



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of the Czech Republic at the forty-second 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 the Czech Republic took place at a working group session during SBI 42, on 4 June 2015. 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 Czech Republic had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by Brazil, Canada and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by the Czech Republic can be found on the IAR web page for the Czech Republic.¹

¹ <<http://unfccc.int/8818.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. The Czech Republic was represented by Mr. Pavel Zamyslicky from the Ministry of the Environment.

5. Mr. Zamyslicky made an opening presentation, summarizing the Czech Republic's progress in the implementation of its emission reduction and removal commitments related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Under the Convention, the Czech Republic participates in the European Union (EU) joint economy-wide emission reduction target to achieve a 20 per cent reduction in emissions by 2020 compared with the 1990 (base year) level. The target for the EU and its member States is formalized in the EU climate and energy package, which includes the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) and the effort-sharing decision (ESD). Under the ESD, the Czech Republic has a target to limit emission growth to 9 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 (+9 per cent) from sectors covered by the ESD. In line with the EU approach to its target, the Czech Republic does not include emissions or removals from the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector in defining its quantified economy-wide target. The ESD also includes binding renewable energy goals and non-binding energy efficiency goals for each member State. The Czech Republic has a binding renewable energy goal to achieve a 13 per cent share of renewable energy in its gross total final energy consumption. Its non-binding energy efficiency goal is to achieve additional energy savings of 13.27 TWh by 2020.

6. The Czech Republic's total greenhouse gas emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 31.5 per cent between 1990 and 2011, with projections showing a continuous decrease in emissions up to 2020. In order to meet its 2020 targets, the Czech Republic is currently drafting the Climate Protection Policy, which will include the implementation of the EU climate and energy package, as well as its emission reduction targets for 2020 under the Convention. In addition, the Czech Republic is preparing the State Energy Policy, which includes a 30-year outlook for identifying energy management objectives. Across the EU, it is expected that the market mechanism of the EU ETS will guarantee that emissions from sectors under this scheme will achieve the 2020 target of 21 per cent below the 2005 level. Under the ESD, the Czech Republic is expected to meet its emission reduction target as well as its renewable energy and energy efficiency goals.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Brazil, China and United States of America. The questions received focused on: whether the Czech Republic is considering increasing its emission reduction target for 2020 since the current target has already been met; what, if any, market-based mechanisms will be used to achieve its targets; whether the Czech Republic is considering adopting additional policies and measures to address its emissions not covered by the EU ETS; what policies and measures addressing the implementation of new nuclear energy and other renewable energy sources are in place, and whether or not there are interim targets prior to 2020 for the implementation of such sources. In response, the Czech Republic provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for the Czech Republic.

8. In closing, the SBI Chair reminded the Czech Republic that it can submit any other observations on its MA process within two months of the working group session, and that they will form part of its Party record for the MA. The SBI Chair thanked the delegation of the Czech Republic, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.