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Report on the technical review of the fourth biennial report of France

Developed country Parties were requested by decision 2/CP.17 to submit their fourth biennial report to the secretariat by 1 January 2020. This report presents the results of the technical review of the fourth biennial report of France, conducted by an expert review team in accordance with the “Guidelines for the technical review of information reported under the Convention related to greenhouse gas inventories, biennial reports and national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention”. The review took place from 27 April to 1 May 2020 remotely.

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Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Abbreviations and acronyms	3
I. Introduction and summary	4
A. Introduction	4
B. Summary.....	4
II. Technical review of the information reported in the fourth biennial report	5
A. Information on greenhouse gas emissions and removals related to the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target	5
B. Quantified economy-wide emission reduction target and related assumptions, conditions and methodologies	7
C. Progress made towards achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target	8
D. Provision of financial, technological and capacity-building support to developing country Parties	19
III. Conclusions and recommendations	26
Annex	
Documents and information used during the review	28

Abbreviations and acronyms

AEA	annual emission allocation
AFD	French Development Agency
AR	Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
BR	biennial report
CH ₄	methane
COP	Conference of the Parties
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
CO ₂ eq	carbon dioxide equivalent
CTF	common tabular format
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
ERT	expert review team
ESD	European Union effort-sharing decision
EU	European Union
EU ETS	European Union Emissions Trading System
F-gas	fluorinated gas
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gas
HFC	hydrofluorocarbon
IE	included elsewhere
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPPU	industrial processes and product use
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
LDC	least developed country
LULUCF	land use, land-use change and forestry
NA	not applicable
NC	national communication
NDC	nationally determined contribution
NE	not estimated
NECP	National Energy and Climate Plan
NF ₃	nitrogen trifluoride
NO	not occurring
non-Annex I Party	Party not included in Annex I to the Convention
N ₂ O	nitrous oxide
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PaMs	policies and measures
PFC	perfluorocarbon
SF ₆	sulfur hexafluoride
UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs	“UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties”
UNFCCC reporting guidelines on NCs	“Guidelines for the preparation of national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, Part II: UNFCCC reporting guidelines on national communications”
WAM	‘with additional measures’
WEM	‘with measures’
WOM	‘without measures’

I. Introduction and summary

A. Introduction

1. This is a report on the centralized technical review of the BR4¹ of France. The review was organized by the secretariat in accordance with the “Guidelines for the technical review of information reported under the Convention related to greenhouse gas inventories, biennial reports and national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention”, particularly “Part IV: UNFCCC guidelines for the technical review of biennial reports from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention” (annex to decision 13/CP.20).

2. In accordance with the same decision, a draft version of this report was transmitted to the Government of France, which provided comments that were considered and incorporated, as appropriate, with revisions into this final version of the report.

3. The review was conducted together with the review of five other Parties included in Annex I to the Convention from 27 April to 1 May 2020 remotely² by the following team of nominated experts from the UNFCCC roster of experts: Niculina Mihaela Balanescu (Romania), Federico Brocchieri (Italy), Ngozi Eze (Nigeria), Elizabeth Adobi Okwuosa (Kenya), Robert Pismo (Cameroon), Sukhjit Singh (Trinidad and Tobago), Vicente Paolo Yu (Philippines) and Sumaya Ahmed Zakieldeem (Sudan). Mr. Brocchieri and Ms. Eze were the lead reviewers. The review was coordinated by Karin Simonson and Davor Vesligaj (secretariat).

B. Summary

4. The ERT conducted a technical review of the information reported in the BR4 of France in accordance with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs (annex I to decision 2/CP.17).

1. Timeliness

5. The BR4 was submitted on 8 January 2020, after the deadline of 1 January 2020 mandated by decision 2/CP.17. The CTF tables were also submitted on 8 January 2020. France submitted its BR4 in French and also provided a version in English. The BR4 and the CTF tables were resubmitted on 15 May 2020 to address issues raised during the review. The resubmission included additional information on PaMs, projections and financial support provided. Unless otherwise specified, the information and values from the latest submission are used in this report.

6. France informed the secretariat on 8 January 2020 about its difficulties with making a timely submission. In accordance with decision 13/CP.20, a Party should inform the secretariat thereof by the due date of the submission in order to facilitate the arrangement of the review process. The ERT noted with concern the delay in the submission and recommended that France make its next submission on time.

2. Completeness, transparency of reporting and adherence to the reporting guidelines

7. Issues and gaps identified by the ERT related to the reported information are presented in table 1. The information reported by France in its BR4 mostly adheres to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs.

¹ The BR submission comprises the text of the report and the CTF tables, which are both subject to the technical review.

² Owing to the circumstances related to the coronavirus disease 2019, the technical review of the BR submitted by France had to be conducted remotely.

Table 1
Summary of completeness and transparency of mandatory information reported by France in its fourth biennial report

<i>Section of BR</i>	<i>Completeness</i>	<i>Transparency</i>	<i>Reference to description of recommendation(s)</i>
GHG emissions and removals	Complete	Transparent	–
Quantified economy-wide emission reduction target and related assumptions, conditions and methodologies	Complete	Transparent	–
Progress in achievement of targets	Complete	Transparent	–
Provision of support to developing country Parties	Mostly complete	Mostly transparent	Issues 1, 2 and 4 in table 11

Note: A list of recommendations pertaining to the completeness and transparency issues identified in this table is included in chap. III below. The assessment of completeness and transparency by the ERT in this table is based only on the “shall” reporting requirements.

II. Technical review of the information reported in the fourth biennial report

A. Information on greenhouse gas emissions and removals related to the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

1. Technical assessment of the reported information

8. Total GHG emissions³ excluding emissions and removals from LULUCF decreased by 18.0 per cent between 1990 and 2018, whereas total GHG emissions including net emissions or removals from LULUCF decreased by 19.4 per cent over the same period. Emissions peaked in 1991 and decreased thereafter despite population growth of 15 per cent and GDP growth of 52 per cent between 1990 and 2017. The decline in total emissions was driven mainly by factors such as changes in the energy mix, including the substitution of coal and expansion of renewable energies, and increasingly energy-efficient industrial processes, combined with a shift towards a more service-based economy (i.e. away from industrial production). Overall, mitigation measures have contributed to curbing the growth in energy use, developing renewable energy strategies, introducing carbon pricing and broadly raising awareness of the importance of addressing climate change.

9. Table 2 illustrates the emission trends by sector and by gas for France. Note that information in this paragraph and table 2 is based on France’s 2020 annual submission, version 1, which has not yet been subject to review. All emission data in subsequent chapters are based on France’s BR4 CTF tables unless otherwise noted. The emissions reported in the 2020 annual submission for the most part do not differ significantly from those reported in CTF table 1. For the observed years (i.e. those included in table 2), for most of the categories for 1990, 2000 and 2010 the difference is less than 0.5 per cent. However, the estimates for NF₃ emissions differ by up to 1.1 per cent, while the emission estimates for the LULUCF and waste sectors differ by up to 6.5 per cent for 1990, 2000 and 2010. The estimates for 2017 show the greatest differences, with the emission estimates for the LULUCF sector differing by 26.4 per cent and the estimates for NF₃ emissions by 24.6 per cent.

³ In this report, the term “total GHG emissions” refers to the aggregated national GHG emissions expressed in terms of CO₂ eq excluding LULUCF, unless otherwise specified.

Table 2
Greenhouse gas emissions by sector and by gas for France for 1990–2018

	GHG emissions (kt CO ₂ eq)					Change (%)		Share (%)	
	1990	2000	2010	2017	2018	1990–2018	2017–2018	1990	2018
<i>Sector</i>									
1. Energy	383 643.53	397 045.91	371 656.13	332 228.88	318 344.48	–17.0	–4.2	69.6	71.3
A1. Energy industries	66 453.52	62 961.97	60 364.35	50 362.97	42 201.15	–36.5	–16.2	12.1	11.3
A2. Manufacturing industries and construction	79 706.42	79 294.36	61 084.64	54 662.53	55 682.77	–30.1	1.9	14.5	14.2
A3. Transport	123 823.69	142 083.25	136 182.91	135 885.45	133 459.53	7.8	–1.8	22.5	25.5
A4. and A5. Other	102 660.46	104 843.98	108 229.17	87 265.02	82 892.91	–19.3	–5.0	18.6	18.8
B. Fugitive emissions from fuels	10 999.43	7 862.36	5 795.06	4 052.91	4 108.12	–62.7	1.4	2.0	1.4
C. CO ₂ transport and storage	NO, IE	NO, IE	NO, IE	NO, IE	NO, IE				
2. IPPU	67 492.37	54 283.68	47 560.76	43 753.53	41 204.56	–38.9	–5.8	12.2	9.8
3. Agriculture	82 706.68	83 050.60	76 757.75	76 451.12	75 028.74	–9.3	–1.9	15.0	14.9
4. LULUCF	–21 598.95	–16 853.77	–36 882.45	–26 314.37	–25 381.62	17.5	–3.5	–3.9	–3.0
5. Waste	17 562.20	22 309.61	21 018.94	18 159.67	17 631.90	0.4	–2.9	3.2	4.0
6. Other ^a	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NA	NA	NA	NA
<i>Gas^b</i>									
CO ₂	403 307.24	419 232.28	393 717.82	352 178.98	338 327.10	–16.1	–3.9	73.1	75.3
CH ₄	69 877.30	70 147.72	62 197.36	57 378.98	56 500.00	–19.1	–1.5	12.7	12.6
N ₂ O	66 380.59	55 215.22	41 992.93	42 013.07	40 322.26	–39.3	–4.0	12.0	9.9
HFCs	4 402.20	6 700.69	17 559.40	17 842.01	15 957.60	262.5	–10.6	0.8	1.2
PFCs	5 202.47	2 997.49	617.37	707.68	679.84	–86.9	–3.9	0.9	0.5
SF ₆	2 218.51	2 376.51	876.58	464.83	410.63	–81.5	–11.7	0.4	0.0
NF ₃	16.48	19.89	32.13	7.64	12.25	–25.7	60.4	0.0	0.0
Total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF	551 404.78	556 689.81	516 993.59	470 593.20	452 209.68	–18.0	–3.9	100.0	100.0
Total GHG emissions including LULUCF	529 805.82	539 836.04	80 111.14	444 278.82	426 828.06	–19.4	–3.9	NA	NA

Source: GHG emission data: France's 2020 annual submission, version 1.

