



## Highlights from Parties at the Multilateral Assessment session at SBI 5.1 7 and 9 December 2019, Madrid, Spain

### Austria

- Austria explained that it will close its last coal-fired powerplant in 2020, with a goal to achieve 100 per cent renewables in electricity production by 2030.
- Austria outlined its suite of policies for buildings, including renewable heating, incentives for rooftop solar, and a 2020 ban on oil-fired heating systems in new buildings.
- In the transport sector, Austria is promoting electromobility with subsidies for households and businesses and is exploring options for reducing emissions from the one quarter of fuel sold to vehicles in transit to other countries.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Austria>

### Belgium

- Belgium described the unique challenges it faces in implementing climate policy within its regional, language community and federal government system, as well as the progress it has made in addressing them, including its cooperation agreements and National Climate Commission.
- Belgium highlighted its plans to increase the use of electric vehicles, cycling and public transit, as well as its phase out of diesel in 2030 and petrol in 2035.
- Belgium is currently developing the National Energy and Climate Plan that will put it on track to meet the 2030 35 per cent emissions reduction target for non-ETS sectors.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Belgium>

## Bulgaria

- Bulgaria updated Parties on the clear progress it has made towards its targets, including exceeding its non-ETS emissions target by 10 per cent in 2016, as well as already surpassing its 2020 renewable energy target.
- Bulgaria highlighted its efforts to capture landfill gas for electricity production at all new and existing landfills.
- Bulgaria discussed how improving the efficiency of its power plants and transitioning to lower carbon fuels has reduced emissions in that sector.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Bulgaria>

## Cyprus

- Cyprus explained how increased energy efficiency has helped it to be on track to meet its internal EU target for non-ETS emissions.
- Cyprus highlighted its adaptation actions to date and explained how it is playing a coordinating role on adaptation in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East region.
- Cyprus discussed the planned electrical interconnection with the mainland and how it will allow greater use of renewable energy for electric generation.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Cyprus>

## Greece

- Greece announced the completion this month of its revised National Energy Climate Plan, which provides a strengthened set of 2030 targets for emissions, energy efficiency and renewable energy production.
- Greece will end electricity generation from coal by 2028.
- Greece described the boom it has seen in installations of solar and wind power, attributable in part to lower costs and simplified permitting, as well as new auction-based approaches.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Greece>

## Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan highlighted its green economy transition plans, with 2030 goals of 10 per cent renewable energy and a 30 per cent reduction in energy intensity.
- Kazakhstan discussed the planned increase in renewable energy, with growth of over 100 per cent by 2021 and the benefits of using auctions and other new financial mechanisms.
- Kazakhstan emphasized the benefits to transparency that came with participation in the IAR process and indicated its need for additional capacity building in this area.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Kazakhstan>

## Luxembourg

- Luxembourg announced its newly-passed carbon tax that will begin in 2021 at EUR 20 per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> and increase in subsequent years. The tax will apply to non-ETS sectors.
- Luxembourg highlighted its new higher ambition domestic target of reducing non-ETS emissions 55 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.
- Luxembourg discussed the steps it is currently implementing to reduce transport emissions, including making all public transit free beginning in early 2020.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Luxembourg>

## **New Zealand**

- New Zealand stated that currently 82 per cent of its electricity mix is sourced from renewable sources and it aims to increase this to 100 per cent by 2035.
- New Zealand explained their Zero Carbon Act, which has a variety of policies and measures across all sectors including the planting of 1 billion trees to combat carbon emissions.
- New Zealand elaborated on the new established Climate Commission and how it would provide independent expert advice to the government for monitoring and assessing the progress being made towards climate goals.
- [https://unfccc.int/MA/New Zealand](https://unfccc.int/MA/New_Zealand)

## **Portugal**

- Portugal stressed the urgency of addressing climate change and the reduction of emissions and pledges to be carbon neutral by 2050.
- Portugal stressed the great potential for radical change in transport sector emissions through electrification and new modes of mobility.
- Portugal highlighted its efforts to reduce emissions from agriculture and land use through better management practices and adoption of innovative approaches.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Portugal>

## **Switzerland**

- Switzerland expressed its intention to reduce emissions to net zero by 2050 and stated that it would adjust its NDC in 2020 in order to raise ambition.
- Switzerland cautioned that future reductions in emissions may require substantially different approaches than many of the mitigation actions to date.
- Switzerland discussed the revenue recycling of its heating fuel taxes into building retrofit and other energy efficiency programmes that reduce the need for heating fuel.
- <https://unfccc.int/MA/Switzerland>