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A compilation of questions to - and answers by - Germany
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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Question by Brazil at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Translation

In chapter III and Chapter IV there is a reference to

<<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/de/eu/ghgpro/envuucoda/overview>>.

The report from the referred link is in German. This makes the access to the information more difficult. Is there a version in English?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The projection report contains an English summary. The full report, however, is not available in English. A more detailed summary of the results of our projections is available in English as part of Germany's Sixth National Communication (2013), please see chapter 4 (p. 108 pp.)

Question by United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Institutional Arrangements

Have there been any significant changes in Germany's domestic institutional arrangements used for domestic compliance, monitoring, reporting, archiving of information and evaluation of the progress towards its target?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Germany is closely monitoring its progress towards achieving its domestic climate policy targets of a 40 percent reduction by 2020, and an 80-95 percent reduction by 2050 on 1990 levels. In addition to annual greenhouse gas inventory reports under the Kyoto Protocol and biennial projection reports under the EU monitoring mechanism the Federal Government is publishing annual monitoring reports on its progress in implementing the transition to a low-carbon economy ("Energiewende"). This fact-based monitoring process takes regular stock of the implementation of the measures contained in the Energy Concept, e.g. measures to improve energy efficiency or to expand the use of renewable energy, and progress made in attaining the steering targets. This is designed to be a long-term process. The third monitoring report has been published in December 2014. Every three years – for the first time at the end of 2014 – the monitoring report will be complemented by a progress report

that examines the implementation status in terms of the overall context and, where appropriate, proposes additional measures.

On 3 December 2014 the German cabinet adopted the „Climate Action Programme 2020“, which contains measures to be implemented by 2020 in order to reach Germany’s domestic climate policy target for 2020. As part of this programme, as of December 2014 the German Government tasked the Environment Ministry with the preparation of an annual climate report which will be published for the first time at the end of 2015. This report will closely monitor progress in implementing the measures of the “Climate Action Programme 2020” and overall progress towards Germany’s domestic climate policy targets and draw upon information of inventories and projections.

Question by United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Status of Target

Could Germany clarify the status of the target reported on in the Biennial Report, which is more ambitious than Germany’s target under the Convention?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In the Biennial Report of 2014 Germany reported its domestic climate policy target for reducing domestic greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2020 compared to 1990 levels. This target is more ambitious than Germany’s implied share of the overall emission reduction obligation of the EU and its Member States for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Updated analysis in preparation for the “Climate Action Programme 2020” has shown that measures implemented before 2014 will lead to an overall reduction of domestic emissions by between 32 and 35 percent by 2020 compared to 1990, depending on parameters such as economic growth and energy prices.

Question by Australia at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Domestic target within the EU

Germany’s domestic quantified economy-wide emissions reduction target is a 40 percent reduction on 1990 levels by 2020, while its commitment within the EU is to a

20 percent reduction on 1990 levels through a 21 percent reduction on 2005 levels (ETS-covered) and a 14 percent reduction for non-ETS sectors. How will Germany ensure that additional domestic reductions will not be double-counted by other EU member states as part of their EU target through changes to the burden sharing agreement or cross border market impacts of the ETS?

[Answer by Germany](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Climate policy instruments at the EU level are an important corner stone of Germany's efforts to reduce GHG emissions. Where our national efforts go beyond the requirements at EU level we are aiming to ensure full effectiveness of emission reductions achieved, inter alia by avoiding double-counting. Under EU legislation, contributions by different Member States in the non-ETS sectors (so called "effort sharing") are fixed. Reductions by individual Member States beyond their respective reduction obligations do not automatically lead to enlarged emission budgets for other Member States as long as spare emission units resulting from overachieving emission budgets are not traded to other Member States. In this context we are planning to cancel Kyoto Protocol units corresponding to our domestic climate policy target of minus 40 percent by 2020. We are actually at present discussing the specific modalities of cancellation of Kyoto Protocol units within the German government.

In addition, Germany will closely observe possible repercussions of domestic measures on the performance of the EU-ETS.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 of March

[Title:](#) "With additional measures" scenarios

Under "Chapter IV: Projections", it is stated: "The "with additional measures" scenarios are not included in this report". Could Germany explain why not providing this information in the report? Please, describe the "with additional measures" scenarios.

