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Technical analysis of the first biennial update report of Argentina submitted on 9 December 2015

Summary report by the team of technical experts

Summary

According to decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 41(a), Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting, were to submit their first biennial update report (BUR) by December 2014. The least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit BURs at their discretion. Further, according to paragraph 58(a) of the same decision, the first round of international consultation and analysis (ICA) will be conducted for non-Annex I Parties commencing within six months of the submission of the Party's first BUR. The process of ICA consists of two steps: the technical analysis of the submitted BUR, followed by a workshop for the facilitative sharing of views under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation. This summary report presents the results of the technical analysis of the first BUR of Argentina conducted by a team of technical experts in accordance with the modalities and procedures contained in the annex to decision 20/CP.19.

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I. Introduction and process overview

A. Introduction

1. According to decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 41(a), Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting, were to submit their first biennial update report (BUR) by December 2014. The least developed country Parties and small island developing States may submit BURs at their discretion. Further, according to paragraph 58(a) of the same decision, the first round of international consultation and analysis (ICA) is to be conducted for non-Annex I Parties, commencing within six months of the submission of the Party's first BUR. The process of ICA consists of two steps: the technical analysis of the submitted BUR, resulting in a summary report for each BUR analysed, followed by a workshop for the facilitative sharing of views under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation.

2. This summary report presents the results of the technical analysis of the first BUR of Argentina undertaken by a team of technical experts (TTE) in accordance with the provisions on the composition, modalities and procedures of the TTE under ICA contained in the annex to decision 20/CP.19.

B. Process overview

3. Argentina submitted its first BUR on 9 December 2015. The BUR does not include an explanation as to why it was submitted after December 2014. In the course of the technical analysis of the BUR, Argentina clarified that the BUR was submitted in December 2015 owing to a delay in accessing the funds for the preparation of BURs.

4. The technical analysis of the BUR took place from 29 February to 4 March 2016 in Bonn, Germany, and was undertaken by the following TTE, drawn from the UNFCCC roster of experts on the basis of the criteria defined in decision 20/CP.19, annex, paragraphs 2–6: Mr. Carlos Mansilla (former member of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) from Guatemala), Ms. Julia Martínez (former CGE member from Mexico), Ms. Inês de Sousa Mourão (Cabo Verde), Mr. Raúl Salas (Mexico), Ms. Beatriz Sánchez Jiménez (Spain) and Ms. Sina Wartmann (Germany). Ms. Martínez and Ms. Sánchez Jiménez were the co-leads. Ms. Alma Jean and Ms. Karen Ortega (secretariat) provided administrative support to the TTE.

5. During the technical analysis, the TTE and Argentina engaged in consultation via e-mail, primarily to reach an understanding on the identification of capacity-building needs for the preparation of BURs and participation in the ICA process. Following the technical analysis of the BUR, the TTE prepared and shared a draft summary report with Argentina on 31 May 2016 for its review and comment. Argentina, in turn, provided its feedback on the draft summary report on 19 August 2016.

6. The TTE responded to and incorporated the Party's comments referred to in paragraph 5 above and finalized the summary report in consultation with Argentina on 16 September 2016.

II. Technical analysis of the information reported in the biennial update report

A. Scope of the technical analysis

7. The scope of the technical analysis is outlined in decision 20/CP.19, annex, paragraph 15, according to which the technical analysis aims to, without engaging in a discussion on the appropriateness of these actions, increase transparency of mitigation actions and their effects, and shall entail the following:

(a) The identification of the extent to which the elements of information listed in paragraph 3(a) of the ICA modalities and guidelines (decision 2/CP.17, annex IV) have been included in the BUR of the Party concerned (see chapter II.B below);

(b) A technical analysis of the information reported in the BUR, specified in the “UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” (hereinafter referred to as the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs) contained in annex III to decision 2/CP.17, and any additional technical information provided by the Party concerned (see chapter II.C below);

(c) The identification, in consultation with the Party concerned, of capacity-building needs related to the facilitation of reporting in accordance with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs and to participation in ICA in accordance with the ICA modalities and guidelines, taking into account Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention (see chapter II.D below).

8. The remainder of this chapter presents the results of each of the three parts of the technical analysis of Argentina’s BUR outlined in paragraph 7 above.

