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**Annual report of the Compliance Committee to the
Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the
Parties to the Kyoto Protocol**

Summary

The nineteenth annual report of the Compliance Committee to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol covers activities undertaken from 8 September 2023 to 4 July 2024. The report provides a summary of the consideration by the enforcement branch of the question of implementation with regard to Liechtenstein, the continued consideration by the facilitative branch of its role in providing advice and facilitation to Parties for implementing the Kyoto Protocol, and the discussions in the plenary of the Compliance Committee.

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. In accordance with section III, paragraph 2(a), of the procedures and mechanisms relating to compliance under the Kyoto Protocol,¹ the plenary of the Compliance Committee is to report on the activities of the Committee, including a list of decisions taken by the facilitative and enforcement branches, to each ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP).

B. Scope

2. This nineteenth annual report of the Compliance Committee covers the period from 8 September 2023 to 4 July 2024. It summarizes the work of and matters addressed by the Committee during that period.

C. Possible action by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

3. This report will be considered² at CMP 19.

4. The CMP may wish to take note of the work of and matters addressed by the Compliance Committee during the reporting period as detailed in this report.

II. Organizational matters

5. The Compliance Committee held the following meetings, all in hybrid format:

- (a) The 39th meeting of the enforcement branch, on 2 July 2024;
- (b) The 27th meeting of the facilitative branch, on 3 July 2024;
- (c) The 26th meeting of the plenary, on 4 July 2024.

6. The agenda and annotations, documentation supporting agenda items, and report for each meeting are available on the UNFCCC website.³

A. Membership of the Compliance Committee

7. In accordance with rule 3, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Compliance Committee,⁴ the term of service of each member and alternate member of the Committee starts on 1 January of the calendar year immediately following their election and ends on 31 December, two or four years thereafter, as applicable. Each member and alternate member shall remain in office until their successor is elected.⁵

8. At the 26th meeting of the plenary, the Committee welcomed the new and re-elected members and alternate members. The current membership of the Committee can be found on the UNFCCC website.⁶

9. The Committee wishes to draw the attention of the CMP to:

¹ Decision [27/CMP.1](#), annex.

² As per decision [27/CMP.1](#), annex, section XII.

³ <https://unfccc.int/Compliance-Committee-CC>.

⁴ Decision [4/CMP.2](#), annex, as amended by decisions [4/CMP.4](#), [8/CMP.9](#) and [6/CMP.17](#).

⁵ Decision [6/CMP.17](#), annex, para. (a).

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/compliance-committee-cc/members>.

(a) Two vacancies in the facilitative branch, for one alternate member from Parties included in Annex I⁷ and one alternate member from Parties not included in Annex I, that have remained unfilled since 2019 owing to the absence of nominations, and the importance of nominating and electing two alternate members to fill these vacancies and serve the remainder of the term, until 31 December 2027;

(b) Two vacancies in the enforcement branch, for one member from Parties not included in Annex I and one alternate member from the Eastern European States, that have remained unfilled since 2019 owing to the absence of nominations, and the importance of nominating and electing a member and an alternate member to fill these vacancies and serve the remainder of the term, until 31 December 2027;

(c) One vacancy in the enforcement branch, for one member from Parties included in Annex I, that has remained unfilled following the resignation of a member in 2024, and the importance of nominating and electing a member to fill this vacancy and serve the remainder of the term, until 31 December 2025;

(d) Eleven positions in the enforcement and facilitative branches that are occupied by members and alternate members whose terms of office have ended but will remain in office until their successors are elected.

10. The Committee expresses its hope that Parties will keep in mind the goal of gender balance when submitting nominations for membership.

B. Transparency, communication and information

11. In accordance with rule 9, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the plenary and of the facilitative and enforcement branches were open to the public, recorded and webcast on the UNFCCC website, with the exception of any parts of those meetings that were held in private in accordance with the same rule.