^a Emissions and removals reported under the sector other (sector 6) are not included in the total GHG emissions.

^b Emissions by gas without LULUCF. The Party did not report indirect CO₂ emissions.

10. In brief, France's national inventory arrangements were established in accordance with the interministerial decree of 24 August 2011 on the National System for Air Emission Inventories and Audits. Since 2004, the Deposits and Consignments Fund has been responsible for administering the national registry and developing and maintaining its operations. In 2012, the French national registry was migrated to the EU registry, and the European Commission is now responsible for the registry in relation to the EU ETS. France confirmed that there have been no changes in these arrangements since the BR3.

2. Assessment of adherence to the reporting guidelines

11. The ERT assessed the information reported in the BR4 of France and recognized that the reporting is complete, transparent and thus adhering to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. No issues relating to the topics discussed in this chapter of the review report were raised during the review.

B. Quantified economy-wide emission reduction target and related assumptions, conditions and methodologies

1. Technical assessment of the reported information

12. For France the Convention entered into force on 23 June 1994. Under the Convention France committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU economy-wide emission reduction target of 20 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020.

13. The target for the EU and its member States is formalized in the EU 2020 climate and energy package. The legislative package regulates emissions of CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs and SF₆ using global warming potential values from the AR4 to aggregate the GHG emissions of the EU until 2020. Emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector are not included in the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target under the Convention. The EU generally allows its member States to use units from the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms for compliance purposes, subject to a number of restrictions in terms of origin and type of project and up to an established limit. Operators and airline operators can use such units to fulfil their requirements under the EU ETS, and member States can use such units for their national ESD targets, within specific limitations.

14. The EU 2020 climate and energy package includes the EU ETS and the ESD (see paras. 27–28 below). The EU ETS covers mainly point emissions sources in the energy, industry and aviation sectors. An EU-wide emission cap has been put in place for 2013–2020 with the goal of reducing emissions by 21 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020. Emissions from ESD sectors are regulated through member State specific targets that add up to a reduction at the EU level of 10 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

15. The European Commission set out its vision for a climate-neutral EU in November 2018, and in December 2019 presented the European Green Deal as a road map with actions for making the EU economy sustainable. The European Council endorsed in December 2019 the objective of making the EU climate-neutral by 2050. As part of the European Green Deal, the Commission proposed in March 2020 to enshrine the 2050 climate-neutrality target into the first European Climate Law. The European Green Deal calls for increased ambition in the 2030 emission reduction target to at least 50 per cent below the 1990 level. Member States will set out any increased ambition in the update of their NECPs.

16. France has a national target of reducing its total GHG emissions to 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020 for sectors under the ESD. This target has been translated into binding quantified AEAs for 2013–2020. France's AEAs change from 394,076.35 kt CO₂ eq in 2013 to 342,475.08 kt CO₂ eq in 2020.⁴

17. In 2017, France issued its long-term low-emission development strategy pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 19, of the Paris Agreement. In 2018, it updated the strategy and committed to overall GHG emission reductions of 40 per cent below the 1990 level by 2030 and 75 per cent below the 1990 level by 2050. These commitments require annual reductions of 9–10 Mt CO₂ eq in order to meet the 2050 target. Overall reductions are supported by sector-specific emission reduction targets for 2050, including targets for the transport (66 per cent), buildings (87 per cent), agriculture (50 per cent), industry (75 per cent), energy (96 per cent) and waste (33 per cent) sectors.

18. In 2019, under its Law on Energy and Climate, France set a legally binding national target of reducing GHG emissions by 40 per cent compared with the 1990 level by 2030. The new climate law also launched a process to reach carbon neutrality by 2050, which requires emissions to be decreased by a factor of at least six and balancing domestic emissions and removals. France has indicated that this goal would be accounted using the same methods as under the UNFCCC and without using international offsets.

⁴ European Commission decision 2017/1471 amended decision 2013/162/EU to revise member States' AEAs for 2017–2020.

2. Assessment of adherence to the reporting guidelines

19. The ERT assessed the information reported in the BR4 of France and recognized that the reporting is complete, transparent and thus adhering to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. No issues relating to the topics discussed in this chapter of the review report were raised during the review.

C. Progress made towards achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

1. Mitigation actions and their effects

(a) Technical assessment of the reported information

20. France provided information on its package of PaMs implemented, adopted and planned, by sector and by gas, in order to fulfil its commitments under the Convention. It reported detailed information on its policy context and legal and institutional arrangements in place for implementing its commitments and monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of its PaMs.

21. France provided information on a set of PaMs similar to those previously reported, with a few exceptions. It also provided information on changes since its previous submission to its institutional, legal, administrative and procedural arrangements used for domestic compliance, monitoring, reporting, archiving of information and evaluation of progress towards its target. France reported that its institutional arrangements for monitoring and assessing climate change policies have been strengthened since 2017, including through an update to the National Low-Carbon Strategy, which now includes the goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050, and the establishment of the High Council for the Climate in 2019. The Council regularly provides input and recommendations on compliance with the emission reduction trajectory in terms of the carbon budgets set in the National Low-Carbon Strategy, the implementation and effectiveness of PaMs of the national and local governments, and the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of these public policies.

22. In its reporting on its PaMs, France provided the estimated emission reduction impacts for some of its PaMs, explaining that only the primary PaMs (i.e. those expected to provide the largest mitigation impacts) were subject to a quantitative evaluation. Several other mitigation measures could not be evaluated owing to methodological challenges. Additionally, France estimated the impacts of some of its PaMs as groups. As a result, individual estimates do not exist for all reported PaMs.

23. France provided information on the general methodology used to estimate the impacts of its PaMs. As described in its 2019 report under the EU monitoring mechanism regulation, the evaluation of PaMs is a multi-step process: describing the measure; describing the evaluation methodology (including hypotheses, data sets and calculations); and analysing the results of the evaluation, which involves comparing them with other results, identifying factors that could have affected the results, and describing and quantifying non-GHG impacts (e.g. co-benefits, potential negative impacts, costs).

24. France reported on its self-assessment of compliance with its emission reduction targets, although it did not include information on national rules for taking action against non-compliance. As an EU member State, France does not have an individual target for 2020 under the Convention. Nevertheless, in line with the rules set out in the EU climate and energy package for 2020, France reported that it is on track to meet its ESD objective for 2020.

25. The key overarching related cross-sectoral policy in the EU is the 2020 climate and energy package, adopted in 2009, which includes the revised EU ETS and the ESD. The package is supplemented by renewable energy and energy efficiency legislation and legislative proposals on the 2020 targets for CO₂ emissions from cars and vans, the carbon capture and storage directive, and the general programmes for environmental conservation, namely the 7th Environment Action Programme and the clean air policy package. The 2030

climate and energy framework, adopted in 2014, includes more ambitious targets which will be updated as part of the European Green Deal.

26. The achievement of the Energy Union objectives and targets is ensured through a combination of Energy Union initiatives and national policies set out in integrated NECPs. The NECPs are periodically updated to reflect changes to EU policy, such as the implementation of the European Green Deal. During the review, France explained that its NECP is based on its National Low-Carbon Strategy, which sets out guidelines for all business sectors to transition to a low-carbon economy, and the 2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan, which establishes the national priorities for government action. France's NECP document sets out its domestic objectives for 2030, including targets to increase energy efficiency by at least 32.5 per cent (relative to 'business as usual'), to increase the share of renewable energy to at least 32 per cent of the EU energy mix in 2030, to reduce GHG emissions excluding LULUCF and sectors covered by the EU ETS by 37 per cent compared with the 2005 level, and, for the LULUCF sector, a target that sectoral emissions do not exceed removals compared with the 2005–2009 benchmark.

27. In operation since 2005, the EU ETS is a cap-and-trade system that covers all significant energy-intensive installations (mainly large point emissions sources such as power plants and industrial facilities), which produce 40–45 per cent of the GHG emissions of the EU. It is expected that the EU ETS will guarantee that the 2020 target (a 21 per cent emission reduction below the 2005 level) will be achieved for sectors under the scheme. The third phase of the EU ETS started in 2013 and the system now includes aircraft operations (since 2012) as well as N₂O emissions from chemical industry, PFC emissions from aluminium production and CO₂ emissions from some industrial processes that were not covered in the previous phases of the EU ETS (since 2013). Auctioning is the default method for allocating allowances; however, harmonized rules for free allocations, based on benchmark values achieved by the most efficient 10 per cent of installations, are still in place as a safeguard for the international competitiveness of industrial sectors at risk of carbon leakage. For 2030, an emission reduction target of 43 per cent below the 2005 level has been set for the EU ETS.

28. The ESD became operational in 2013 and covers transport (excluding domestic and international aviation, and international maritime transport), residential and commercial buildings, agriculture and waste, together accounting for 55–60 per cent of the GHG emissions of the EU. The aim of the ESD is to decrease GHG emissions in the EU by 10 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020, and it includes binding annual targets for each member State for 2013–2020. For France, this corresponds to a 14 per cent reduction in GHG emissions compared with the 2005 level by 2020. The EU effort-sharing regulation, successor to the ESD, was adopted in 2018. It sets an overall EU target of a 30 per cent emission reduction below the 2005 level by 2030. Moreover, it sets national emission reduction targets for 2030 ranging from 0 to 40 per cent below the 2005 level, and trajectories with annual limits for 2021–2030, for all member States, and keeps many of the flexibilities of the ESD. For France, this corresponds to a 37 per cent reduction in GHG emissions compared with its 2005 level by 2030.

29. France highlighted the EU-wide mitigation actions and 2030 targets that are under development in the areas of GHG emission reduction, renewable energy and energy efficiency in the context of the 2030 climate and energy framework. Among the mitigation actions that will have a significant impact on future emissions is the 2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan, in addition to further actions aimed at achieving the targets under the EU ETS and EU effort-sharing regulation in 2021–2030.