B. Overview of the elements of information reported

9. The elements of information referred to in paragraph 7(a) above include: the national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory report; information on mitigation actions, including a description of such actions, an analysis of their impacts and the associated methodologies and assumptions, and the progress made in their implementation; and information on domestic measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), and support received.

10. Further, according to decision 20/CP.19, annex, paragraph 15(a), in undertaking the technical analysis of the submitted BUR, the TTE is to identify the extent to which the elements of information listed in paragraph 9 above have been included in the BUR of the Party concerned. The results of that analysis are presented in tables 1, 2 and 3 below.

1. National greenhouse gas inventory

11. The parts of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs on reporting information on GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks in BURs are contained in decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 41(g), and paragraphs 3–10 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs. Further, as per paragraph 3 of those guidelines, non-Annex I Parties are to submit updates of their national GHG inventories in accordance with paragraphs 8–24 of the “Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” contained in the annex to decision 17/CP.8. The scope of such updates should be consistent with the non-Annex I Party’s capacity and time constraints

and the availability of its data, as well as the level of support provided by developed country Parties for biennial update reporting.

12. Table 1 presents the results of the identification of the extent to which the elements of information on GHGs are included in the first BUR of Argentina in accordance with the relevant parts of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs.

Table 1

Identification of the extent to which the elements of information on greenhouse gases are included in the first biennial update report of Argentina

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting guidelines</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No/NA</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 41(g)	The first BUR shall cover, at a minimum, the inventory for the calendar year no more than four years prior to the date of the submission, or more recent years if information is available	No	The BUR presented data for 2010; however, data for 2011 was not reported, although the BUR was submitted in 2015
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 5	The updates of the chapters on the national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol should contain updated data on activity levels based on the best information available using the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines, the IPCC good practice guidance and the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF; any change to the emission factor may be made in the subsequent full national communication	Yes	
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 9	The inventory chapter of the BUR should consist of a national inventory report as a summary or as an update of the information contained in decision 17/CP.8, annex, chapter III (National greenhouse gas inventories), including:		
	(a) Table 1 (National greenhouse gas inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol and greenhouse gas precursors)	Yes	
	(b) Table 2 (National greenhouse gas inventory of anthropogenic emissions of HFCs, PFCs and SF ₆)	Yes	
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 6	Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to include, as appropriate and to the extent that capacities permit, in the inventory chapter of the BUR:		
	(a) Tables included in the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF, chapter 3, annex 3A.2	No	
	(b) The sectoral report tables annexed to	Yes	

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting guidelines</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No/NA</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
	the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines		
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 7	Each non-Annex I Party is encouraged to provide a consistent time series back to the years reported in the previous national communication	Yes	
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 8	Non-Annex I Parties that have previously reported on their national GHG inventories contained in their national communications are encouraged to submit summary information tables of inventories for previous submission years (e.g. for 1994 and 2000)	Yes	
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 10	Additional or supporting information, including sector-specific information, may be supplied in a technical annex	Yes	Annex II to Argentina's BUR presented information on emission factors and other parameters required for the estimation of emissions and removals
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 13	Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to describe procedures and arrangements undertaken to collect and archive data for the preparation of national GHG inventories, as well as efforts to make this a continuous process, including information on the role of the institutions involved	No	The BUR reported information on data providers, but did not describe procedures and arrangements undertaken to collect and archive data for the preparation of the national GHG inventory, as well as efforts to make this a continuous process, including information on the role of the institutions involved
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 14	Each non-Annex I Party shall, as appropriate and to the extent possible, provide in its national inventory, on a gas-by-gas basis and in units of mass, estimates of anthropogenic emissions of the following gases by sources and removals by sinks:		
	(a) CO ₂	Yes	
	(b) CH ₄	Yes	
	(c) N ₂ O	Yes	
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 15	Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged, as appropriate, to provide information on anthropogenic emissions by sources of HFCs, PFCs and SF ₆	Yes	
Decision 17/CP.8, annex,	Non-Annex I Parties should, to the extent possible, and if disaggregated data are		

