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Annual reports on technical reviews

**Technical review of greenhouse gas inventories and other
information reported by Parties included in Annex I, as defined
in Article 1, paragraph 7, of the Kyoto Protocol**

Technical review of greenhouse gas inventories and other information reported by Parties included in Annex I, as defined in Article 1, paragraph 7, of the Kyoto Protocol

Report by the secretariat

Summary

This report provides information on the status of submission and review of the annual information required under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, including greenhouse gas inventories and supplementary information, and activities during the 2020 and 2021 review cycles, including the review of the reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. It also provides information on review training activities for experts participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, and on the compilation of the information submitted by Parties on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol.



Abbreviations and acronyms

CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
CR*	centralized review
ERT	expert review team
GHG	greenhouse gas
ICR	in-country review
KP-LULUCF activities	activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3–4, of the Kyoto Protocol
LR	lead reviewer
LULUCF	land use, land-use change and forestry
NA	not applicable
QELRC	quantified emission limitation or reduction commitment
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

* Used exclusively in table 2.

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The secretariat is to prepare an annual report to the SBSTA on the composition of the ERTs participating in the review of the information submitted under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, including the selection of experts for the review teams and the LRs.^{1,2} In addition, the LRs of GHG inventories are collectively to prepare an annual report to the SBSTA with suggestions on how to improve the review process.³
2. CMP 11 requested the secretariat to include in its report information on the training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, in particular information on examination procedures and the selection of trainees and instructors, in order for Parties to assess the effectiveness of the programme.⁴
3. Finally, the secretariat is to annually compile information submitted by Parties on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol.⁵

B. Scope of the report

4. This report provides information on:
 - (a) The status of submission of the annual information required from Parties included in Annex I⁶ and the review of that information, including their GHG inventories, and the review of the reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (see chap. II below);⁷
 - (b) The selection of experts and LRs for the review process and their participation in the process (see chap. III below);
 - (c) The annual report to the SBSTA prepared by the LRs in accordance with the annex to decision 22/CMP.1, in conjunction with decision 4/CMP.11, including their conclusions and recommendations on how to improve the review process (see chap. IV below);
 - (d) The training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol (see chap. V below);
 - (e) The compilation of information on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol (see chap. VI below).
5. In accordance with the “Guidelines for review under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol”, the review under the Kyoto Protocol encompasses the existing review under the Convention. The lessons learned and challenges in the review processes under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol have many common elements. This report focuses on the elements of the review process that are specific to the Kyoto Protocol and should be read in conjunction with the annual report on the technical review of GHG inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention.⁸

¹ As per decision 22/CMP.1, annex, para. 35.

² Information on the composition of the ERTs participating in the review of the information submitted under Article 7, para. 1, of the Kyoto Protocol can be found in document FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.4, chap. II.B.2.

³ As per decision 22/CMP.1, annex, para. 40(a).

⁴ Decision 5/CMP.11, para. 3.

⁵ As per decision 15/CMP.1, annex, para. 26.

⁶ As defined in Article 1, para. 7, of the Kyoto Protocol.

⁷ The Doha Amendment entered into force on 31 December 2020.

⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.4.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

6. The SBSTA will be invited to take note of this report.

II. Submission and review of information from Parties included in Annex I

A. Annual submissions for 2021

7. The annual inventory submission under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol comprises the national inventory report and the common reporting format tables. In addition, Parties included in Annex I must submit supplementary information under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol. The due date of the annual submission is 15 April. Parties making their submissions after the due date can delay the review process, making the preparation of the review tools to support the review process more difficult, and the GHG inventory data of such Parties may not be included in the relevant reports prepared by the secretariat.

8. As at 31 October 2021, the secretariat had received 42 submissions from Parties included in Annex I (see table 1). Most of the submissions⁹ contain tables with accounting units prepared in the standard electronic format, which are part of the supplementary information under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol: 28 Parties submitted tables in this format for the first commitment period and 39 Parties for the second commitment period.

9. Status reports for the 21 submissions subject to individual review were prepared and published on the UNFCCC website,¹⁰ and forwarded to the Compliance Committee. The secretariat coordinated individual reviews of only 21 of the submissions¹¹ referred to in paragraph 8 above owing to there being insufficient resources in the UNFCCC core budget for organizing the 2021 review cycle fully in accordance with relevant mandates, and insufficient supplementary funding available as at 30 April 2021 (the latest date for the start of preparations for the review cycle) to complement the resources from the core budget.¹² Of the individual reviews, 15 were organized as five centralized reviews (being conducted remotely between 6 September and 23 October 2021) and 6 as three desk reviews (conducted between 30 August and 2 October 2021). The reports on the reviews are in preparation.