30. France introduced national-level policies to achieve its targets under the ESD and domestic emission reduction targets. The key implemented PaMs reported are the 2016–2018 Multi-Annual Energy Plan, the Heat Fund, the Thermal Regulation and energy saving certificates. Of the mitigation actions for which mitigation effects were reported, the effect of the Multi-Annual Energy Plan is the most significant, although many of the measures are interconnected and interdependent. Other policies that have delivered significant emission reductions include the incentive tax on incorporating biofuels in fuels for vehicles (a tax paid by operators that do not meet the minimum biofuel target in their petrol and diesel fuels), the updated EU regulation on F-gases, and various regulations and fiscal instruments aimed at

improving the energy efficiency of vehicles and promoting development of low-emission vehicles.

31. France highlighted the domestic mitigation actions that are under development to achieve its domestic target of reducing emissions by 40 per cent by 2030 compared with the 1990 level, which were legislated in the 2019 Law on Energy and Climate. Among the mitigation actions that provide a foundation for significant additional action are implementing the 2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan, which amends and builds on the 2016–2018 Multi-Annual Energy Plan to achieve a higher mitigation impact by 2030, enhancing the Heat Fund beginning in 2019 and closing the last power plants running exclusively on coal by 2022. Table 3 provides a summary of the reported information on the PaMs of France.

Table 3

Summary of information on policies and measures reported by France

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Key PaMs</i>	<i>Estimate of mitigation impact in 2020 (kt CO₂ eq)</i>	<i>Estimate of mitigation impact in 2030 (kt CO₂ eq)</i>
Policy framework and cross-sectoral measures	Climate Plan	NE	NE
	Law on Energy and Climate	NE	NE
	National Low-Carbon Strategy	NE	NE
	EU ETS	NE	NE
Energy			
Transport	Incentive tax on incorporating biofuels	8 700.00	7 800.00
	EU and national regulations and fiscal instruments aimed at improving the energy efficiency of vehicles: energy and CO ₂ labels for new cars, ecological bonus-malus system for new vehicles, annual tax on company vehicles based on CO ₂ emission levels, EU regulation 333/2014 on new passenger vehicles	2 412.00	5 409.00
	Regulatory and fiscal instruments to promote development of low-emission vehicles and electric cars: bonus upon purchase of electric vehicles and conversion premium, plans for infrastructure for charging electric vehicles, requirements for State and local authorities to purchase electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles	545.00	5 469.00
Renewable energy	Heat Fund	5 900.00	5 900.00
	2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan	5 600.00	69 000.00
Energy efficiency	Energy saving certificates	8 400.00	3 500.00
	Thermal Regulation for new buildings	3 600.00	9 000.00
IPPU	EU regulation 517/2014 on F-gases	1 180.00	5 750.00
	Prohibition of certain F-gases in the air-conditioning systems of motor vehicles	940.00	2 830.00
Agriculture	Farm Competitiveness and Adaptation Plan	NE	NE
	Biogas energy use under the Nitrogen Autonomy Plan	NE	NE
	Feed-in tariff for electricity produced by small and medium-sized biogas installations	NE	NE
LULUCF	National Forest and Timber Programme and related regional programmes	NE	NE
	EU common agricultural policy and implementing measures at the domestic level	NE	NE
Waste	Requirement to sort waste from economic activities of companies and administrations	1 800.00	4 000.00

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Key PaMs</i>	<i>Estimate of mitigation impact in 2020 (kt CO₂ eq)</i>	<i>Estimate of mitigation impact in 2030 (kt CO₂ eq)</i>
	Circular Economy Road Map and Anti-Waste Law for a Circular Economy	NE	NE

Note: The estimates of mitigation impact are estimates of emissions of CO₂ eq avoided in a given year as a result of the implementation of mitigation actions.

32. In terms of GHG mitigation, the PaMs established by France primarily target the energy sector and its relevant subsectors. This is consistent with the emission profile of the country: 70 per cent of emissions in 2017 came from the energy sector. Overall, France identified and provided data that confirm that the effects of the implemented PaMs will help it to achieve its 2020 target. In this regard, the Party provided information in its BR4, further elaborated during the review, on how it is monitoring and evaluating its climate policies and emissions against the carbon budget. France has further updated the estimated mitigation impacts of some of its PaMs since its BR3 in order to reflect changes in their scope (e.g. the period taken into account for the estimate), methodology and calibration.

(b) Policies and measures in the energy sector

33. **Energy efficiency.** The main cross-cutting energy efficiency measure is the energy saving certification scheme, launched in 2006, which requires energy vendors to achieve energy savings, with specific allocations designated to obligated entities. To date, the scheme has encompassed four periods, the most recent covering 2018–2020. The next two obligation periods will be defined within the framework of the 2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan. As part of France’s Energy Code, specific targets have been set for end-use energy consumption: a 20 per cent reduction in 2030 and a 50 per cent reduction by 2050 compared with the 2012 level. Other energy efficiency PaMs targeting individual sectors or subsectors are discussed below.

34. **Energy supply and renewables.** At the national level, energy production accounted for 12 per cent of domestic GHG emissions in 2017, owing primarily to the contribution of electricity production. The updated version of the National Low-Carbon Strategy established the goal of achieving full decarbonization of the energy sector by 2050. In this regard, France has prioritized the development of renewable energy sources in its strategies. The introduction of the 2016–2018 Multi-Annual Energy Plan and its subsequent update, which extended the time-horizon through to 2028 in two five-year cycles (2019–2023 and 2024–2028) provides the basis for several measures that encourage the development of renewable energy sources and related infrastructure. The energy plans are expected to have a significant impact on 2030 emission levels. The energy plans are also closely connected to the Heat Fund, which provides financial support for the production of heat from renewable sources. Specifically, the 2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan provides for increasing the Heat Fund budget until 2022. Additional specific regulatory and economic strategies and plans targeting energy supply were also established. In pursuit of its renewable energy targets, France maintained its consolidated approach, making use of both open-access schemes (for sectors that can guarantee a certain stability in production costs) and tendering procedures (aimed at improving market competition for sectors at risk of usage conflicts and for sectors with a lack of suitable sites and/or asymmetries in cost information).

35. **Residential and commercial sectors.** These sectors are the second largest contributors to national emissions, with a share of 19 per cent in 2017. A number of different types of PaMs (regulatory, fiscal and economic) were established and implemented, with the aim of improving the thermal performance and energy efficiency of new and existing buildings and several types of equipment. For new buildings, the current Thermal Regulation requires all new buildings to have an average energy consumption rate below 50 kWh/m²/year, taking into account highly detailed building specifications (building consumption breakdown, location, use and GHG emissions). Further ad hoc certification and bonus schemes in the sector were also introduced. In terms of existing buildings, France decided to make energy renovation a national priority. Specific PaMs that have the aim of increasing energy efficiency have been implemented to introduce obligations and requirements related to building renovation (i.e. Energy Renovation in Buildings Plan,

Thermal Act) as well as to provide financial aid for energy-saving renovation activities and remove further barriers hindering the undertaking of renovations (e.g. Energy Transition Tax Credit, zero-interest eco-loans, third-party financing, reduced value added tax rate). Lastly, EU directives on the establishment of frameworks for eco-design and the energy labelling of products provide the basis for energy efficiency improvements for equipment intended for use beyond the building sector.

36. **Transport sector.** The transport sector accounted for 30 per cent of France's emissions in 2017, representing the largest contributor at the national level, almost entirely from road transportation. For this reason, France has implemented and recently strengthened a significant number of PaMs in this area. Specifically, the Party has introduced two packages of measures, one aimed at improving the energy efficiency of road vehicles (e.g. through an energy and CO₂ label for new cars; an ecological bonus-malus system, which aims to reward buyers of new fuel-efficient vehicles while penalizing those who opt for models with higher emissions; an annual tax on company vehicles based on their CO₂ emission rate; and implementing EU regulations on new passenger and light commercial vehicles) and the other aimed at increasing use of low-emission vehicles (e.g. through a bonus upon purchase for electric vehicles and conversion premium, improving charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, and requiring State and local authorities to purchase electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles). Collectively, the impact of the measures referred to above is expected to amount to emission reductions totalling approximately 3,000.00 kt CO₂ in 2020 and 11,000.00 kt CO₂ in 2030.

37. Additional measures have also been implemented in the transport sector to promote use of biofuels, including a tax to be paid by operators who do not meet the minimum national targets to incentivize them to incorporate biofuels into their petrol and diesel fuels, in line with sustainability criteria, which is expected to have a substantial emission reduction impact over time. Finally, several measures have been implemented and planned (e.g. through the Mobility Orientation Law) to encourage a modal shift towards use of public transport and non-motorized vehicles, with a particular emphasis on use of bicycles (e.g. via the 2018 Bicycle Plan and specific incentive schemes and regulatory measures), targeting both the public and private sector.

38. **Industrial sector.** The main measures to reduce emissions in the industrial sector are undertaken within the EU ETS, which puts a cap on emissions from industrial facilities. The 2018 update of the EU ETS directive at the EU level also resulted in a significant increase in the price of carbon, which nearly quadrupled. The industrial sector is pursuing efforts to decarbonize, including through the measures under the National Low-Carbon Strategy. There are also cross-cutting measures targeting energy production that involve the industrial sector (see para. 33 above), including a mandatory requirement to undertake energy audits for medium-sized and large companies.

(c) **Policies and measures in other sectors**

39. **Industrial processes.** Several provisions of EU regulation 517/2014 are aimed at reducing F-gas emissions from refrigeration and air-conditioning appliances used in several sectors, including industry. In this regard, since 2015, France has established further regulatory and fiscal measures to bolster that EU regulation with a view to reducing emissions from F-gases, replacing them with other substances and improving the control of fugitive emissions from industrial processes. In addition, in 2018 France ratified the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which has a commitment period that extends to 2036.

40. **Agriculture.** France's PaMs in this sector are primarily aimed at reducing CH₄ and N₂O emissions, which are mainly attributable to livestock and crop farming. The Farm Competitiveness and Adaptation Plan seeks to encourage investment in practices that reduce emissions and support the purchase of materials and appliances that bring energy savings. Moreover, in 2017 France financed the agricultural arm of the so-called Big Investment Plan, investing a total of EUR 5 billion, with a view to supporting adaptation and changes to agricultural, fishing, forestry and other practices in 2018–2022. A number of additional economic, fiscal and regulatory measures in the agriculture sector have also been implemented and/or adopted.