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting guidelines</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No/NA</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
paragraph 19	available, report emissions from international aviation and marine bunker fuels separately in their inventories:		
	(a) International aviation	Yes	
	(b) Marine bunker fuels	Yes	
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 16	Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged, as appropriate, to report on anthropogenic emissions by sources of other GHGs such as:		
	(a) CO	Yes	
	(b) NO _x	Yes	
	(c) NMVOCs	Yes	
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 17	Other gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, such as SO _x , included in the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines, may be included at the discretion of Parties	Yes	
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 21	Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to provide information on methodologies used in the estimation of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, including a brief explanation of the sources of emission factors and activity data. If non-Annex I Parties estimate anthropogenic emissions and removals from country-specific sources and/or sinks that are not part of the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines, they should explicitly describe the source and/or sink categories, methodologies, emission factors and activity data used in their estimation of emissions, as appropriate. Parties are encouraged to identify areas where data may be further improved in future communications through capacity-building:		
	(a) Information on methodologies used in the estimation of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHGs not controlled by the Montreal Protocol	Yes	
	(b) Explanation of the sources of emission factors	Yes	
	(c) Explanation of the sources of activity data	Yes	
	(d) If non-Annex I Parties estimate anthropogenic emissions and removals from country-specific sources and/or sinks that are not part of the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines, they should explicitly describe:	NA	The Party did not estimate anthropogenic emissions and removals from country-specific sources and/or sinks that are not part

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting guidelines</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No/NA</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
			of the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines
	(i) Source and/or sink categories		
	(ii) Methodologies		
	(iii) Emission factors		
	(iv) Activity data		
	(e) Parties are encouraged to identify areas where data may be further improved in future communications through capacity-building	Yes	
Decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 24	Non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to provide information on the level of uncertainty associated with inventory data and their underlying assumptions, and to describe the methodologies used, if any, for estimating these uncertainties:		
	(a) Level of uncertainty associated with inventory data	No	Annex III to the BUR provided quantitative uncertainty estimates for its GHG inventory of 2012 (used in Argentina's third national communication), while the uncertainty estimates provided are those for 2010
	(b) Underlying assumptions	No	
	(c) Methodologies used, if any, for estimating these uncertainties	Yes	

Abbreviations: BUR = biennial update report, GHG = greenhouse gas, IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC good practice guidance = *Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF = *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry*, NA = not applicable, NMVOC = non-methane volatile organic compound, Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines = *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

2. Mitigation actions and their effects

13. The parts of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs on the reporting of information on mitigation actions in BURs are contained in paragraphs 11–13 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs.

14. Argentina did report on mitigation actions in its first BUR. The information on mitigation actions reported is provided in tabular format.

15. Table 2 presents the results of the identification of the extent to which the elements of information on mitigation actions are included in the first BUR of Argentina in accordance with the relevant parts of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs.

Table 2
Identification of the extent to which the elements of information on mitigation actions are included in the first biennial update report of Argentina

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting guidelines</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 12	For each mitigation action or groups of mitigation actions including, as appropriate, those listed in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2011/INF.1, developing country Parties shall provide the following information, to the extent possible: (a) Name and description of the mitigation action including information on the nature of the action, coverage (i.e. sectors and gases), quantitative goals and progress indicators	Partly	The name and description of the mitigation actions were provided for those actions listed in table 4.2.1 of the BUR, including coverage (sectors and gases) and indicators; however, information on quantitative goals was not provided for those mitigation actions
	(b) Information on:		
	(i) Methodologies	No	Information on the methodologies was not provided for the mitigation actions listed in table 4.2.1 of the BUR
	(ii) Assumptions	No	Information on the assumptions was not provided for the mitigation actions listed in table 4.2.1 of the BUR
	(c) Information on:		
	(i) Objectives of the action	Yes	Information on the objectives was provided for the mitigation actions listed in table 4.2.1 of the BUR

