



Summary report on the multilateral assessment of Ukraine 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 related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

3. The first MA of Ukraine 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 Ukraine had been submitted in writing two months before the working group session by the following delegations: Brazil, China, European Union and Sweden. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by Ukraine can be found on the IAR web page for Ukraine.¹

¹ <<http://unfccc.int/8835.php>>.

II. Proceedings

4. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Amena Yauvoli. Ukraine was represented by Ms. Elena Balbekova, Deputy Director of the Climate Policy Department, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.

5. Ms. Balbekova made an opening presentation, summarizing Ukraine's progress towards the achievement of its emission limitation and reduction commitment related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets. Ms. Balbekova initially described the new institutional arrangements related to climate change in the country, including the national inventory system of Ukraine. She explained the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission trends since 1990 and highlighted the importance of the energy sector's contribution to the national emissions, which has driven the observed trend of reduction in these emissions.

6. Referring to Ukraine's target under the Convention, Ms. Balbekova provided information on Ukraine's emission limitation commitment for participating in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol to an emission level 24 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. She described the policy framework and cross-sectoral measures for climate change inscribed in Ukraine's new strategy for sustainable development and the national action plan on the implementation of the association agreement with the European Union, highlighting measures in the energy, industry and forestry sectors, and provided information on the impacts of the key mitigation actions. Ms. Balbekova provided information on the key assumptions on gross domestic product and fuel consumption used in the three GHG emission projection scenarios presented in Ukraine's sixth national communication and first biennial report and the results of these scenarios in terms of GHG emissions by sector. Finally, Ms. Balbekova provided a summary of the questions received prior to the working group session and the answers provided.

7. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Brazil, China and Republic of Korea. These questions were on: the tax code policy with regard to reductions in land tax and income tax for renewable energy businesses and the renewable energy action plan and whether they were related or separate policies; the plans to assess the economic feasibility of potentially increasing the level of ambition vis-à-vis development needs; the reasons for the many changes in the removal trends in the land use, land-use change and forestry sector; the economic and ecological appropriateness of the development of renewable energy; the possible additional measures to address climate change issues; and the assessment of how much of the economic growth will be sacrificed in the "with measures" and "with additional measures" emission scenarios compared with the baseline scenario or the "without measures" scenario. In response, Ukraine provided further explanations. Details can be found in the webcast of this session on the IAR web page for Ukraine.

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