41. **LULUCF.** At the national level, the LULUCF sector represents a carbon sink, owing to the role of forests in particular. Accordingly, PaMs in this sector are mainly aimed at reducing emissions or contributing to carbon storage (e.g. through the Forest Investment Tax Incentive Scheme, the National Forest and Timber Programme and its related regional programmes). Other PaMs in the sector include measures under both the first and second pillars of the EU common agricultural policy.

42. **Waste management.** France has implemented a number of policies to reduce waste production, including banning single-use plastic bags and designating planned obsolescence as an offence (under the Energy Transition for Green Growth Act), and specific measures to reduce food waste, which has been set as a national priority. Furthermore, in 2018 France adopted a Circular Economy Road Map, which was followed by the Anti-Waste Law for a Circular Economy aimed at enforcing the measures in the Road Map by eradicating waste, transforming industries' production methods, enhancing consumer awareness and improving waste collection.

(d) Response measures

43. France reported on its assessment of the economic and social consequences of its response measures. Specifically, the Party included a brief description of the results of a macroeconomic evaluation of the social and economic impacts of the National Low-Carbon Strategy and the Multi-Annual Energy Plan. The evaluation found that positive results are expected in terms of growth in GDP (increasing GDP by 1–2 per cent in 2030 and 3 per cent in 2050, compared with a 'business as usual' scenario). France's response measures are also expected to have a positive impact on employment, with measures generating 300,000–400,000 jobs by 2030 and 700,000–800,000 jobs by 2050.

(e) Assessment of adherence to the reporting guidelines

44. The ERT assessed the information reported in the BR4 of France and recognized that the reporting is complete, transparent and thus adhering to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. No issues relating to the topics discussed in this chapter of the review report were raised during the review.

2. Estimates of emission reductions and removals and the use of units from market-based mechanisms and land use, land-use change and forestry

(a) Technical assessment of the reported information

45. France reported that it does not intend to use units from market-based mechanisms to meet its commitment under the ESD. It reported in CTF tables 4 and 4(b) that it did not use any units from market-based mechanisms in 2016 or 2017. Given that the contribution of LULUCF activities is not included in the joint EU target under the Convention, reporting of contributions of LULUCF activities is not applicable for France. Table 4 illustrates France's total GHG emissions and the use of units from market-based mechanisms to achieve its target.

Table 4

Summary of information on the use of units from market-based mechanisms by France to achieve its target

<i>Year</i>	<i>ESD emissions (kt CO₂ eq)</i>	<i>AEA (kt CO₂ eq)</i>	<i>Use of units from market- based mechanisms (kt CO₂ eq)^a</i>	<i>Annual AEA surplus/deficit (kt CO₂ eq)^b</i>	<i>Cumulative AEA surplus/deficit (kt CO₂ eq)^b</i>
2013	366 116.65	394 076.35	NA	27 959.70	27 959.70
2014	353 528.79	389 460.76	NA	35 931.97	63 891.61
2015	353 009.85	384 432.81	NA	31 422.96	95 314.63
2016	351 924.67	379 404.87	NA	27 480.20	122 794.83
2017	352 795.71	358 181.61	NA	27 480.20	128 180.73
2018	343 067.12 ^c	352 946.10	NA	9 878.98	138 059.71

Sources: France's BR4 and CTF table 4(b), information provided by the Party during the review and EU transaction log (AEAs).

^a The use of “NA” indicates that the Party stated in its BR that it does not intend to use market-based mechanisms to achieve its target.

^b A positive number (surplus) indicates that ESD emissions were lower than the AEA, while a negative number (deficit) indicates that ESD emissions were greater than the AEA.

^c France provided proxy data for its 2018 ESD emissions.

46. In assessing the progress towards achieving the 2020 joint EU target, the ERT noted that France’s emission reduction target for the ESD is 14 per cent below the base-year level (see para. 28 above). In 2018, France’s emissions covered by the ESD were 2.8 per cent (9,878.98 kt CO₂ eq) below the AEA under the ESD. France has a cumulative surplus of 138,059.71 kt CO₂ eq with respect to its AEAs between 2013 and 2018 (on the basis of proxy data for ESD emissions for 2018 provided by the Party).

47. The ERT noted that France is making progress towards its ESD target by implementing mitigation actions that are delivering significant emission reductions.

48. When describing its progress towards its target of 14 per cent below the 2005 emission level by 2020, France noted that, given that the target is to be achieved over a period of time (i.e. not in a single year) and it has a significant surplus of AEAs, it expects to meet its 2020 target.

(b) Assessment of adherence to the reporting guidelines

49. The ERT assessed the information reported in the BR4 of France and recognized that the reporting is complete, transparent and thus adhering to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. No issues relating to the topics discussed in this chapter of the review report were raised during the review.

3. Projections overview, methodology and results

(a) Technical assessment of the reported information

50. France reported updated projections for 2020 and 2030 relative to actual inventory data for 2017 under the WEM scenario. The WEM scenario reported by France includes implemented and adopted PaMs until 1 July 2017.

51. In addition to the WEM scenario, France reported the WAM scenario, but did not provide a WOM scenario. France explained that a WOM scenario had not been constructed as the projections were primarily aimed at estimating the gap between the WEM scenario and the target with a view to assessing what further measures would be needed. Additionally, France explained that determining a start year for a WOM scenario would be difficult as many of the existing measures have been in place for a long time. In terms of the WAM scenario, France explained that it includes measures considered to be additional to those included in the WEM scenario (i.e. those adopted since 1 July 2017) and includes the strengthening of existing measures under the National Low-Carbon Strategy. France also reported that both the WEM and WAM scenarios were developed in consultation with stakeholders and presented to the Information and Orientation Committee as part of the energy plan and low-carbon initiatives. The definitions indicate that the scenarios were prepared according to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. Finally, France indicated that the WAM scenario is consistent with the NECP, submitted to the EU.

52. The projections are presented on a sectoral basis, using the same sectoral categories as those used in the reporting on mitigation actions, and on a gas-by-gas basis for CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, PFCs, HFCs and SF₆ (treating PFCs and HFCs collectively in each case) as well as NF₃ for 1990–2035. The projections are also provided in an aggregated format for each sector and for a Party total using global warming potential values from the AR4.

53. France reported that emission projections for indirect GHGs such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, non-methane volatile organic compounds and sulfur oxides had been completed under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. In its BR4, France included a reference to the latest publications that include these projections but did not provide a summary of this information.

(b) Methodology, assumptions and changes since the previous submission

54. The methodology used for the preparation of the projections is closely related to that used for the preparation of the emission projections for the NC7. France indicated in the BR4 that the models and methodologies used to produce the projections are largely unchanged from those used in 2016 for the NC7. The modelling approach, which is overseen by the Directorate General for Energy and Climate in the Ministry for Ecological and Inclusive Transition, is based on inputs from several teams in other ministries. The teams provide expertise and data from their respective sectors (transport, tertiary, agriculture, forestry, energy, and GHG emissions and pollutants), which are integrated into the updated modelling approach. France confirmed that the only changes made since the NC7 were adjustments to the calibration of some models. France reported information on all amendments to the WEM and WAM scenarios reported in its NC7, including in relation to assumptions on carbon taxation, energy saving certificates, renewable energy sources, transport, buildings, agriculture and forestry, and waste management and processing. France reported in CTF table 5 the key variables and assumptions used in the preparation of the projection scenarios.

55. To prepare its projections, France relied on key underlying assumptions relating to the economic framework, including population, GDP, the international price of energy and the price of carbon under the EU ETS. Population-related assumptions were developed by the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies, taking into consideration broader reference demographic projections. For economic growth, assumptions were derived from the national values recommended by the European Commission and were consistent with those used for long-term economic analysis. Energy-related assumptions were drawn from the economic framework proposed by the European Commission for all EU member States. Assumptions related to carbon pricing for facilities covered by the EU ETS were also taken from the economic framework proposed by the European Commission. The key variables and hypotheses used in the BR4 projections are provided in five-year increments, from 1990 to 2035, as appropriate.

56. France noted in the BR4 that its actual emissions reported for recent years have generally been higher than those previously projected under the WEM scenario. As a result, in the BR4, France adjusted its methodology and presented a more conservative WEM scenario than those previously developed. Adjustments to the methodology include using different or updated models; correcting temperature values, energy costs, dates of closure of nuclear facilities, and so on; and accounting for delays in achieving national carbon reductions. Additionally, the LULUCF projections in the BR4 are also considered more conservative than those previously reported, most notably as a result of how uncertainty in the forest sector related to climate change is addressed.

57. France noted that sensitivity analyses for a number of important assumptions (such as energy prices, population growth and economic growth) had been carried out as part of its reporting under the EU monitoring mechanism regulation. France included a reference to the latest publications that include the sensitivity analyses but did not provide a summary of this information.

(c) Results of projections

58. The projected emission levels under different scenarios and information on the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target are presented in table 5 and figure 1.