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting guidelines</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
	(ii) Steps taken or envisaged to achieve that action	Partly	Information on the steps taken or envisaged was provided for some mitigation actions listed in table 4.2.1 of the BUR (e.g. <i>Régimen de Fomento Nacional para el Uso de Fuentes Renovables de Energía Destinada a la Producción de Energía Eléctrica</i>)
	(d) Information on the progress of implementation of the mitigation actions and the underlying steps taken or envisaged, and the results achieved, such as estimated outcomes (metrics depending on type of action) and estimated emission reductions, to the extent possible:		
	(i) Progress of implementation of the mitigation actions	No	Information on the progress of implementation of mitigation actions was not provided in the BUR
	(ii) Progress of implementation of the underlying steps taken or envisaged	No	Information on the underlying steps taken and/or envisaged was not provided
	(iii) Results achieved, such as estimated outcomes (metrics depending on type of action) and estimated emission reductions, to the extent possible	No	No information was provided on the results achieved
	(e) Information on international market mechanisms	No	No information was provided on international market mechanisms
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 13	Parties should provide information on the description of domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements	No	No information on the description of domestic measurement, reporting and verification arrangements was provided

Abbreviations: BUR = biennial update report.

3. Finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received

16. The parts of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs on the reporting of information on finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received in BURs are contained in paragraphs 14–16 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs.

17. Table 3 presents the results of the identification of the extent to which the elements of information on finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received are included in the BUR of Argentina in accordance with the relevant parts of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs.

Table 3

Identification of the extent to which the elements of information on finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received are included in the first biennial update report of Argentina

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Provision of the reporting requirements</i>	<i>Yes/ Partly/No</i>	<i>Comments on the extent of the information provided</i>
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 14	Non-Annex I Parties should provide updated information on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity-building needs:		
	(a) Constraints and gaps	Yes	
	(b) Related financial, technical and capacity-building needs	Yes	
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 15	Non-Annex I Parties should provide updated information on financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and technical support received from the Global Environment Facility, Annex II Parties and other developed country Parties, the Green Climate Fund and multilateral institutions for activities relating to climate change, including for the preparation of the current biennial update report	Yes	
Decision 2/CP.17, annex III, paragraph 16	With regard to the development and transfer of technology, non-Annex I Parties should provide information on technology needs, which must be nationally determined, and technology support received:		
	(a) Technology needs, which must be nationally determined	Yes	
	(b) Technology support received	No	In its BUR, Argentina reported only the financial resources received and did not provide information on technology support received

Abbreviations: BUR = biennial update report.

C. Technical analysis of the information reported

18. The technical analysis referred to in paragraph 7(b) above aims to increase the transparency of mitigation actions and their effects, without engaging in discussion on the appropriateness of those actions. Accordingly, the technical analysis focused on the transparency of the information reported in the BUR.

19. In addition to covering the information in the BUR and any additional technical information provided by the Party concerned, the technical analysis also focused on the relation to information reported on national GHG inventories, and on the consistency of the methods used for developing those inventories with the appropriate methods developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and referred to in the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs. The results of the technical analysis are presented in the remainder of this chapter.

1. Information on national circumstances and institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of national communications on a continuous basis

20. As per the scope defined in paragraph 2 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs, the BURs should provide an update to the information contained in the most recently submitted national communication, including, among other things, information on national circumstances and institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of national communications on a continuous basis. For their national communications, non-Annex I Parties report on their national circumstances following the reporting guidance contained in decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraphs 3–5.

21. In accordance with decision 17/CP.8, annex, paragraph 3, Argentina, in its BUR, reported the following information on its national circumstances: a description of its national priorities, objectives and circumstances, including information on features of its administrative regions, climate, vegetation and land use, social development, health, education, social vulnerability related to climate change, science and technology, and economy that may affect its ability to deal with mitigating and adapting to climate change, as well as information regarding its specific needs and concerns arising from the adverse effects of climate change as contained in Article 4, paragraph 8, and, as appropriate, Article 4, paragraphs 9 and 10, of the Convention.

22. Argentina described in its BUR the institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of its national communications and BURs on a continuous basis. The description covers key aspects of the institutional arrangements, such as the responsibilities of the overall coordinating entity and information on its legal status, roles and involvement, but does not include information on the roles of other institutions and experts, mechanisms for information and data exchange, quality assurance/quality control procedures (QA/QC), provisions for public consultation and other forms of stakeholder engagement, and future improvement plans. During the technical analysis, Argentina mentioned that the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is being restructured and is currently evaluating its ability to assign resources to the continuous preparation of national GHG inventories. The information provided by the Party transparently describes the national institutional arrangements for the preparation of its BUR.

