russian Federation on the **Measures to stimulate the production of electricity by establishing facilities using renewable energy sources** (no. 1839-p of 4 October 2012) identifies the package of measures for enhancement of energy production through renewable energy facilities. As indicated above, it is difficult to estimate mitigation potential of this particular order, because it is of cross-cutting nature and complements the Energy Efficiency and Energy Development State programme.

**Transport strategy of the Russian Federation to 2030 (order no. 1734-r of 22 November 2008; updated by Decree No. 1032-r of 11 June 2014)** aims at reducing the negative impact of national transport sector on the environment and climate. The aims will be realized through transition to more environment friendly fuel types, increase the share of cars with hybrid and electric engines as well as those operating on the alternative fuel types. The table below illustrates the estimated greenhouse gas emission reductions owing to the implementation of transport strategy.

Specific indicators of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction in transport sector according to the business as usual/innovative scenarios of the development of transport system in the Russian Federation

(t CO<sub>2</sub> per t-km in relation to 2011 level), per cent

Transport type	Year of strategy implementation					
	2011	2015	2018	2020	2024	2030
Automobile	100	95/92	92/88	90/86	86/82	80/75
Railway	100	85/81	74/71	67/64	60/57	50/47
Airborne	100	95/93	91/89	90/87	86/77	80/66
Marine	100	95/91	92/88	90/86	85/81	80/76

**State programme Development of Agriculture and Regulation of Agricultural Products, Raw Materials and Foodstuffs for 2013–2020 (approved by Decree No. 717 of 14 July 2012; updated by relevant resolutions in 2013–2017)** mainly aims at enhancement of agricultural production through improved crop rotation and land-use. The Programme envisages introduction of intensive land cultivation and increase of livestock population together with increase its efficiency. It also envisages the measures for adaptation of agricultural sector to unfavorable effects of climate change. The implementation of the program may result in decrease or increase of greenhouse gas emissions from the sector.

**State programme Development of Forestry for the period 2013– 2020 (approved by resolution no. 318 of 15 April 2014; amended by resolution no. 319 of 31 March 2017)** has the main objective to efficient management, protection, restoration and utilization, of forest resources of the Russian Federation. As indicated above the majority of the policies and measures of the programme are of cross-cutting nature. Carbon removals gained owing to implementation of the programme are already included in on-going activities and practices. With this, it is almost impossible to estimate the mitigation potential of particular programme activities.

**Comprehensive Strategy for Municipal Solid Waste Management (order no. 298 of 14 August 2013)** aims at minimizing the negative impact of solid waste on the environment and the enhancement of their recycling. The programme envisages economic measures for safe and environmentally friendly treatment of solid waste including separate waste collection. Separate sub-programmes deal with legislative arrangements, environmental education and enhancing capacity of safe collection and storage of waste. The programme foresees the development of special requirements and standards for collection of dangerous waste and appropriate maintenance of solid waste storage facilities. Due to the nature of programme activities their mitigation potential cannot be estimated.

In the view of the Russian Federation, the energy sector is expected to contribute most to the reductions in the GHG emissions.

[Question by China](#) at Wednesday, 10 April 2019

[Category](#): Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type](#): Before 12 April

[Title](#): ambition

As agreed by the COP, developed country Parties are urged to revisit its 2020 target, with a view to enhancing ambition. In this regard, what is the plan of Russian Federation to further strength its mitigation actions and enhance its pre-2020 ambition?

[Answer by Russian Federation](#), Saturday, 08 June 2019

The Russian Federation pays great attention to enhancing its ambition and further strengthening mitigation actions. According to the latest estimates cumulative effects of climate change mitigation policies and measures which are in place currently will result in the 2020 level of emissions not only not exceeding 75 per cent of the 1990 emissions, but being noticeably lower.

The implementation plan for a set of measures of the state regulation GHG emissions and preparation for ratification of the Paris Agreement (adopted by the governmental order no. 2344 of 3 November 2016) includes provisions for preparation of the draft presidential decree on the target for limiting GHG emissions by 2030. The development of the draft implementation plan for this decree is scheduled for 2020.

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Session closes at 08-06-2019  
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