Table 5

Summary of greenhouse gas emission projections for France

	<i>Total GHG emissions</i>		<i>Emissions under the ESD</i>	
	<i>GHG emissions (kt CO₂ eq per year)</i>	<i>Change in relation to 1990 level (%)</i>	<i>ESD emissions (kt CO₂ eq per year)</i>	<i>Comparison to 2020 AEA (%)</i>
2020 AEA under the ESD ^a	NA	NA	–	100.0
Inventory data 1990	548 067.00	NA	NA	NA
Inventory data 2017	464 593.00	–15.2	352 795.71	103.0
WEM projections for 2020	461 344.00	–15.8	345 449.47	100.9
WAM projections for 2020	434 375.00	–20.7	330 500.00	96.5

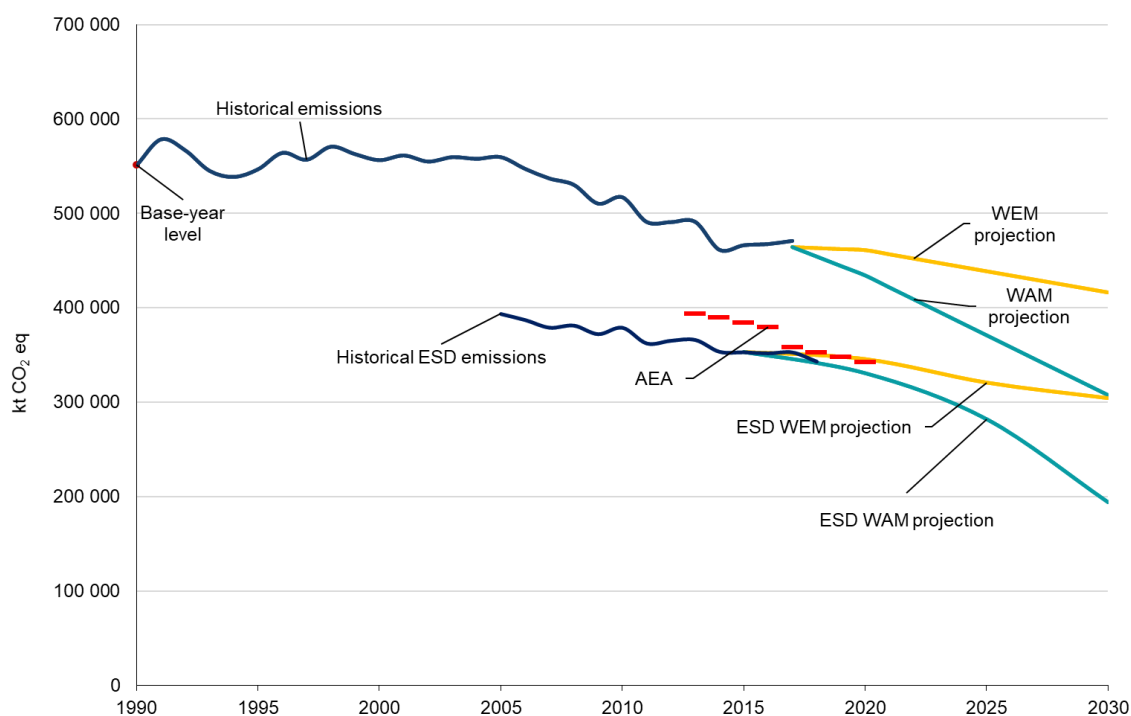
	Total GHG emissions		Emissions under the ESD	
	GHG emissions (kt CO ₂ eq per year)	Change in relation to 1990 level (%)	ESD emissions (kt CO ₂ eq per year)	Comparison to 2020 AEA (%)
WEM projections for 2030	416 451.00	-24.0	303 877.73	88.7
WAM projections for 2030	307 094.00	-44.0	193 600.00	56.5

Source: France’s BR4 and CTF table 6. ESD emissions and projections data were provided by France during the review.

Note: The projections are for GHG emissions excluding LULUCF and excluding indirect CO₂.

^a The quantified economy-wide emission reduction target under the Convention is a joint target of the EU and its member States. The target is to reduce emissions by 20 per cent compared with the base-year (1990) level by 2020. France’s target under the ESD is 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020.

Figure 1
Greenhouse gas emission projections reported by France



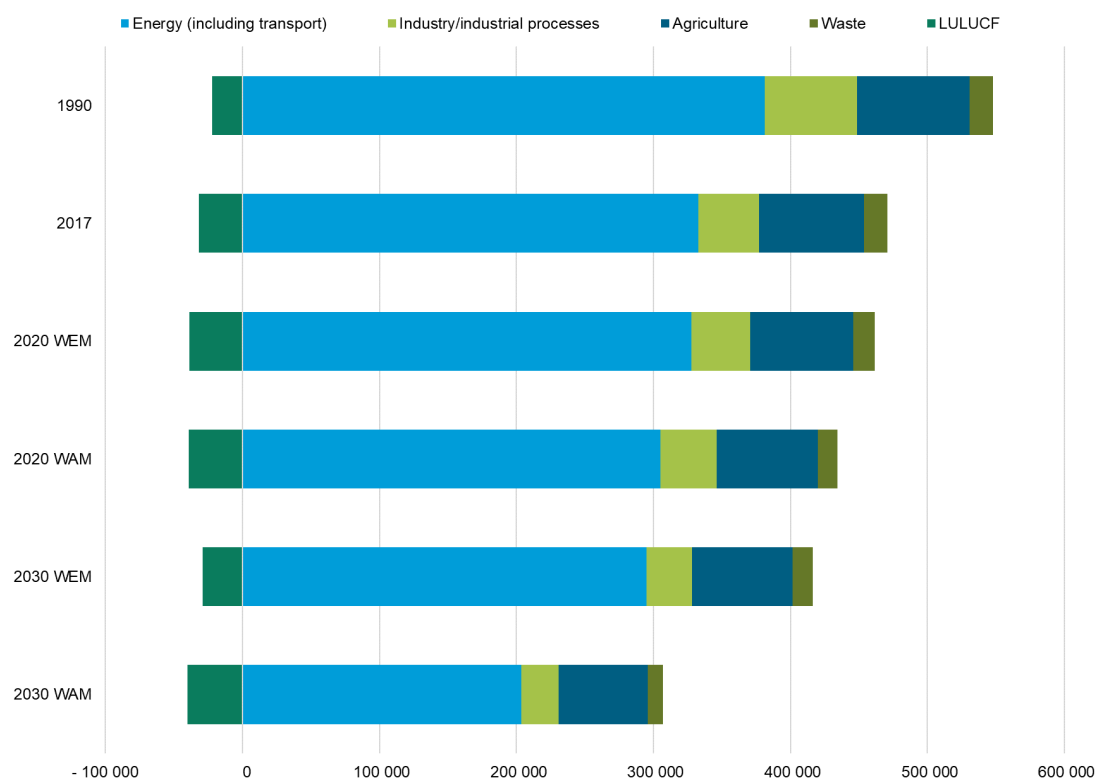
Sources: EU transaction log (AEAs) and France’s BR4 and CTF tables 1 and 6. The Party also provided data on ESD emissions and projections during the review.

59. France’s total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF in 2020 and 2030 are projected under the WEM scenario to decrease by 15.8 and 24.0 per cent, respectively, below the 1990 level. Under the WAM scenario, emissions in 2020 and 2030 are projected to be lower than those in 1990 by 20.7 and 44.0 per cent, respectively.

60. France’s target under the ESD is to reduce ESD emissions by 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020 (see para. 28 above). France’s AEAs, which correspond to its national emission target for ESD sectors, change from 394,076.35 kt CO₂ eq in 2013 to 342,475.08 kt CO₂ eq for 2020. The projected level of emissions under the WEM and WAM scenarios is 0.9 per cent above and 3.5 per cent below the AEAs for 2020, respectively. The ERT noted that France’s cumulative surplus of AEAs in 2018 is 138,059.71 kt CO₂ eq, which suggests that France expects to meet its target under the WEM scenario.

61. France presented the WEM and WAM scenarios by sector for 2020 and 2030, as summarized in figure 2 and table 6.

Figure 2
Greenhouse gas emission projections for France presented by sector
(kt CO₂ eq)



Source: France's BR4 CTF table 6.

Note: GHG emissions from the transport sector are included in the energy sector emissions.

Table 6
Summary of greenhouse gas emission projections for France presented by sector

Sector	GHG emissions and removals (kt CO ₂ eq)					Change (%)			
	1990	2020		2030		1990–2020		1990–2030	
		WEM	WAM	WEM	WAM	WEM	WAM	WEM	WAM
Energy (including transport)	381 294.00	327 831.00	305 017.00	295 078.00	203 515.00	-14.0	-20.0	-22.6	46.6
Transport ^a	IE	IE	IE	IE	IE	IE	IE	IE	IE
Industry/industrial processes	67 200.00	42 740.00	41 371.00	33 005.00	27 368.00	-36.4	-38.4	-50.9	59.3
LULUCF	-22 159.00	-38 509.00	-38 995.00	-29 039.00	-40 160.00	73.8	76.0	31.0	81.2
Waste	17 263.00	15 478.00	14 344.00	15 020.00	10 983.00	-10.3	-16.9	-13.0	36.4
Other	22 157.00	38 509.00	38 992.00	29 039.00	40 161.00	-20.3	-10.8	42.3	37.8
Total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF	548 067.00	461 344.00	434 375.00	416 451.00	307 094.00	-15.8	-20.7	-24.0	-44.0

Source: France's BR4 CTF table 6.

^a GHG emissions from the transport sector are included in the energy sector emissions.

62. According to the projections reported for 2020 under the WEM scenario, the most significant emission reductions are expected to occur in the energy and IPPU sectors, amounting to projected reductions of 14.0 and 36.4 per cent between 1990 and 2020, respectively. The pattern of projected emissions reported for 2030 under the same scenario remains the same, but with greater emission reductions due to strengthened implementation of the EU ETS directive in 2021–2030, a policy that came into force in April 2018 and led to

an increase in the price of carbon. Under the WEM scenario for 2030, the energy and IPPU sectors are again responsible for the most significant emission reductions, amounting to 22.6 and 50.9 per cent between 2020 and 2030, respectively.

63. If additional measures are considered (i.e. under the WAM scenario), the pattern of emission reductions by 2020 presented by sector remains the same, but with greater emission reductions due to the adoption of stronger measures in July 2017 and the measures set out in the 2019 Law on Energy and Climate. Together, these measures serve to reinforce France's emission reduction objectives. Additionally, France has indicated that it intends to regularly update its National Low-Carbon Strategy to ensure that it meets or exceeds its 2030 objective.

64. France presented the WEM and WAM scenarios by gas for 2020 and 2030, as summarized in table 7.

Table 7

Summary of greenhouse gas emission projections for France presented by gas

Gas	GHG emissions and removals (kt CO ₂ eq)					Change (%)			
	1990	2020		2030		1990–2020		1990–2030	
		WEM	WAM	WEM	WAM	WEM	WAM	WEM	WAM
CO ₂ ^a	400 766.00	349 140.00	325 904.00	316 243.00	220 992.00	-12.9	-18.7	-21.1	-44.9
CH ₄	69 263.00	55 342.00	52 531.00	53 185.00	44 506.00	-20.1	-24.2	-23.2	-35.7
N ₂ O	66 203.00	40 182.00	40 268.00	39 420.00	35 559.00	-39.3	-39.2	-40.5	-46.3
HFCs	4 402.00	15 732.00	14 731.00	6 778.00	5 241.00	257.4	234.6	54.0	19.1
PFCs	5 202.00	484.00	479.00	359.00	330.00	-90.7	-90.8	-93.1	-93.7
SF ₆	2 215.00	458.00	456.00	460.00	460.00	-79.3	-79.4	-79.2	-79.2
NF ₃	16.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	-62.5	-62.5	-62.5	-62.5
Total GHG emissions without LULUCF	548 067.00	461 344.00	434 375.00	416 451.00	307 094.00	-47.4	-80.1	-265.6	-343.2

Source: France's BR4 CTF table 6.