2. National greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks

23. As indicated in table 1 above, Argentina reported information on its GHG inventory in its BUR, in accordance with paragraphs 3–10 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs and paragraphs 8–24 of the “Guidelines for the preparation of national

communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention” contained in the annex to decision 17/CP.8.

24. Argentina reported in its BUR information on its national GHG inventory covering GHG emissions and removals for 2010 using the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (hereinafter referred to as the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines) and the *Good Practice Guidance for Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry* (hereinafter referred to as the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF).

25. According to the BUR, the total GHG emissions for 2010 are 447,642.00 Gg of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ eq), including the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) accounted for 64.8 per cent of the total GHG emissions, followed by methane (CH₄) with 18.2 per cent and nitrous oxide (N₂O) with 16.9 per cent. The remainder of the GHG emissions constitutes perfluorocarbons (PFCs) (perfluoromethane and perfluoroethane) with 0.004 per cent, hydrochlorofluorocarbon-23 with 0.03 per cent and sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) with 0.0004 per cent. According to the estimates reported by sector, the emissions are distributed as follows: energy, 39.6 per cent; agriculture, 26.9 per cent; LULUCF, 25.7 per cent; waste, 4.4 per cent; and industrial processes and product use, 3.3 per cent.

26. Data for 2011, as required by the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs, are not included in the BUR. However, Argentina’s third national communication (NC3), submitted on 9 December 2015 (the same day as the submission of the BUR), includes data for 2011 and 2012. In response to a technical clarification sought by the TTE, Argentina indicated that it had planned to submit the BUR in 2014; therefore, the inclusion of data for 2010 only was planned. However, the submission of the BUR was delayed, leading to the national communication and the BUR being submitted on the same day. The TTE noted that the transparency of the reporting could be enhanced by including emission estimates for the calendar year no more than four years prior to the date of the submission, or more recent years if information is available.

27. For 2010, Argentina reported GHG data by category and gas for CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), PFCs, SF₆, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, non-methane volatile organic compounds and sulphur dioxide. The TTE noted that Argentina reported GHG emissions using both mass units (Gg) and CO₂ eq units for different gases, including in tables 1 and 2 of the reporting guidance contained in decision 17/CP.8, annex, chapter III.

28. The BUR provides a time series of emissions from 1990 to 2010; however, Argentina clarified during the technical analysis that uncertainty estimates were calculated for the 2012 data only, and that the time-series data are not fully consistent. Argentina performed a level key category analysis, but did not perform a trend key category analysis due to inconsistencies in the time-series data. The TTE noted that the transparency of the reporting could be enhanced by providing a consistent time series.

29. Annex III to the BUR provides uncertainty estimates for the 2012 inventory emission estimates included in the Party’s NC3. Uncertainty calculations for 2010 are not provided. In addition, the BUR does not provide information on the assumptions used for the uncertainty estimates. The uncertainty estimates include all sectors, except LULUCF. The TTE noted that the transparency of the information could be enhanced by reporting uncertainty estimates for the same time series and the assumptions used for the uncertainty estimates.

30. Key sources of activity data and emission factors are reported. The BUR indicates that the tier levels used vary from tier 1 to tier 3 depending on the category; however, no information was provided on which tier was used for which category. The BUR transparently describes the QA/QC procedures carried out for the emission estimates. The

TTE noted that the inclusion of information on the tiers used by category could enhance the transparency of the reporting in the BUR.

31. Argentina reported information on data providers but did not report the procedures and arrangements undertaken to collect and archive data for the preparation of its national GHG inventory, information on the role of the institutions involved or efforts to make the compilation of the GHG inventory a continuous process. The TTE noted that the inclusion of information on the arrangements for data collection, the GHG inventory archiving process and the roles of the institutions involved could enhance the transparency of the BUR.

32. The BUR provides information on challenges faced by the Party in relation to the preparation of the emission estimates, mostly related to data collection. During the technical analysis, Argentina clarified that it intends to address this issue, and will assess data requirements and data-sharing needs with data providers as part of the preparation of its second BUR, to be submitted prior to the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties.

