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## **Summary report on the multilateral assessment of France at the forty-sixth 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) – international assessment and review (IAR) – that aims to promote the comparability of efforts among all developed country Parties. According to the modalities and procedures for IAR specified in annex II to decision 2/CP.17, the multilateral assessment (MA) 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.

2. The second round of MA of France took place at a working group session during SBI 46, on 12 May 2017. 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 France had been submitted by the following delegations: Australia, Brazil, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand and the United States of America. A list of the questions received and the answers provided by France, as well as the broadcast of the session, can be found on the IAR web page for France.<sup>1</sup> The Party can submit any other observations on its MA within two months of the working group session.

### **II. Proceedings**

3. The working group session was chaired by the SBI Chair, Mr. Tomasz Chruszczow. France was represented by Mr. Laurent Michel, General Director for Energy and Climate, Ministry of Environment, Energy and the Sea of France.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://unfccc.int/10094.php>.

4. Mr. Michel made an opening presentation, summarizing France's progress in implementation towards the achievement of emission reductions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target. As a European Union (EU) member State, France is committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020. France's emission reduction target for sectors covered by the EU effort-sharing decision (i.e. sectors not covered by the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS)) is 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

5. France's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions excluding emissions and removals from land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) decreased by 10.1 per cent between 1990 and 2013. The decrease in the total GHG emissions can be attributed mainly to emission reductions in the energy and industry sectors. Mr. Michel highlighted France's continuous reduction of emissions while its population and economic growth continued, signalling a decoupling of France's emissions from its economic growth. France further showed that green growth leading to a climate neutral future drives economic growth and jobs creation.

6. Mr. Michel presented France's key policies and measures to achieve its target, including the national law on energy transition for green growth. The law is a comprehensive action plan covering all sectors to put France on track towards a low-carbon economy. The law sets sub targets for many sectors, including a reduction target for fossil fuel consumption, a reduction target for energy consumption, a target to diversify electricity production, a target for increasing the share of renewable energy sources in the energy mix, and a reduction target for waste in landfills.

7. In addition, Mr. Michel reported on France's carbon budget approach, which will set it on track towards its national long-term goal of reducing GHG emissions by 40 and 75 per cent compared with the 1990 level by 2030 and 2050, respectively. The long-term low-carbon strategy has already been submitted to the secretariat.

8. On its use of units from LULUCF activities, Mr. Michel explained that emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector are not included in France's quantified economy-wide emission reduction target under the Convention. With regard to the use of units from market-based mechanisms under the Convention and other mechanisms, France reported that, currently, it does not intend to use units from any market-based mechanisms.

9. Given that its emissions from sectors covered by the EU ETS are subject to an EU-wide cap, France presented the projected level of emissions by 2020 from sectors not covered by the EU ETS under a 'with measures' scenario, which amounts to 3.9 per cent below the annual emission allocation for 2020. France expects to meet its target under the 'with measures' scenario.

10. The opening presentation was followed by interventions and questions from the following delegations: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Iran, New Zealand and Saudi Arabia. The questions were related to: the priority areas for emission reduction; planned policies and measures, in particular for the transport and LULUCF sectors; the national system to collect GHG data; cooperation with non-state actors and regional governments on climate issues; the assessment of response measures; and provision of support to developing countries for the implementation of nationally determined contributions.

11. In response, France provided further explanations, answering all the questions. In particular, France explained how it achieved the decoupling of its emissions from its economic and population growth and how it increased its provision of support for climate action in developing countries. Furthermore, Mr. Michel elaborated in detail on France's

planned policies and measures to reduce emissions from the transport and LULUCF sectors in order to achieve its targets.

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