^a France did not include indirect CO₂ emissions in its projections.

65. For 2020, under the WEM scenario, the most significant reductions are projected for CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O emissions: 12.9, 20.1 and 39.3 per cent between 1990 and 2020, respectively.

66. Under the WEM scenario for 2030, the most significant reductions are also projected for CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O emissions: 21.1, 23.2 and 40.5 per cent between 1990 and 2030, respectively.

67. If additional measures are considered (i.e. under the WAM scenario), the patterns of emission reductions by 2020 presented by gas remain the same for CH₄ and N₂O, but are significantly different for CO₂, which shows greater reductions by 2020 and CO₂ emissions nearly halved by 2030. The significant reductions in CO₂ under the WAM scenario are due to further strengthening of energy efficiency measures (particularly in the residential sector), the increasing value of energy saving certificates, increased use of biofuels in the transportation sector (the share of biofuels replacing petrol and diesel is projected to increase from 7.5 per cent in 2015 to 10.6 per cent by 2030 and 100 per cent by 2050) and the growing use of renewable electrical energy sources. In addition, the WAM scenario includes a phase-out of gas-emitting cars and light commercial vehicles by 2040, including full transition to use of all-electric passenger vehicles, as well as an increase in use of natural gas vehicles, biogas vehicles, and electric and hydrogen fuel cell heavy goods vehicles. Use of bicycle transport and public transit is also expected to increase under the WAM scenario.

(d) Assessment of adherence to the reporting guidelines

68. The ERT assessed the information reported in the BR4 of France and identified an issue relating to transparency and thus adherence to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. The finding is described in table 8.

Table 8

Findings on greenhouse gas emission projections reported in the fourth biennial report of France

No.	<i>Reporting requirement, issue type and assessment</i>	<i>Description of the finding with recommendation or encouragement</i>
1	Reporting requirement specified in paragraph 30 Issue type: transparency Assessment: encouragement	France did not describe or include sensitivity analyses of its projections, but rather provided a link to the information which was provided elsewhere. During the review, France explained that sensitivity analyses had been conducted as part of its reporting under the EU monitoring mechanism regulation. France provided a link to the results and indicated that it would include the results of its sensitivity analyses in its next BR. The ERT encourages France to include in its next BR the quantitative results of any sensitivity analysis of its projections, and a summary describing the analysis, along with references to the relevant documents.

Note: Item listed under reporting requirement refers to the relevant paragraph of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on NCs, as per para. 11 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. The reporting on the requirements not included in this table is considered to be complete, transparent and thus adhering to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on NCs and on BRs.

D. Provision of financial, technological and capacity-building support to developing country Parties

1. Technical assessment of the reported information

(a) Approach and methodologies used to track support provided to non-Annex I Parties

69. In its BR4 France reported information on its provision of financial, technological and capacity-building support to non-Annex I Parties.

70. France reported information on how the support it has provided is “new and additional” in CTF table 7 for 2017 and 2018, including how it has determined resources as being “new and additional”. According to this information, France’s definition is that any funding that is newly committed or climate finance that is disbursed during that year is considered “new and additional”. As a result, France’s process for determining that resources are “new and additional” involves distinguishing the support that has been newly committed or disbursed in the relevant year from all other support provided. France clarified that its approach to reporting on its financial support, including how it determines “new and additional” resources, had not changed from the detailed description provided in the annex to its BR3.

71. France reported information on the support that it has provided to non-Annex I Parties, distinguishing between support for mitigation and adaptation activities and recognizing the capacity-building elements of such support. France explained that, for multilateral support, it tracks finance for adaptation and mitigation using OECD DAC definitions and imputes the climate-relevant contributions to other institutions, including multilateral development banks and funds such as the GCF. France noted that it only reports the climate-relevant share of concessionary funding to institutions and instruments such as the African Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. For bilateral support, France explained that each institution and instrument uses a slightly different approach to reporting at the project level. AFD, which is responsible for the largest share of France’s bilateral climate commitments, has developed a robust methodology for determining the share of climate-specific funding for each project and whether its activities fall under mitigation, adaptation or cross-cutting. This methodology is also applied by the French Facility for Global Environment. France intends to identify projects matching the Rio markers of the OECD Creditor Reporting System database.

72. The BR4 includes information on the national approach to tracking the provision of financial support, but not on the approach to tracking the provision of technological and capacity-building support. France confirmed in its BR4 that its approach to tracking the provision of financial support, indicators, delivery mechanisms used and allocation channels tracked had not changed since the BR3.

73. France did not include information on how it has refined its approach to tracking climate support and methodologies compared with what was reported in its NC7. However, it confirmed that the methodology used to report financial support has not changed since the BR3.

74. France provided some information on the methodologies and underlying assumptions used for collecting and reporting information on financial support. For example, France provided information on how AFD defines a climate project and identifies the appropriate bilateral funding source. However, it did not elaborate on the methodologies it uses to assess its multilateral support, including underlying assumptions, guidelines, eligibility criteria and indicators.

(b) Financial resources

75. France reported information on its provision of financial support to non-Annex I Parties as required under the Convention, including on financial support provided, committed and pledged, allocation channels and annual contributions.

76. France described how its resources address the adaptation and mitigation needs of non-Annex I Parties. In order to ensure that its support meets the needs of recipients, local AFD agencies collaborate with recipients to identify projects and needs. Additionally, France works closely with national and local authorities in recipient countries to ensure that its support is channelled appropriately. Since its funding announcement at COP 21 (see para. 94 below), France has put in place additional instruments aimed at ensuring that its support is needs-based. In its BR4, France further described how those resources assist non-Annex I Parties in mitigating GHG emissions and adapting to the adverse effects of climate change and contribute to technology development and transfer and capacity-building related to mitigation and adaptation. However, France did not describe the allocation of financial resources to assist non-Annex I Parties in addressing economic and social consequences of response measures.

77. With regard to the most recent financial contributions aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Convention by developing countries, France reported that its climate finance has been allocated on the basis of presidential priorities, as announced at the One Planet Summit held in December 2017, which called for increased financial support for adaptation. In February 2018, the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development confirmed the importance of support for climate change, placing the issue at the same level as other foreign aid priorities such as education, gender, health and vulnerability. France has also identified the provision of support to Africa, in particular to the LDCs and those most vulnerable to climate change, as a priority area. Table 9 summarizes the information reported by France on its provision of financial support.

Table 9

Summary of information on provision of financial support by France in 2017–2018

(Millions of United States dollars)

<i>Allocation channel of public financial support</i>	<i>Year of disbursement</i>	
	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>
Official development assistance	16 718.73	14 683.28
Climate-specific contributions through multilateral channels, including:	668.45	715.34
Global Environment Facility	16.05	38.37
Least Developed Countries Fund	11.30	8.85
GCF	506.44	188.90
Other multinational climate change funds	23.06	39.75
Financial institutions, including regional development banks	111.61	439.46
Climate-specific contributions through bilateral, regional and other channels	4 263.71	5 292.64

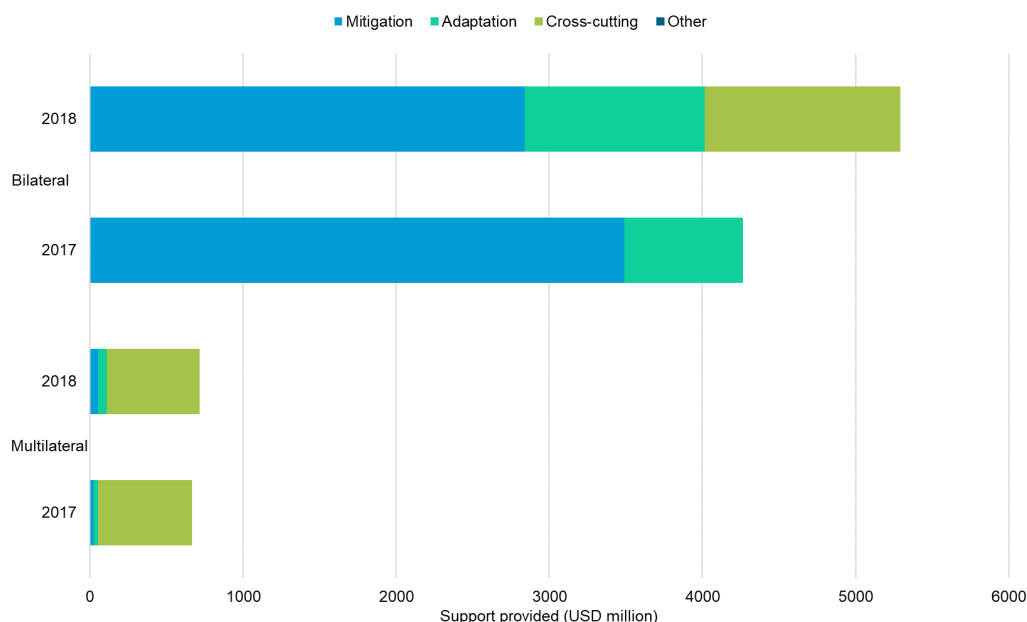
Sources: BR4 CTF tables and Query Wizard for International Development Statistics, available at <http://stats.oecd.org/qwids/>.

78. France reported on its climate-specific public financial support, totalling USD 4,932.16 million in 2017 and USD 6,007.98 million in 2018. It has increased its contributions by 58.3 per cent since the BR3, as reported in its local currency. With regard to future financial pledges aimed at enhancing implementation of the Convention by developing countries, France stated in the CTF table 7 documentation box that a pledge totalling USD 1 billion was made to the GCF for 2015–2018. However, this pledge was not reflected in the CTF tables as only annual disbursements were reported.