33. For the energy sector, the BUR provides key activity data sources and emission factors, but does not include a reference approach. Information on the methodologies used for the emission estimates has not been provided. In response to a technical clarification sought by the TTE, Argentina clarified that it used default emission factors from the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (hereinafter referred to as the 2006 IPCC Guidelines) to estimate emissions from fuel consumption. Argentina further clarified that, while comprehensive statistics for liquid fuel consumption are available and provide overall consumption values, there is a lack of data allowing the overall consumption of liquid fuels to be disaggregated by category and subcategory.

34. The BUR provides key activity data sources and emission factors for the industrial sector, but information on the methodologies used for the emission was not included. The BUR indicates that emissions from consumption of HFCs and SF₆ were not reported due to a lack of data. During the technical analysis, Argentina clarified that emission estimates for consumption of HFCs and SF₆ will be included in its next national GHG inventory and that the estimates will be based on an estimate of apparent consumption on the basis of imports and exports.

35. No estimates were provided for the solvent and other product use sector. The TTE noted that the transparency could be improved in future reporting by including estimates for this sector or an explanation of why these emissions were not reported.

36. The BUR provides key activity data sources and emission factors for the agriculture sector, but does not include information on the methodologies used for the emission estimates. The TTE noted that the transparency could be enhanced by including information on the methodologies used for this sector.

37. Argentina used the methodology contained in the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF to estimate the emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector and reported them following the categories provided in the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines. Argentina presented detailed information on forest biomass parameters but did not provide detailed information on other carbon stocks, such as soil organic carbon. In response to a technical clarification sought by the TTE, Argentina provided further information on the data for the land-use categories and land-use transition matrix. The TTE noted that the transparency of the reporting on land-use areas in the BUR could be enhanced by including information on other carbon stocks and data for land-use categories and land-use transition matrix.

38. The BUR provides key activity data sources and emission factors for the waste sector, but information on the methodologies used for the emission estimates was not

included. The TTE noted that the transparency could be further enhanced by including information on the methodologies used for this sector.

39. The BUR states that the complete version of the GHG inventory is available online.¹ During the technical analysis, Argentina referred to four chapters of its NC3, to be consulted for further information: “*Inventario y Mitigación*” in “*Capítulo 1. Inventario GEIs: Inventario de Gases de Efecto Invernadero de la República Argentina para los años 2010 y 2012, según las metodologías IPCC 1996 y 2006. Serie histórica desde el año 1990 al 2012. Proyección de emisiones desde el año 2013 al 2030*”. The TTE noted that the transparency of the reporting could be enhanced by including in the BUR information on the methodologies, activity data values and parameters used in the GHG emission estimates, or by providing a more detailed reference to the information available online.

3. Mitigation actions and their effects, including associated methodologies and assumptions

40. As indicated in table 2 above, Argentina reported in its BUR, in accordance with paragraphs 11 – 13 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs, information on mitigation actions and their effects.

41. Argentina provided information on 12 mitigation actions in tabular format in chapter 4 of the BUR. The sectors covered by the mitigation actions, as identified in the BUR, are as follows:

(a) Energy: eight mitigation actions presented in the form of laws, regulations, decrees, resolutions and programmes;

(b) Transport: one mitigation action presented in the form of a law;

(c) LULUCF: three mitigation actions presented in the form of a law and a national plan.

42. In addition to the mitigation actions mentioned in paragraph 40 above, Argentina provided information on additional mitigation actions, not reported in tabular format, including three mitigation actions in the agriculture and LULUCF sectors, four mitigation actions in the industrial processes and product use sector and one mitigation action in the waste sector. The sectors covered by the mitigation actions are consistent with those identified in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

43. In chapter 4.3 of the BUR, Argentina identified gaps, barriers, and technology and capacity-building needs to enhance the assessment and reporting of mitigation actions. The needs identified cover mitigation actions in the energy, industrial processes and product use, LULUCF and waste sectors. The TTE acknowledges the efforts made by Argentina to present this information in its BUR.

44. Information on the GHGs covered by each mitigation action was not provided in the BUR. Further information provided by Argentina during the technical analysis clarified that GHG emissions were not estimated and reported in the BUR due to the limited resources available at the time of preparing the BUR.