[Answer by Germany](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The scenario "with additional measures" contained in the projection report has been a hypothetical scenario including possible additional climate policies and their potential effect on emissions. The policies analyzed in this scenario were by their nature not agreed upon by the Federal Government and therefore Germany decided not to include this scenario in the Biennial Report. In the meantime, however, the Government introduced additional measures as contained in its "Climate Action

Programme 2020”, which will be reflected in future projection reports (see www.bmub.bund.de/P3616-1/). The programme aims at filling the gap between Germany’s domestic climate policy target of GHG-emission reduction and latest recent “with measures” projections for GHG-emissions in 2020.

Question by United States of America at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Planned Measures

Which mitigation measures considered or planned for future implementation meet Germany’s domestic 2020 target have the greatest estimated mitigation impacts?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In order to achieve its domestic climate policy target for 2020 the Federal Government of Germany has agreed upon the “Climate Action Programme 2020” in December 2014, which contains around 100 measures to reduce emissions beyond projected trends in all relevant sectors. Overall, the programme is expected to lead to additional reductions of 62 to 78 million tons of CO₂-equivalents compared to projected levels in 2020. Major contributions to this overall reduction are expected from the National Energy Efficiency Plan (NAPE), which will save approx. 25 - 30 million t (including energy efficiency in buildings), the strategy on climate-friendly building and housing approx. 5.7 - 10 million t (delivering 1.5 to 4.7 million tons in addition to the NAPE), measures in the transport sector with approx. 7 - 10 million, measures in industry, commerce/trade/services and waste management with 3 - 7.7 million t, and agriculture with 3.6 million t. In addition, further measures, especially in the electricity sector, are foreseen to lead to 22 million tons of additional reductions.

Question by Brazil at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Emission reduction target

Please provide details on the impact of the reduction of 47.61 and 82.42 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent respectively projected to 2015 and 2020 (table 3) in the achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target.

[Answer by Germany](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The figures referred to are results of the analysis of the “with measures” scenario of Germany’s projection report of 2013. These values represent estimates of the reduction effect of measures implemented until including October 2012 compared to a hypothetical “without measures” scenario. Analysis in preparation for the “Climate Action Programme 2020” has shown that measures implemented before 2014 will lead to an overall reduction of domestic emissions by between 32 and 35 percent by 2020 compared to 1990, depending on parameters such as economic growth and energy prices. This reduction is ahead of Germany’s share in the overall emission reduction obligation of the EU and its member states for the second commitment period of the Kyoto protocol, but below its more ambitious domestic climate policy target. By introducing the “Climate Action Programme 2020” Germany is aiming at closing this gap and deliver on its domestic target of a 40% reduction of GHG emissions.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Emission reduction target 2

The following information is part of chapter II: “In its Energy Concept, the German government set itself the target of reducing the country’s greenhouse gas emissions by 40 % by 2020”. However, based in Table 6 (Information on updated greenhouse gas projections), the GHG emission reduction is 33%. Please, explain this difference. What Germany is planning to achieve the referred target of 40% (Additional policies and measures, KP mechanisms or account for other LULUCF activities not included up to now)? Please explain possible actions being taken in order to close this gap between the target and projections.

Table 2 (e) informs that possible scale of contributions is zero from CERS, ERUs, AAUs, carry-over unities and Other mechanism units under the Convention. How does Germany intend close the gap referred above?

At the same time, table 3 refers to the “Introduction of emissions trading”. Please, consider the contradiction between the information contained in table 3 and the information above (no use of market mechanisms).

[Answer by Germany](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Projections for GHG emissions as reported in the Biennial Report of January 2014 are based on policies implemented until including October 2012. Updated analysis in preparation for the “Climate Action Programme 2020” has shown that measures implemented before 2014 will lead to an overall reduction of domestic emissions by between 32 and 35 percent by 2020 compared to 1990, depending on parameters

such as economic growth and energy prices. By introducing the “Climate Action Programme 2020” Germany is aiming at closing this gap and deliver on its domestic climate policy target of a 40% reduction of GHG emissions without recourse to LULUCF credits, flexible mechanisms such as CDM, JI or other mechanisms under the Convention.