Table 1

Submission of the annual information required under the Kyoto Protocol in 2021

Party	Original submission dates			
	National inventory report	Common reporting format tables	Standard electronic format tables for the first commitment period	Standard electronic format tables for the second commitment period
Australia	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Austria	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021

⁹ With the exception of the 2021 submissions of Belarus and Turkey, which were made under the Convention only.

¹⁰ <https://unfccc.int/ghg-inventories-annex-i-parties/2021>. Aside from the 21 status reports prepared for Parties subject to individual review under the Kyoto Protocol in 2021, the secretariat prepared status reports for another 20 Parties.

¹¹ Australia, Belarus, Czechia, Denmark, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Ukraine. In addition, the secretariat organized the review of Canada, which is a Party included in Annex I to the Convention but not a Party to the Kyoto Protocol.

¹² For more information about the financial circumstances, see document FCCC/SBSTA/2020/INF.4, paras. 7–9.

<i>Party</i>	<i>Original submission dates</i>			
	<i>National inventory report</i>	<i>Common reporting format tables</i>	<i>Standard electronic format tables for the first commitment period</i>	<i>Standard electronic format tables for the second commitment period</i>
Belarus	19 April 2021 ^a	14 April 2021 ^a	–	–
Belgium	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	14 April 2021
Bulgaria	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Croatia	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Cyprus	13 April 2021	9 April 2021	–	12 April 2021
Czechia	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	–	15 April 2021
Denmark	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Estonia	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	–	15 April 2021
European Union	15 April 2021	14 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021
Finland	14 April 2021	13 April 2021	–	26 March 2021
France	13 April 2021	21 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021
Germany	15 April 2021	14 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Greece	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Hungary	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Iceland	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Ireland	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021
Italy	12 April 2021	12 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021
Japan	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021
Kazakhstan ^b	28 May 2021	16 April 2021	28 May 2021	28 May 2021
Latvia	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	–	14 April 2021
Liechtenstein	15 April 2021	14 April 2021	–	14 April 2021
Lithuania	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Luxembourg	14 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	13 April 2021
Malta	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	17 April 2021	17 April 2021
Monaco	13 April 2021	14 April 2021	7 April 2021	7 April 2021
Netherlands	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	–	15 April 2021
New Zealand	15 April 2021	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	14 April 2021
Norway	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Poland	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	14 April 2021
Portugal	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	12 April 2021	12 April 2021
Romania	13 April 2021	13 April 2021	8 May 2021	13 April 2021
Russian Federation	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	–	–
Slovakia	15 April 2021	14 April 2021	15 April 2021	15 April 2021
Slovenia	15 April 2021	12 April 2021	–	12 April 2021
Spain	15 March 2021	15 March 2021	15 March 2021	15 March 2021
Sweden	14 April 2021	14 April 2021	–	14 April 2021
Switzerland	12 April 2021	12 April 2021	12 April 2021	12 April 2021
Turkey ^c	13 April 2021 ^a	13 April 2021 ^a	–	–

Party	Original submission dates			
	National inventory report	Common reporting format tables	Standard electronic format tables for the first commitment period	Standard electronic format tables for the second commitment period
Ukraine	23 April 2021	15 April 2021	–	14 April 2021
United Kingdom	15 April 2021	15 April 2021	–	15 April 2021

^a Submission made under the Convention only.

^b Kazakhstan is considered to be a Party included in Annex I for the purpose of the Kyoto Protocol while remaining a Party not included in Annex I to the Convention for the purpose of the Convention (FCCC/KP/CMP/2009/21, para. 91).

^c Although Turkey is considered to be a Party included in Annex I for the purpose of the Kyoto Protocol, in the absence of commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period, its reporting obligations under Article 7, para. 1, of the Kyoto Protocol do not appear to be triggered in relation to that period.

B. Review of the reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol

10. CMP 8 decided that each Party with a QELRC inscribed in the third column of Annex B in the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol¹³ was to submit to the secretariat by 15 April 2015 a report to facilitate the calculation of its assigned amount pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7 bis, 8 and 8 bis, of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period and demonstrate its capacity to account for its emissions and assigned amount.¹⁴

11. In 2016, the secretariat received 35 reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period. The secretariat received the reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period of Kazakhstan and Monaco on 4 July 2017 and 4 August 2017, respectively. As at 31 October 2021, Belarus had not submitted its report to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period. All the published review reports¹⁵ are available on the UNFCCC website.¹⁶ See table 2 for the dates of the review and publication of the review reports (as at 31 October 2021).