12. In accordance with rule 12, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, all documents of the plenary and of the enforcement and facilitative branches have been made available on the UNFCCC website.⁸

C. Use of electronic means in decision-making

13. Pursuant to rule 11, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, the Compliance Committee may elaborate and take decisions using electronic means. The Committee elected by electronic means Arne Riedel and Paulette Bynoe as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the enforcement branch, and Veronica Jakarasi and Martin Collins as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the facilitative branch.⁹ The enforcement branch adopted using electronic means a decision on a preliminary examination regarding the question of implementation with respect to Liechtenstein.¹⁰

⁷ As defined in Article 1, para. 7, of the Kyoto Protocol.

⁸ Documents relating to the plenary, facilitative branch and enforcement branch are available at <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/compliance-committee-cc/compliance-committee-plenary>, <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/compliance-committee-cc/enforcement-branch> and <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/compliance-committee-cc/facilitative-branch> respectively.

⁹ Compliance Committee documents CC/EB/2024/1 and CC/FB/2024/1.

¹⁰ Compliance Committee document CC-2024-1-2/Liechtenstein/EB.

III. Work undertaken in the reporting period

A. Activities of the plenary

Consideration of the reports of expert review teams under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol

14. In accordance with section VI, paragraph 3, of the procedures and mechanisms and paragraph 49 of the “Guidelines for review under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol”,¹¹ the members and alternate members of the facilitative branch received and considered 27 annual review reports (ARRs) corresponding to the 2022 review cycle, as listed in paragraph 33 below.

15. The facilitative branch undertook the reviews of these reports in accordance with the practical working arrangements that were decided at its 22nd meeting, from 4 to 5 September 2019,¹² and amended to enhance the working group modalities at its 23rd meeting, on 11 November 2020.¹³

B. Activities of the enforcement branch

16. In accordance with section VI, paragraph 1, of the procedures and mechanisms, the Compliance Committee received a question of implementation raised by the expert review team (ERT) under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol in the report on the review of the report upon expiration of the additional period for fulfilling commitments for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol of Liechtenstein submitted in 2023.¹⁴

17. In accordance with section III, paragraph 2(a), of the procedures and mechanisms, the decision on a preliminary examination taken by the enforcement branch on the question of implementation with respect to Liechtenstein is listed in the annex.

Question of implementation with respect to Liechtenstein

18. Pursuant to section VII, paragraph 1, of the procedures and mechanisms and rule 19, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, the bureau of the Compliance Committee allocated the question of implementation with regard to Liechtenstein to the enforcement branch on 24 May 2024 for its consideration in accordance with section V, paragraphs 4–6, of the procedures and mechanisms.

19. On 27 May 2024, the secretariat notified the members and alternate members of the enforcement branch of the question of implementation, in accordance with rule 19, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, and of its allocation to the branch.

20. The question of implementation relates to compliance with Article 3, paragraph 1 bis, of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol.¹⁵

21. On the basis of the assessment of the information submitted by Liechtenstein and paragraph 91 of the “Guidelines for review under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol”, the ERT concluded that the aggregate anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions of Liechtenstein in the second commitment period exceed the quantity of emission reduction units, certified emission reductions, temporary certified emission reductions, long-term certified emission reductions, assigned amount units and removal units in the retirement account of Liechtenstein for the same period.¹⁶

¹¹ Decision [22/CMP.1](#), annex.

¹² Compliance Committee document CC/FB/22/2019/2, para. 14.

¹³ Compliance Committee document CC/FB/23/2020/3, para. 10.

¹⁴ [FCCC/KP/CMP/2023/TPR/LIE](#).

¹⁵ [FCCC/KP/CMP/2023/TPR/LIE](#), paras. 8–9 and table 2.

¹⁶ [FCCC/KP/CMP/2023/TPR/LIE](#), para. 6 and table 1.

22. The ERT identified this problem as a question of implementation in accordance with decision 22/CMP.1 in conjunction with decision 4/CMP.11.¹⁷

23. In accordance with section VII, paragraphs 2–3, of the procedures and mechanisms and rule 11, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, on 19 June 2024 the enforcement branch adopted by electronic means a decision on a preliminary examination with respect to Liechtenstein.¹⁸ On the same day, Liechtenstein, as the Party concerned, was notified in writing of the decision.

24. At its 39th meeting, the enforcement branch considered a presentation by the secretariat summarizing the status of the question of implementation with respect to Liechtenstein, including the procedural steps to be taken in accordance with the procedures and mechanisms and the rules of procedure after a question of implementation has been raised.