The “Climate Action Programme 2020” comprises nine components. It contains contributions by each component to closing the mitigation gap, where quantifiable. It comprises measures in the main emitting sectors, such as the power sector, transport and buildings, while also addressing non-energy related emissions, i.e. in the waste and agriculture sectors. Land use and forestry are also part of the programme, however, emission reductions in this area are not counted towards the domestic climate policy target. In addition the programme tackles the government’s role in demonstrating best practice, the research and development advice, public education and independent initiatives to step up climate action. For an English version of the “Climate Action Programme 2020” see www.bmub.bund.de/P3616-1/.

Question by Saudi Arabia at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: The assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures

A: Germany has provided information on its mitigation actions throughout table 3, Could Germany clarify if any of these policies are analyzed for social and economic impacts on non-Annex I Countries

B: Did Germany encounter difficulty in reporting on its assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures in the BR? Will Germany be providing information on this assessment in the next BR?

C: How Does Germany tap into the activities under the Conventions to address concerns arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

A: Germany’s Sixth National Communication (2013) contains information on potential social and economic impacts on non-Annex I Countries in chapter 3.6.2 (p. 106 pp.). In addition, many climate policies are implemented at EU level and have therefore been analyzed by the EU for potential social and economic impacts on non-Annex I Countries, see BR1 of the EU, section 4.10.

B: The BR was submitted as an annex to the Sixth National Communication, where more information can be found than in the BR, please see Germany’s Sixth National

Communication for further information. Germany will continue to report on this matter, including in future Biennial Reports.

C: Germany takes the issue of the impact of the implementation of response measures (“RM”) seriously. The EU and its member states have provided detailed information on the assessment of RM under the forum established by decision 8/CP.17. As the forum consolidates all discussions on RM under the Convention, discussions on specific issues related to RM, including on best practices, regional and bilateral cooperation and the experienced benefits thereof, and available programmes and initiatives, should be taken within the forum, subject to a COP decision concerning its extension and an agreed work programme.

Question by Brazil at Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: HFCs

The increase in emissions from base to latest reported year regarding HFCs was 99.83%. What is the projected emissions of HFCs related to 2020?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Most recent inventory data for Germany show that HFC emissions have increased by about 87% over 1990 level by 2013 which represents a 28% increase over Kyoto Base year level (1995). According to most recent projections (Germany’s Projection Report 2015), emissions of HFCs are expected to decrease by about 6.5% by 2020 compared to 2013 levels. This projection is not yet taking into account measures included in the “Climate Action Programme 2020” which includes additional measures to reduce HFC emissions.

Question by New Zealand at Monday, 30 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Progress towards 2020 target

If Germany faces a shortfall in meeting its domestic target of -40% below 1990 levels by 2020 will Germany consider using international offsets to fill the gap?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In order to achieve its domestic climate policy target for 2020 the Federal Government of Germany has agreed upon the "Climate Action Programme 2020" in December 2014, which contains around 100 measures to reduce emissions beyond projected trends in all relevant sectors. Analysis on impacts of the measures contained in the Programme suggests that the domestic target can be reached by way of full implementation of the "Climate Action Programme 2020". Germany will not make use of international offsets in order to achieve its domestic 40% target.

Question by New Zealand at Monday, 30 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Accounting for LULUCF under Articles 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol

In Table 4 of the biennial report LULUCF is described as not relevant for meeting targets. However, the Table: INFORMATIONTABLE ON ACCOUNTING FOR ACTIVITIES UNDER ARTICLES 3.3 AND 3.4 OF THE KYOTOPROTOCOL shows accounting quantities for LULUCF under Articles 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol. How are these two elements of reporting reconciled? And, more generally, how does Germany reconcile its accounting for its second commitment period target under the Kyoto Protocol with its domestic target for 2020?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Germany has reported the information in table 4 of the Biennial Report in order to provide information on accounting quantities for the purposes of the Kyoto Protocol. These units will not be used by Germany to achieve its domestic climate policy target of 40% by 2020, however.