79. During the reporting period, France placed a particular focus on providing support to Africa and the LDCs. France contributed USD 11.30 million in 2017 and USD 8.85 million in 2018 to the Least Developed Countries Fund, which supports climate change adaptation projects in the LDCs (70 per cent of which benefits African countries). Information on climate-specific financial support from the public sector provided through multilateral and bilateral channels and the allocation of that support by target area is presented in figure 3 and table 10. Note that variances in contribution amounts from year to year can occur that are not reflective of trends owing to factors such as the biennial or triennial contribution cycles of some multilateral funds, the timing of approval of individual bilateral projects and changes in exchange rates.

Figure 3

Provision of financial support by France in 2017–2018



Source: France's BR4 CTF tables 7, 7(a) and 7(b).

Table 10

Summary of information on channels of financial support used in 2017–2018 by France

(Millions of United States dollars)

Allocation channel of public financial support	Year of disbursement				Share (%)	
	2017	2018	Difference	Change (%)	2017	2018
Detailed information by type of channel						
Multilateral channels						
Mitigation	25.65	51.76	26.11	101.8	3.8	7.2
Adaptation	28.51	56.84	28.33	99.4	4.3	7.9
Cross-cutting	614.29	606.74	-7.55	-1.2	91.9	84.8
Total multilateral	668.45	715.34	46.89	7.0	100.0	100.0
Bilateral channels						

Allocation channel of public financial support	Year of disbursement				Share (%)	
	2017	2018	Difference	Change (%)	2017	2018
Mitigation	3 489.85	2 838.56	-651.29	-18.7	81.9	53.6
Adaptation	773.86	1 177.71	403.85	52.2	18.1	22.3
Cross-cutting	0.00	1 276.37	1 276.37	NA	0.0	24.1
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total bilateral	4 263.71	5 292.64	1 028.93	24.1	100.0	100.0
Total multilateral and bilateral	4 932.16	6 007.98	1 075.82	21.8	100.0	100.0

Source: France's BR4 CTF tables 7, 7(a) and 7(b).

80. The BR4 includes detailed information on the financial support provided through multilateral, bilateral and regional channels in 2017 and 2018. More specifically, France contributed through multilateral channels, as reported in the BR4 and in CTF table 7(a), USD 668.45 million and USD 715.34 million for 2017 and 2018, respectively. The contributions were made to specialized multilateral climate change funds, such as the Global Environment Facility, the Least Developed Countries Fund and the GCF. France's multilateral contributions grew between 2017 and 2018, with significant increases in the areas of mitigation (101.8 per cent increase) and adaptation (99.4 per cent increase). France's notable contributions include its 2017 USD 500 million contribution to the GCF. The overall increase in multilateral support is part of France's recent efforts to increase its annual climate funding from EUR 3 billion to EUR 5 billion from 2015 to 2020, of which EUR 1 billion is to be dedicated to climate change adaptation, as announced during the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015.

81. The BR4 and CTF table 7(b) also include detailed information on the total financial support provided through bilateral (USD 4,263.71 million and 5,292.64 million) channels in 2017 and 2018, respectively. In its BR4, France explained that it focuses heavily on its bilateral programmes, led by AFD in collaboration with its private sector subsidiary Proparco. Key bilateral instruments include the French Facility for Global Environment, the Fund for Private Sector Studies and Aid, and subsidized and unsubsidized loans. Together, these instruments support the 2017 AFD initiative "100% Paris Agreement", which aims to bring coherence to all French foreign assistance and ensure that French financial support fosters climate-resilient and low-carbon development.

82. The BR4 provides information on the types of support provided. In terms of the focus of public financial support, as reported in CTF table 7 for 2017, the shares of the total public financial support allocated for mitigation, adaptation and cross-cutting projects were 71.3, 16.3 and 12.5 per cent, respectively. In addition, 13.6 per cent of the total public financial support was allocated through multilateral channels and 86.4 per cent through bilateral, regional and other channels. In 2018, the shares of total public financial support allocated for mitigation, adaptation and cross-cutting projects were 48.1, 20.5 and 31.3 per cent, respectively. Furthermore, 11.9 per cent of the total public financial support was allocated through multilateral channels and 88.1 per cent through bilateral, regional and other channels. In its BR4, France noted that in 2017, on the margins of the One Planet Summit, it announced increased financial support dedicated to adaptation, equivalent to EUR 1.5 billion per year until 2020.

83. The ERT noted that in 2017 most financial contributions made through multilateral channels were not allocated to a specific sector but were instead reported as "sector not applicable" in CTF table 7(a). The corresponding allocations for 2018 were similarly reported.

84. CTF tables 7(a) and 7(b) include information on the types of financial instrument used for providing assistance to developing countries, which include grants, concessional loans, insurance, guarantees, non-concessional loans and other. The ERT noted that the grants and concessional loans provided in 2017 and 2018 accounted for most of the total public financial support.

85. France did not report on how it uses public funds to promote private sector financial support for developing countries to increase mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries. However, France noted in its BR4 that Proparco, the private sector subsidiary of AFD, is involved in the delivery of its bilateral support, together with the French Facility for Global Environment and the Fund for Private Sector Studies and Aid. France also noted that, in relation to technological cooperation and in the phase of public policy implementation, the private sector plays a particularly important role in supporting stakeholders in developing the capacity required on the ground to set up low-carbon projects and contributing to this technology transfer.

86. France indicated that it does not report on private financial flows leveraged by bilateral climate finance support for mitigation and adaptation activities in non-Annex I Parties as it does not have this information. France indicated that it will consider how to provide this information in its next BR.

87. An example of France's support is its bilateral support via AFD and its private sector subsidiary group, Proparco, for the 100% Paris Agreement initiative, which aims to align France's foreign aid with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The initiative receives its funding from AFD and Proparco, and the funding is then channelled through a number of bilateral instruments, including the French Facility for Global Environment and the Fund for Private Sector Studies and Aid. In 2017, EUR 4 billion, or roughly half of the aid provided by AFD in that year, was dedicated to projects involving climate co-benefits, rising to over half (55 per cent) of the agency's aid in 2018. Bilateral support was delivered to over 158 development projects, which were developed in collaboration with AFD local agencies to ensure that they met local needs. AFD has also established a climate strategy up until 2022 with the objective of bringing coherence to all funding provided by the agency and ensuring climate-resilient and low-carbon development. As part of this, AFD has made a commitment to continue allocating over half of its financial support to projects that support the aims of the Paris Agreement.

(c) Technology development and transfer

88. France provided information on steps, measures and activities related to technology transfer, access and deployment benefiting developing countries, including information on activities undertaken by the public and private sectors. However, France did not provide examples of support provided specifically for the deployment and enhancement of the endogenous capacities and technologies of non-Annex I Parties.

89. One example of technology support provided is France's contribution to IRENA, through which it is working to advance the transition to clean energy sources in developing countries and support low-carbon growth globally. Through its support for IRENA, France has contributed to the development and sharing of tools that foster the large-scale deployment of renewable energy. Within this broader support for IRENA, France has also worked to increase access to clean energy by earmarking its support to the LDCs and small island developing States. Under the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, France aims to catalyse further global support to assist developing countries in their transition to renewable energy by developing shared frameworks, raising awareness, providing direct support on the ground for implementation and ensuring indirect support by mobilizing other EU actors.

90. The ERT took note of the information provided in CTF table 8 on recipient countries, target areas, measures and focus sectors of technology transfer programmes. France's overall objective in relation to technological cooperation is to support various projects and initiatives that generate large-scale international cooperation and involve a host of actions, noting that France interprets technology transfer in a broad sense, encompassing all the knowledge, methods and tools needed to transition to low-carbon technologies. In its bilateral projects, France has focused largely on renewable energy and energy efficiency, including efforts to engage in public policy implementation and enhance private sector participation. Through its multilateral engagement, France has supported major international energy partnerships such as the International Energy Agency, the Clean Energy Ministerial, the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation and IRENA.

91. The ERT noted that France reported on its measures and activities, including on activities implemented or planned since its NC7 or BR3. However, France did not report on success and failure stories in relation to technology transfer, including on measures taken to promote, facilitate and finance the transfer and deployment of climate-friendly technologies. In its reporting on measures and activities, its support for IRENA and the Sustainable Energy for All initiative (see para. 89 above), France reported that it has also been a key contributor to the International Energy Agency, which works to support and accelerate technology transfer in the energy sector and support global energy efficiency measures. France has also supported the United Nations Environment Programme, which works to disseminate technology and know-how through programmes such as the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable modes of consumption and production patterns, to which France has been a significant donor and investor in targeted initiatives, including those involving consumer information and sustainable buildings.

(d) Capacity-building

92. In its BR4 and CTF table 9, France supplied information on how it has provided capacity-building support for mitigation, adaptation and technology that responds to the existing and emerging needs identified by non-Annex I Parties. France described individual measures and activities related to capacity-building support in textual and tabular format. For example, France stated that AFD funded an initial facility with grants of EUR 3.5 million in order to assist 26 developing countries, including African countries and small island developing States, in preparing their intended nationally determined contributions. Additionally, in May 2017, AFD launched the Adapt'Action Facility, the aim of which is to help prepare States to implement their NDC commitments. This facility is supported by EUR 30 million in grants to be distributed over four years and is intended to help some 15 African countries and small island developing States to reach their climate objectives, with an emphasis on climate change adaptation. The Adapt'Action Facility aims to achieve this through capacity-building activities and by providing technical assistance in accordance with three main themes, namely support for climate capacity-building and governance to consolidate, implement and monitor NDCs; support for improved NDC integration into sectoral public policies; and support for structural project and programme preparation in the field of adaptation and renewable energy.

93. France reported that it has supported climate-related capacity development activities relating to adaptation, mitigation, climate financing and other sectors. France also reported on how it has responded to the existing and emerging capacity-building needs of non-Annex I Parties by following the principles of national ownership, stakeholder participation, country-driven demand, cooperation between donors and across programmes, and impact assessment and monitoring. France reported that it has worked bilaterally with countries such as Algeria and China to identify their capacity-building needs; for example, France has supported Algeria in preparing a national GHG inventory. Under this initiative, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, represented by the French Embassy in Algeria, has provided co-financing for Algerian authorities, including the National Climate Change Agency and the Ministry of the Environment. The support scheme, which was launched in 2018 and is delivered by Citepa, the Inter-professional Technical Study Centre for Air Pollution, as the State operator, covers the institutionalization of the national GHG inventory system and the training of Algerian experts in the GHG inventory methods contained in the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, in addition to supporting these experts to enable them to calculate emission estimates for all sectors across a time series.