45. Information on the time frame and quantitative goals was not provided, due to the limited resources available at the time of preparing the BUR as clarified by Argentina during the technical analysis. Progress indicators for the implementation of mitigation actions are provided in table 4.2.1 of the BUR. Argentina clarified that additional information on the goals and progress indicators is included in its NC3, but it was not

¹ <<http://www.ambiente.gob.ar/?idseccion=356>>.

possible to include this information in the BUR due to the limited resources available at the time of preparing the BUR. Argentina highlighted that there is still a need to evaluate the progress indicators and define the metrics to present the effects of the mitigation actions. The TTE noted that Argentina could enhance the transparency of future reporting on mitigation actions by providing information on the quantitative goals, as well as a time frame for those goals.

46. The Party did not provide information in the BUR on the methodologies and assumptions used to assess the mitigation actions and their implementation. Argentina clarified during the technical analysis that this information was not provided because, while it was possible to identify the mitigation actions, the lack of resources meant that the Party was not able to define how those mitigation actions should be assessed. For the same reason, it was not possible to estimate the results and outcomes of the mitigation actions. No information was provided on the progress made in the implementation of the mitigation actions and the underlying steps taken or envisaged to achieve the mitigation actions. The TTE noted that the transparency could be enhanced in future BURs by providing information on the status of the mitigation actions and the steps taken and envisaged to achieve the mitigation actions.

47. Argentina did not provide information on international market mechanisms in the BUR. The Party clarified that this information was included in chapter 7.1.4 of its NC3. The TTE noted that the inclusion of information on international market mechanisms could enhance the transparency of the information reported in Argentina's BUR.

48. During the technical analysis Argentina clarified that challenges were faced while preparing the information on mitigation actions; the TTE commends the Party for its efforts to present an initial compilation of the mitigation actions in the country. Further, the TTE notes that Argentina is working towards enhancing the transparency of the information on mitigation actions in subsequent BURs.

4. Constraints and gaps, and related technology, financial, technical and capacity-building needs, including a description of support needed and received

49. "As indicated in table 3 above, Argentina reported in its BUR, in accordance with paragraphs 14–16 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs, information on finance, technology and capacity-building needs and support received."

50. Argentina transparently reported updated information on its barriers and related technical support needed, as well as on its technology, capacity-building and financing needs to obtain information related to its GHG inventory and mitigation measures. The financial needs identified were not monetized. Information on technological support received was not reported in the BUR. During the technical analysis, Argentina clarified that the scope of the information provided in its NC3 included the identification of capacity-building needs through a process of consultation with sectoral experts. The needs identified were related to mitigation measures only. The TTE noted that the inclusion of complete information on identified needs, not only in relation to mitigation but also in other areas, such as GHG inventories and technological support received, could enhance the transparency of the Party's future BURs.

51. In its BUR, Argentina reported updated information on financial resources received from various sources in the period 2010–2014, mostly from multilateral donors; the information was reported by donor and as an aggregated value. Argentina reported that it has received resources from 200 climate finance projects, 84 of which were related to low-carbon development. However, Argentina did not indicate the support needed and received in relation to capacity-building and technology transfer. The TTE notes that the transparency of reporting could be enhanced through further disaggregation of information

on support received by area, including adaptation, mitigation, financing, technology transfer and capacity-building.

52. The TTE acknowledges the efforts made by Argentina to report transparently on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity-building needs, as well as on financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and technical support received. In the interactions between the TTE and the Party, Argentina referred to a website² where information on the main donors and sources of international climate financing was further developed; the TTE acknowledges this information.

5. Domestic measurement, reporting and verification

53. Argentina did not provide information on the domestic MRV of mitigation action arrangements. Following the consultation between the TTE and Argentina, the Party clarified it is still working on the design of MRV of mitigation action arrangements for the plans, policies and measures described in the BUR. Argentina highlighted the various funding needs and delays that had hampered the preparation of the BUR, especially in relation to the provision of information on mitigation actions, and the arrangements for domestic MRV of mitigation actions. The TTE noted that the inclusion of information on the status of the design and implementation of MRV arrangements could enhance the transparency of the information reported in the BUR.

