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## **Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Cyprus at the forty-first session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation**

### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **I. Background**

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decision 1/CP.16, 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 established a new process under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) – the international assessment and review (IAR) of emissions and removals related to developed country Parties' quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets – that aims to promote the comparability of efforts among all developed country Parties. The first round of the IAR process is to be conducted during the period 2014–2015.

2. According to the modalities and procedures for IAR specified in annex II to decision 2/CP.17, the multilateral assessment (MA), being part of the IAR process, 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 the MA is to assess each Party's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

3. The first MA of Cyprus took place at a working group session during SBI 41, on 6 December 2014. 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 Cyprus had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: China, Egypt and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Cyprus can be found on the IAR web page for Cyprus.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <[http://unfccc.int/files/national\\_reports/biennial\\_reports\\_and\\_iar/international\\_assessment\\_and\\_review/application/pdf/sbi41-cyprus-full.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/biennial_reports_and_iar/international_assessment_and_review/application/pdf/sbi41-cyprus-full.pdf)>.

## II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. Cyprus was represented by Mr. Theodoulos Mesimeris, Head of the Climate Action Unit, Department of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment.

5. Mr. Mesimeris made an opening presentation, summarizing the progress of Cyprus in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Cyprus has been a Party included in Annex I to the Convention since 2013. Within the European Union (EU) framework, Cyprus has a target of reducing its emissions from the sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System (non-ETS sectors) by 5 per cent by 2020, compared with the 2005 level. Mr. Mesimeris outlined the national policies of Cyprus and its measures in the energy, transport, agriculture and waste sectors to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. According to its GHG emission projections, Cyprus is well on track to achieve its non-ETS sector target by 2020.

6. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and a further clarification question from the Chinese delegation. This question was related to the latest GHG inventory of Cyprus, which documents an emission increase of 52 per cent in 2012 compared with the 1990 level. This seemed to contradict the sharp decrease in emissions around 2012 that was depicted in the GHG emission projection chart presented by Cyprus during the MA session. In response, the Cyprus delegation provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Cyprus.

7. In closing, the SBI Chair reminded Cyprus that any other observations by the Party on its MA process can be submitted within two months of the working group session, and that this will form part of its Party record for the MA. The SBI Chair thanked the delegation of Cyprus, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.

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