



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Romania 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 Romania 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 Romania had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by Brazil and China. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Romania can be found on the IAR web page for Romania.¹

¹ <<http://unfccc.int/8831.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. Romania was represented by Ms. Alina Boldea from the Directorate General for European Affairs and International Relations.

5. Ms. Boldea made an opening presentation, summarizing Romania's progress in the implementation of its emission reduction and removal commitments related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Under the Convention, Romania 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, Romania has a target of limiting emission growth to 19 per cent above the 2005 level by 2020 (+19 per cent) from sectors covered by the ESD. In line with the EU approach to its target, Romania 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. For Romania, it specifies a binding renewable energy goal of a 24 per cent renewable energy share in its gross total final energy consumption. Regarding energy efficiency, Romania has a non-binding goal to achieve 30.32 Mtoe of primary energy consumption by 2020.

6. The key policy framework related to climate change in Romania is the National Strategy for Climate Change 2013–2020, which addresses the achievement of Romania's national objectives and greenhouse gas emission targets for 2020, as well as the adaptation measures needed to allow society and ecosystems to adapt to climate change. Specifically, the National Strategy takes into account relevant EU policies, such as the EU climate and energy package referred to in paragraph 5 above. Romania's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 49.5 per cent between 1990 and 2011, with projections showing an emission increase up to 2020. Across the EU, it is expected that the market mechanism of the EU ETS will guarantee that emissions from sectors under this scheme (mainly large point sources such as power plants and industrial facilities) will achieve the 2020 target of 21 per cent below the 2005 level. Under the ESD, Romania 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 China and the Republic of Korea. The questions were related to the drivers of Romania's projected increase in GHG emissions and the impact of the EU ETS, energy efficiency and renewable energy deployment on emission reductions. In response, Romania provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Romania.

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