25. At the same meeting, a representative of Liechtenstein reiterated the Party's willingness and readiness to make the necessary retirements as soon as retirements are allowed again.

26. Representatives of the secretariat's Transparency and Mitigation divisions who coordinated the review of the report upon expiration of the additional period for fulfilling commitments for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol of Liechtenstein submitted in 2023 answered questions asked at the meeting.

27. As per section IX, paragraph 4, of the procedures and mechanisms, the enforcement branch is to consider the question of implementation with regard to Liechtenstein and adopt a decision on this matter at its 40th meeting. The 40th meeting of the branch will likely take place virtually towards the end of September 2024.

28. With the additional period for fulfilling commitments for the second commitment period having expired and no third commitment period in place, the branch proposed to discuss, among other matters, its future workload in response to the mandates in the procedures and mechanisms and the rules of procedure and to make recommendations to the plenary thereon as appropriate.

29. To facilitate the discussion on its future workload, among other matters, the branch agreed to hold a meeting in hybrid format in the second half of 2025, in conjunction with the meeting of the plenary.

C. Activities of the facilitative branch

30. In preparation for the 27th meeting of the facilitative branch, the main objective of which was to consider the outcomes of the review of the remaining ARRs in the 2022 review cycle, the secretariat organized, in collaboration with the former Chair of the branch, an online capacity-building exercise on the general analysis and overview tool.

31. The tool facilitates a more coherent application of criteria for assessing whether issues are persistent or significant and enhances consistency in the methodologies used by members and alternate members when analysing ARRs. Members and alternate members noted the practical nature of the online capacity-building exercise and highlighted the usefulness of the user manual integrated into the tool.

32. The branch used the general analysis and overview tool to consider the outcomes of the review of 27 of the remaining 34 ARRs in the 2022 review cycle. As requested by the branch at its 25th meeting, the secretariat randomly distributed the 27 ARRs to members and alternate members of the branch and decided to continue using the three working groups established at that meeting.

33. The 27 Parties whose ARRs were reviewed were Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Greece, the European Union, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New

¹⁷ [FCCC/KP/CMP/2023/TPR/LIE](#), para. 8.

¹⁸ Compliance Committee document CC-2024-1-2/Liechtenstein/EB.

Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

34. Branch members and alternate members used the general analysis and overview tool in their reviews and analyses of the reports to identify potential issues that were persistent, significant or both, and Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that may benefit from the branch's facilitation and advice, as well as to detect potential systemic issues.

35. The branch discussed a range of issues identified in the ARRAs reviewed, including adherence to the principles of transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency of reporting; challenges in developing and/or implementing quality assurance and quality control systems; issues relating to the national system and/or the national registry; and issues relating to the reporting on response measures. The branch noted continued uncertainty regarding the criteria for assessing whether issues are persistent or significant, which needs to be resolved in order to ensure consistency in its analysis of ARRAs.

36. The branch reflected on the working arrangements for reviewing the remaining seven ARRAs in the 2022 review cycle and the six expected inventory review reports for 2023 at its 28th meeting. The branch asked the secretariat to distribute the reports to the members and alternate members who volunteered to conduct the reviews and decided to continue using the three working groups established at its 25th meeting, with adjustments made as necessary to take into account any changes in the membership of the branch.

37. With the additional period for fulfilling commitments for the second commitment period having expired and no third commitment period in place, the branch noted the need for an in-depth assessment of its work undertaken in response to the mandates in the procedures and mechanisms and the rules of procedure.

38. To facilitate the assessment, the branch agreed to holding a meeting in hybrid format in the second half of 2025 in conjunction with the meeting of the plenary.

D. Budget for the work of the Compliance Committee

39. The plenary took note of the information provided by the secretariat on funding and staffing for the biennium 2024–2025.

Annex**Decision taken by the enforcement branch of the Compliance Committee for the reporting period****Liechtenstein**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Compliance Committee document number</i>	<i>Date received</i>	<i>Date adopted</i>
Decision on a preliminary examination	CC-2024-1-2/Liechtenstein/EB	Not applicable	19 June 2024