D. Identification of capacity-building needs

54. In consultation with Argentina, the TTE identified the following capacity-building needs related to the facilitation of the preparation of subsequent BURs and participation in ICA:

- (a) Further strengthen the existing institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of the BUR on a continuous basis;
- (b) Establish archiving and documenting systems, including systems for the updating of GHG inventories;
- (c) Obtain, integrate and analyse information to unify the process of preparation of BURs and national communications;
- (d) Recalculate the GHG inventory to ensure a consistent time series;
- (e) Report tier 1 estimates for the solvent and other product use sector as well as estimates of HFC emissions from air conditioning and refrigeration and SF₆ (other than from aluminium production);
- (f) Improve the methodologies and assumptions used for the estimation of uncertainties;
- (g) Provide transparent references to information reported in the national communication and national GHG inventory reports that is relevant to the BUR;
- (h) Enhance the presentation of information on mitigation actions with regard to the assessment of impacts in line with the requirements of paragraphs 11–13 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs;
- (i) Enhance the presentation of information on capacity-building needs to support the design and implementation of MRV arrangements;

² <<http://www.ambiente.gov.ar/?idseccion=356>>.

- (j) Ensure the continuous preparation of the BURs;
- (k) Identify financial, technology transfer and capacity-building needs and support received.

III. Conclusions

55. The TTE concludes that:

(a) Part of the elements of information listed in paragraph 3(a) of the ICA modalities and guidelines has been included in the first BUR of Argentina:

(b) The information transparently describes the national institutional arrangements for the preparation of Argentina's first BUR;

(i) Argentina uses mainly methodologies from the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines to prepare the GHG emission estimates; for the LULUCF sector, Argentina uses methodologies from the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF. The Party presents information on time-series emissions, key categories and the results of the uncertainty analysis. Argentina recognized that the time series of emissions provided is not consistent due to improvements applied to the estimates for recent years. During the technical analysis and in its BUR, Argentina referred to the online version of the complete GHG inventory, which provides information on methodologies, activity data and parameters used. The TTE commends Argentina for transparently reporting information on the challenges faced with regard to the calculation of the emission estimates and the implementation of QA procedures. The TTE noted that the inclusion of appropriate references to the GHG inventory available online could further enhance the transparency of the BUR;

(ii) Argentina provided information on 12 mitigation actions in tabular format covering the energy, transport and LULUCF sectors. As clarified by Argentina during the technical analysis, it was only possible to identify the mitigation actions that may have a direct impact on GHG emission reduction owing to the limited resources available at the time of preparing the BUR. The TTE notes that the inclusion of additional information on the steps taken and envisaged and the status of implementation of MRV of mitigation action arrangements could enhance the transparency of the reported information;

(iii) The TTE acknowledges the efforts made by Argentina to report transparently on constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity-building needs, as well as on financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and technical support received (including information on technology needs, which must be nationally determined, and on technology support received). Information on technological support received was not reported in the BUR. The TTE notes that the inclusion of this information in the next BUR could enhance the transparency of the reported information;

(iv) During the technical analysis, Argentina indicated that MRV of mitigation action arrangements has not been designed, and was therefore not reported in the BUR due to the limited resources available at the time of preparation of the BUR. The TTE noted that the inclusion of information on the status of the design and implementation of the MRV arrangements could increase the transparency of future BURs.

56. The TTE, in consultation with Argentina, identified 11³ capacity-building needs related to the facilitation of reporting in accordance with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BURs and to participation in ICA in accordance with the ICA modalities and guidelines, taking into account Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention. Argentina prioritized these as the capacity-building needs.

³ This refers to the number of capacity-building needs listed in chapter II.D.

Annex

Documents and information used during the technical analysis

Reference documents

“Composition, modalities and procedures of the team of technical experts for undertaking the technical analysis of biennial update reports from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”. Annex to decision 20/CP.19. Available at <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/cop19/eng/10a02.pdf#page=12>>.

“Modalities and guidelines for international consultation and analysis”. Annex IV to decision 2/CP.17. Available at <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf>>.

“UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”. Annex III to decision 2/CP.17. Available at <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/cop17/eng/09a01.pdf>>.

“Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention”. Annex to decision 17/CP.8. Available at <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/cop8/07a02.pdf#page=2>>.

First biennial update report of Argentina. Available at <<http://unfccc.int/8722.php>>.

Third national communication of Argentina. Available at <http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/items/2979.php>.