Question by New Zealand at Monday, 30 March 2015

Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Electric vehicle policy

Germany states that it has a policy to promote electro mobility, aiming for 1 million electric vehicles by 2020 and 6 million by 2030. Could Germany please provide an estimate of emissions reductions from this policy (and the assumptions that inform the estimate) as there is no estimate included in the biennial report. What is the estimated cost per tonne of emissions reductions of this initiative?

[Answer by Germany](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The GHG emission reduction resulting from this policy is expected to be about 0.7 million tons in 2020. The accumulated reduction will be higher as Germany is expecting an average operation time of 13 years for electric cars. The calculation is based on the substitution of conventional cars by electric cars. Based on projections (not calculations) beyond 2020, Germany is expecting to reduce 5.2 million tons of GHG emissions in 2030. This reduction is mainly based on Plug-in-Hybrid and battery-operated cars.

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 30 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: additional PaMs

In the WM scenario, the GHG emission excl. LULUCF in Germany in 2020 will be 31% lower than 1990. What additional actions will Germany take to achieve the 40% target?

[Answer by Germany](#) at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

Updated analysis in preparation for the “Climate Action Programme 2020” has shown that measures implemented before 2014 will lead to an overall reduction of domestic emissions by between 32 and 35 percent by 2020 compared to 1990, depending on parameters such as economic growth and energy prices. In order to achieve its domestic climate policy target for 2020 the Federal Government of Germany has agreed upon the “Climate Action Programme 2020” in December 2014, which contains around 100 measures to reduce emissions beyond projected trends (i.e. compared to the “with measures” projection) in all relevant sectors. Overall, the programme is expected to lead to additional reductions of 62 to 78 million tons of CO₂-equivalents compared to projected levels in 2020. Major contributions to this overall reduction are expected from the National Energy Efficiency Plan (NAPE), which will save approx. 25 - 30 million t (including energy efficiency in buildings), the strategy on climate-friendly building and housing approx. 5.7 - 10 million t (delivering 1.5 to 4.7 million tons in addition to the NAPE), measures in the transport sector with approx. 7 - 10 million, measures in industry, commerce/trade/services and waste management with 3 - 7.7 million t, and agriculture with 3.6 million t. In addition, further measures, especially in the electricity sector, are foreseen to lead to 22 million tons of additional reductions.

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 30 March 2015

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: projection for transportation

The projection of transportation sector is missing, could Germany provide information on how to control the emissions within this sector?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

The projected impact of climate policies in the transport sector is included in Table 3 of the Biennial Report as well as in the Sixth National Communication of Germany (2013) in chapter 4.4.4 (p. 133 pp.). Examples for existing policies in this sector include, i.a., CO₂ emission standards for cars and light duty vehicles, the HGV toll, and the promotion of electromobility. Additional measures have been adopted by the federal Government as part of the "Climate Action Programme 2020" (see www.bmub.bund.de/P3616-1/).

For example, significant investments are foreseen in railway infrastructure in order to promote the shift of freight transport from roads on railways. Additional efforts are foreseen to achieve the national target of 1 million electric vehicles on the roads by 2020.

Question by China at Monday, 30 March 2015

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: national mitigation target

As a member of EU bubble, Germany doesn't pledge a national mitigation target under the UNFCCC, but has set domestic economy-wide emission reduction target of 40% by 2020 compared with 1990.

And according to the BR, for those sectors not covered by EU-ETS, the emission reduction target for Germany is 14% compared with the verified emissions from the 2005. What is the emission volume of those entities covered by EU-ETS in the base year, and in the target year? Does the domestic 40% target match the non-ETS sectors target and ETS covered target? What additional information would Germany provide in order to make its effort transparent?

Answer by Germany at Wednesday, 27 May 2015

In addition to climate policies under EU legislation, including the EU-ETS and Effort Sharing decision, Germany has set a domestic climate policy target for the reduction of GHG-emissions by at least 40% by 2020 compared to 1990 levels. The domestic

40% target cannot directly be compared to the implied effort required by EU legislation, however, the domestic target is more ambitious than Germany's commitments under EU legislation alone.
