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## **Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Poland 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 Poland took place at a working group session during SBI 42, on 5 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 Poland had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: Brazil, China, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland and United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Poland can be found on the IAR web page for Poland.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <<http://unfccc.int/8830.php>>.

## II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. Poland was represented by Ms. Sylwia Waśniewska, Institute of Environmental Protection.

5. Ms. Waśniewska made an opening presentation, summarizing Poland's progress in the implementation of its emission reduction and removal commitments related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Poland had decreased by 29 per cent by 2012 compared with the base year level. Thus, Poland's emissions are well below its target for the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, which corresponds to an emission reduction of 6 per cent compared with the base year level. While emissions decreased, gross domestic product (GDP) increased significantly over the same period, signalling a decoupling of GDP from emission growth, owing to economic and technological changes and a significant drop in the emission intensity of Poland's energy use. Poland is committed to contributing to the target of the European Union (EU) under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol of a 20 per cent reduction in emissions by 2020 compared with the 1990 level. In accordance with the EU effort-sharing decision, Poland has a target to limit the growth in its emissions from the sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading System (non-ETS sectors) to 14 per cent by 2020 compared with the 2005 level (+14 per cent). In addition, Ms. Waśniewska explained Poland's targets regarding the share of renewables in its final energy consumption, the share of biofuels in transport fuel, and energy efficiency.

6. According to its GHG emission projections, Poland expects emission levels that are 32 per cent lower in 2020 and 36 per cent lower in 2030 than the base year level, with emissions from energy and agriculture expected to decrease the most. Also, emissions from the non-ETS sectors are expected to stay well below the target trajectory, reflecting the target under the EU effort-sharing decision for 2020. Thus, Poland expects to meet its emission reduction targets with domestic measures only. Ms. Waśniewska presented the key elements of the Polish climate policy, including its main strategies, the Energy Policy of Poland until 2030, the Renewable Energy Sources Act and the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan. In addition, she explained that the energy policy is currently being updated. It will be extended to 2050 and will be published in 2016. She further explained that the National Programme for the Development of a Low-Emission Economy, which aims to identify key areas for emission reductions, will be published in 2015.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Brazil, China, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia and United States. Questions were raised regarding: the envisaged shares of different energy sources including nuclear energy in Poland's final energy consumption by 2020 and 2030 according to the new energy policy; whether some of the policies and measures (PaMs) included in the new energy policy are expected to show a mitigation effect before 2020; the effect of Poland's PaMs; specific PaMs targeting emissions from coal use; the economic feasibility of carbon dioxide capture and storage in Poland; PaMs in the non-ETS sectors; and Poland's use of units from market-based mechanisms to achieve its targets. Questions were also raised in relation to Poland's assessment of the social and economic consequences of its response measures. In response, Poland provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Poland.

8. In closing, the SBI Chair reminded Poland 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 Poland, all the other delegations and the secretariat for this successful MA session.