Table 2

Review of the reports to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol and demonstrate the capacity to account for emissions and the assigned amount

Party	Review dates (review type)	Review report publication date
Australia	5–10 September 2016 (CR)	27 April 2017
Austria	26 September to 1 October 2016 (CR)	31 May 2017
Belarus ^a	Not subject to review ^b	NA
Belgium	12–17 September 2016 (CR)	20 June 2017
Bulgaria	10–15 October 2016 (ICR)	21 June 2017
Croatia	19–24 September 2016 (CR)	30 March 2017
Cyprus ^a	12–17 September 2016 (ICR)	20 October 2017
Czechia	29 August to 3 September 2016 (CR)	31 August 2017
Denmark	26 September to 1 October 2016 (ICR)	9 August 2017
Estonia	19–24 September 2016 (CR)	22 March 2017

¹³ Decision 1/CMP.8, annex I.

¹⁴ Decision 2/CMP.8, para. 2.

¹⁵ Pursuant to the annex to decision 22/CMP.1, in conjunction with decision 4/CMP.11.

¹⁶ <https://unfccc.int/process/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-kyoto-protocol/second-commitment-period/initial-reports>.

<i>Party</i>	<i>Review dates (review type)</i>	<i>Review report publication date</i>
European Union	19–24 September 2016 (CR)	14 May 2018
Finland	5–10 September 2016 (CR)	16 March 2017
France	19–24 September 2016 (ICR)	26 July 2017
Germany	19–24 September 2016 (ICR)	13 April 2017
Greece	29 August to 3 September 2016 (CR)	31 August 2017
Hungary	19–24 September 2016 (ICR)	10 March 2017
Iceland	19–24 September 2016 (CR)	30 March 2017
Ireland	29 August to 3 September 2016 (CR)	20 July 2017
Italy	26 September to 1 October 2016 (CR)	1 June 2017
Japan ^c	NA	NA
Kazakhstan ^{a, d}	18–23 September 2017 (ICR)	18 February 2019
Latvia	29 August to 3 September 2016 (CR)	7 March 2017
Liechtenstein	26 September to 1 October 2016 (CR)	21 September 2017
Lithuania	5–10 September 2016 (CR)	6 March 2017
Luxembourg	26 September to 1 October 2016 (CR)	30 August 2017
Malta ^a	10–15 October 2016 (ICR)	21 July 2017
Monaco	25–30 September 2017 (CR)	23 March 2018
Netherlands	19–24 September 2016 (CR)	23 June 2017
New Zealand ^c	26 September to 1 October 2016 (CR)	10 August 2017
Norway	29 August to 3 September 2016 (CR)	28 March 2017
Poland	12–17 September 2016 (CR)	21 June 2017
Portugal	12–17 September 2016 (CR)	5 September 2017
Romania	12–17 September 2016 (CR)	21 June 2017
Russian Federation ^c	NA	NA
Slovakia	5–10 September 2016 (CR)	3 March 2017
Slovenia	26 September to 1 October 2016 (CR)	22 August 2017
Spain	12–17 September 2016 (CR)	14 July 2017
Sweden	29 August to 3 September 2016 (CR)	6 April 2017
Switzerland	5–10 September 2016 (ICR)	20 April 2017
Turkey	NA	NA
Ukraine ^d	5–10 September 2016 (CR)	20 April 2017
United Kingdom	12–17 September 2016 (CR)	4 December 2017

^a Belarus, Cyprus, Kazakhstan and Malta did not have a QELRC for the first commitment period but have a QELRC for the second commitment period.

^b As at 31 October 2021, Belarus had not submitted its report to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period.

^c Japan, New Zealand and the Russian Federation had a QELRC for the first commitment period but do not have a QELRC for the second commitment period. Therefore, they have no obligation to submit a report to facilitate the calculation of the assigned amount for the second commitment period.

^d As at 31 October 2021, Kazakhstan and Ukraine had not ratified the Doha Amendment.

III. Expert review teams and lead reviewers

12. The information provided in the annual submissions under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, including the GHG inventories, is examined by international teams of experts selected by the secretariat from the individuals nominated by Parties to the UNFCCC roster of experts. Invitations to experts to participate in the review are copied to the national focal point. Only experts who have taken the training courses under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and passed the corresponding examinations can participate in the review of annual submissions (see chap. V below).