94. A second example is France's support for the MobiliseYourCity programme, which was launched in 2015 at COP 21, in collaboration with the German Agency for International Cooperation and aims to implement sustainable urban mobility planning in 100 cities across 20 developing countries. By partnering with local authorities and governments, the programme facilitates the design of sustainable urban mobility plans and national urban mobility policies to improve urban mobility while decreasing GHG emissions. Partner cities are found in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

2. Assessment of adherence to the reporting guidelines

95. The ERT assessed the information reported in the BR4 of France and identified issues relating to transparency and completeness and thus adherence to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. The findings are described in table 11.

Table 11

Findings on provision of support to developing country Parties from the review of the fourth biennial report of France

No.	Reporting requirement, issue type and assessment	Description of the finding with recommendation or encouragement
1	Reporting requirement specified in paragraph 14 Issue type: transparency Assessment: recommendation	<p>France did not report on its national approach for tracking the provision of technological and capacity-building support to non-Annex I Parties in its BR4. Additionally, although the documentation box to CTF table 7 includes a brief description of the national approach for tracking finance, including how its bilateral support is allocated to mitigation and adaptation activities, France did not explain in detail how it implements the OECD DAC approach for tracking multilateral financial support, apart from indicating that DAC definitions are used.</p> <p>During the review, France provided additional information on its approach to tracking multilateral financial support. France indicated that financial support is channelled through multiple agencies, with each agency maintaining a record of the projects it finances. This information, alongside information on other financial channels, is compiled by the Ministry for the Economy and Finance and submitted as part of the BR. France also clarified that it tracks its support for technology transfer and capacity-building activities through bodies such as its Environment and Energy Management Agency and the Ministry for Ecological and Inclusive Transition, which participate in monitoring.</p> <p>The ERT recommends that, in its next BR, France provide transparent information on its national approach for tracking the provision of technological and capacity-building support to non-Annex I Parties and provide a detailed explanation of how it implements the OECD DAC approach for tracking multilateral financial support, rather than simply noting that DAC definitions are used. The ERT notes that, for greater transparency, France may consider including this information or a reference to where this information can be found, in both the BR and the CTF tables.</p>
2	Reporting requirement specified in paragraph 17 Issue type: completeness Assessment: recommendation	<p>France did not report in its BR4 information on the financial support it has provided, committed and/or pledged for the purpose of assisting non-Annex I Parties to adapt to any economic and social consequences of response measures.</p> <p>During the review, France explained that its support for finance and capacity-building activities also contributes to adaptation and mitigation, in addition to supporting broader economic improvements and the economic diversification of the countries involved. However, as France explained, it does not have the means to evaluate such impacts and has therefore not reported on them.</p> <p>The ERT reiterates the previous recommendation that France report information on the financial support it has provided, committed and/or pledged for the purpose of assisting non-Annex I Parties to adapt to any economic and social consequences of response measures in its next BR.</p>
3	Reporting requirement specified in paragraph 19 Issue type: completeness Assessment: encouragement	<p>France did not report on PaMs that promote the scaling up of private investment in mitigation and adaptation activities in developing country Parties in its BR4.</p> <p>During the review, France explained that it does not have information on the amount of private investment leveraged by bilateral climate finance, but has indicated that it will consider how to provide this information in its next BR.</p> <p>The ERT encourages France to include information on PaMs that promote the scaling up of private investment in developing countries in its next BR.</p>
4	Reporting requirement specified in paragraph 21 Issue type: completeness	<p>France did not report on measures taken to support the development and enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies of non-Annex I Parties in its BR4.</p> <p>During the review, France indicated that the enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies is a priority for French public organizations and that enhancement of capacities is integrated into project design. France also indicated that all projects</p>

No.	Reporting requirement, issue type and assessment	Description of the finding with recommendation or encouragement
Assessment: recommendation	<p data-bbox="507 248 1431 398">supported by French public organizations pay particular attention to adapting technologies and techniques to local conditions and circumstances and aim to involve local stakeholders. Finally, France noted that it also focuses on training and capacity-building activities that facilitate the long-term maintenance and operation of transferred technologies.</p> <p data-bbox="507 405 1431 499">The ERT reiterates the previous recommendation that France include in its next BR information on how it supports the development and enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies of developing countries.</p>	

Note: Item listed under reporting requirement refers to the relevant paragraph of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. The reporting on the requirements not included in this table is considered to be complete, transparent and thus adhering to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

96. The ERT conducted a technical review of the information reported in the BR4 and CTF tables of France in accordance with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs. The ERT concludes that the reported information mostly adheres to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs and provides an overview of emissions and removals related to France’s quantified economy-wide emission reduction target; assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of the target; the progress of France towards achieving its target; and France’s provision of support to developing country Parties.

97. France’s total GHG emissions excluding LULUCF covered by its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target were estimated to be 18.0 per cent below its 1990 level, whereas total GHG emissions including LULUCF were 19.4 per cent below its 1990 level, in 2018. Emission decreases were driven mainly by factors such as changes in the energy mix, including the substitution of coal and expansion of renewable energies, and increasingly energy-efficient industrial processes, combined with a shift towards an increasingly service-based economy. France’s mitigation measures have served to further reduce GHG emissions in this period.

98. Under the Convention, France committed to contributing to the achievement of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of a 20 per cent reduction in emissions below the 1990 level by 2020. The target covers all sectors and CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs and SF₆, expressed using global warming potential values from the AR4. Emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector are not included.

99. Under the ESD, France has a target of reducing its emissions by 14 per cent below the 2005 level by 2020. The 2013–2020 progression in France’s AEAs (its national emission target under the ESD) is 394,076.35–342,475.08 kt CO₂ eq.

100. In addition to its ESD target, France committed to achieving a domestic target of a 40 per cent reduction in GHG emissions below the 1990 level by 2030 and to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. France reported on the EU’s joint 2030 targets under the EU ETS and EU effort-sharing regulation.

101. In 2018, according to proxy data provided by the Party, France’s ESD emissions were 2.8 per cent (9,878.98 kt CO₂ eq) below the AEA under the ESD. The ERT noted that France has a cumulative surplus of 138,059.71 kt CO₂ eq with respect to its AEAs.

102. The GHG emission projections provided by France in its BR4 correspond to the WEM and WAM scenarios. Under these scenarios, emissions are projected to be 15.8 and 20.7 per cent below the 1990 level by 2020, respectively. According to the projections under the WEM scenario, ESD emissions are estimated to reach 345,449.47 kt CO₂ eq by 2020. Under the WAM scenario, France’s emissions from ESD sectors in 2020 are projected to be 330,500.00 kt CO₂ eq. The projected level of emissions under the WEM and WAM scenarios is 0.9 per cent above and 3.5 per cent below the AEAs for 2020, respectively. The ERT noted that the Party’s cumulative surplus of AEAs is 138,059.71, which suggests that France expects to meet its target under the WEM scenario.

103. France's main policy frameworks relating to energy and climate change are the EU 2020 climate and energy package and the EU 2030 climate and energy framework. Key legislation supporting France's climate change goals includes the NECP and the National Low-Carbon Strategy. The mitigation actions with the most significant mitigation impact are the 2016–2018 and 2019–2028 Multi-Annual Energy Plan, the Heat Fund, energy saving certificates and an incentive tax on incorporating biofuels.

104. France continues to provide climate financing to developing countries in line with its climate finance programmes. In September 2015, France announced an increase in its annual climate funding from EUR 3 billion to EUR 5 billion by 2020, of which EUR 1 billion is to be dedicated to climate change adaptation. Since the BR3, France has increased its contributions by 58.3 per cent; its public financial support in 2017 and 2018 totalled USD 4,932.16 million and 6,007.98 million, respectively. For those years, France provided more support for mitigation than for adaptation. The biggest share of financial support in 2017 went to projects and programmes in the energy and agriculture sectors, and to cross-cutting projects, while in 2018, the biggest share of financial support went to projects and programmes in the areas of agriculture, energy, water, banking and the environment. An example of this support is France's effort to align its bilateral foreign aid with the aims of the Paris Agreement through the 100% Paris Agreement initiative. As part of this, AFD has committed to only supporting projects that meet the aims of the Paris Agreement and to ensuring that at least half of its financial support is allocated to projects with climate co-benefits.

105. France continues to provide information on support for technology development and transfer and capacity-building. Priority in technological support was given to projects and programmes targeting renewable energy and energy efficiency in a range of recipient countries. A notable project is the Covenant of Mayors in sub-Saharan Africa, implemented by a consortium of EU and African partners and financed by the European Commission, to support African cities in their planning capacities and provide them with a platform to share knowledge and best practices. In its first phase, the project included the provision of capacity-building for a number of African cities to draft and implement Sustainable Energy Access Climate Action Plans, with significant support from France. Priority in capacity-building support was given to projects and programmes on both mitigation and adaptation in recipient countries. A good example of support for capacity-building is the 2017 launch of the Adapt'Action Facility, which offers capacity-building activities to 15 African countries in the area of climate change adaptation.

106. In the course of the review, the ERT formulated the following recommendations for France to improve its adherence to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on BRs in its next BR:

- (a) To improve the completeness of its reporting by:
 - (i) Providing information on the financial support it has provided, committed and/or pledged for the purpose of assisting non-Annex I Parties to adapt to any economic and social consequences of response measures (see issue 2 in table 11);
 - (ii) Providing information on how it supports the development and enhancement of endogenous capacities and technologies of developing countries (see issue 4 in table 11);
- (b) To improve the transparency of its reporting by providing transparent information on its national approach for tracking the provision of technological and capacity-building support to non-Annex I Parties and providing a detailed explanation of its approach for tracking multilateral financial support (see issue 1 in table 11);
- (c) To improve the timeliness of its reporting by submitting its next BR on time (see para. 6 above).

Annex

Documents and information used during the review

A. Reference documents

2019 GHG inventory submission of France. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/194422>.

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B. Additional information provided by the Party

Responses to questions during the review were received from Joseph Hajjar (Directorate General for Energy and Climate, Ministry for Ecological and Inclusive Transition).