13. The annual report on the technical review of GHG inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention provides more information on the organization of reviews and the number of experts participating in the reviews in 2021 and their nominating Parties.¹⁷

IV. Meeting of greenhouse gas inventory lead reviewers

14. The 18th meeting of GHG inventory LRs took place from 22 to 26 March 2021 and was held as a virtual meeting owing to the circumstances related to the coronavirus disease 2019. Of the 53 experts from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention invited to the meeting, 33 attended, including one acting as a representative of the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In the case of experts from Parties included in Annex I, 68 were invited and 54 attended. In addition, one member of the facilitative branch of the Compliance Committee, one representative of the International Energy Agency, two representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and one representative of the European Environment Agency attended the meeting as observers.

15. The meeting facilitated the work of the LRs in fulfilling their task of ensuring the consistency of reviews across Parties and in providing suggestions on how to improve the quality, efficiency and consistency of the reviews.¹⁸ The conclusions and recommendations from the 18th meeting of GHG inventory LRs will be made available for consideration by the SBSTA.^{19, 20}

V. Training of experts

A. Training programme for experts participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol

16. Since 2006, the secretariat has been implementing the updated training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol with the aim of training them for the review of information submitted under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol.²¹ All training courses and final examinations are offered online, in some cases with the support of an instructor, subject to the availability of resources.

17. The updated training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol was launched in 2016 in order to prepare them for conducting the reviews in the second commitment period.²² All courses – including on national systems, application of adjustments, modalities for the accounting of assigned

¹⁷ See document FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.4, chap. II.B.2.

¹⁸ As per decision 13/CP.20, annex; decision 22/CMP.1, annex, in conjunction with decision 4/CMP.11; and decision 24/CMP.1, annex II.

¹⁹ As per decisions 13/CP.20, annex, para. 44, and 22/CMP.1, annex, para. 40(a).

²⁰ See the annex to document FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.4 and <https://unfccc.int/process/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/greenhouse-gas-inventories-annex-i-parties/review-process>.

²¹ As per decisions 24/CMP.1 and 8/CMP.5.

²² As per decision 5/CMP.11.

amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol, review of national registries and information on assigned amounts, and review of KP-LULUCF activities – have been updated to reflect the reporting requirements for Parties in the initial and subsequent years of the second commitment period. The format of the courses and examinations has not changed since the first commitment period.

18. To ensure that ERTs have the skills and knowledge to meet the requirements of the reviews in the second commitment period both new experts and experts who participated in the reviews during the first commitment period must pass certain examinations in order to participate in ERTs or take on the role of LR, generalist or reviewer for KP-LULUCF activities.²³ Experienced experts have been invited to take part in the updated training programme.

B. Implementation of the training programme

19. In 2021, 17 experts, including 11 new reviewers, took and passed at least one examination for the courses under the training programme. As a result, eight new experts, including two LULUCF experts and three generalists, became eligible to participate in the reviews for the second commitment period. Regarding experienced experts, one expert became eligible for the role of LR by passing the examination for the course on the review of KP-LULUCF activities for non-LULUCF experts.

VI. Compilation of information on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol

20. The secretariat compiles the supplementary information submitted annually by Parties relating to how they are striving, under Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol, to implement their commitments under Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol in such a way as to minimize adverse social, environmental and economic impacts on developing country Parties, particularly those identified in Article 4, paragraphs 8–9, of the Convention, and information on any changes that have occurred compared with the information reported in their previous annual submissions.²⁴

21. The compilation is also to include information on how Parties included in Annex I that are also included in Annex II to the Convention and other Parties included in Annex I that are in a position to do so give priority in implementing their commitments under Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol to the actions referred to in decision 15/CMP.1, annex, paragraph 24, on the basis of relevant methodologies referred to in decision 31/CMP.1, paragraph 11.²⁵

22. The compilation based on the annual submissions received for 2020 was published on 24 September 2020,²⁶ while work on the compilation for 2021 is in progress.

²³ As per decision 5/CMP.11, annex.

²⁴ As per decision 15/CMP.1, annex, para. 26.

²⁵ As per decision 15/CMP.1, annex, para. 24.

²⁶ Available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/workstreams/response-measures/compilation-reports-on-article-314-of-the-kyoto-protocol>.