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A compilation of questions to - and answers by - Poland
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1.

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: Mitigation actions

In Table 3, does Poland plans to estimate the impact of mitigation actions that have not being estimated (NA)? If not, what are the main reasons? If possible, give the explanation by mitigation action or by cluster/sector. In the same table, regarding "Industry", there is no information on "Estimate of mitigation impact". What are the main reasons? If possible, give the explanation by mitigation action.

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

Poland is aware that to develop an effective, evidence-based climate change policies, there is a need to have a comprehensive analytical background. An extensive quantitative assessment of policies and measures was not possible so far mostly due to the lack of sufficient data and tools, which are necessary to analyse impact of policies and measures on mitigation in different sectors. However, efforts have been undertaken to approach this challenge. Ministry of the Environment has prepared a project of legislation, which is expected to significantly improve data collection amongst different sectors. Development of advanced economic modelling tools is equally important in this context. In 2013 the Government in cooperation with the World Bank has established the Center for Climate Policy Analysis which supplies climate policies with data on potential impacts on competitiveness as well as suggestions of the most effective instruments. This project, conducted jointly by Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Economy, has positively influenced evidence-based policy and decision-making process in Poland and as it is expected to further develop the set of analytical tools (through introduction of i.a. detailed sectoral models), it will become even more influential and important in the near future. The necessary changes in domestic legislation are also needed. So far, there is no obligation to present the potential impacts of the proposed regulation on GHG emissions. Therefore, evaluation of such impacts should become mandatory within regulation impact assessment. The necessary changes in the domestic regulations will be proposed by the Ministry of the Environment.

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: Emissions Growth

The Expert Review Team noted that it could be challenging for Poland to meet its emission targets, in particular due to the increase in fossil fuels and the slow growth of renewable energy sources compared to their potential. How will Poland address these issues?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

Energy sector is responsible for majority of GHG emissions in Poland. Nevertheless, projected total GHG emissions for 2020 constitute about 67% of overall emissions in relation to the base year (1988). The biggest reduction is anticipated in fuel combustion sector (Energy and Manufacturing Industries: 1.A.1 & 1.A.2) due to further energy efficiency measures implemented in the Polish industry and buildings sectors as well as projected changes in fuel mix including increase of the share of renewable energy sources in energy production.

The economically feasible potential of renewable energy sources in Poland has been estimated while setting the EU climate and energy policy framework by 2020. Poland has agreed to reach 15% share of renewables in final energy consumption – all the necessary measures and the growth pace are indicated in the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP). Current status of renewable energy sources' development in Poland exceeds the NREAP's forecasts and the forecasts developed by Ministry of Economy. The share of renewable energy sources in 2013 reached 11,25% and so Poland is on a very good track to achieve its individual 15% target by 2020. As regards European targets, the EU and Member States including Poland are well on track to reach their targets for 2020. The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This is equivalent to -14% compared to 2005. This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:

- 21% reduction in EU ETS sector emissions (EU wide target) by 2020 compared to 2005; and

- the Effort Sharing Decision sets binding annual emissions allocations for each Member State for the sectors not covered by the EU ETS. This represents for the EU a reduction of around 10% by 2020 compared to 2005 (limitations based on absolute targets at the level of each Member State). The Effort Sharing Decision mainly covers emissions from transportation, residential sector, small businesses and services, agriculture, waste and fugitive emissions.

Total EU emissions were in 2012 18% below the 1990 level and are estimated to be around 19% below the 1990 level in 2013. According to the projections provided by the Member States based on existing measures, emissions would be 21% lower in 2020 than in 1990. The EU is therefore on track to meet its GHG emission reduction target.

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Type: Before 31 of March

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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: "With Additional Measures" Scenario

Poland did not provide a "with additional measures" scenario. Could Poland explain whether it has additional planned measures?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

As Poland is on track to fulfill its emission reduction target (following WEM scenario), scenario "with additional measures", which is not mandatory following the UNFCCC reporting guidelines, was not necessary.

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

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

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

Poland is acting together with other Parties in the EU to jointly fulfil the commitments under the Protocol. Considerations of possible impact of response measures form part of the fully transparent process of impact assessments of EU legislative proposals or sustainability impact assessments of trade agreements. **Key climate policies and measures (e.g. the EU Emissions Trading System, EU ETS) are established at the EU level. While these policies are executed at the national level, they are not monitored and assessed by individual Member States, but by the EU as a whole. The EU reported in detail on how it strives to minimize adverse effects in First Biennial Report from the European Union under the UNFCCC, to**

which we hereby refer for further information. Poland also seeks to ensure that response measures designed and implemented entirely at the national level are as targeted and effective as possible and significant difficulties were not encountered so far. Poland plans to include the issue of response measures in the next Biennial Report. The provision of more detailed information on assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures depends on the analytical capacity. Further broadening and improvement of analytical tools of Center for Climate Policy Analysis will allow to address this issue in the coming years.

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: decarbonization of energy supply

As the ERT noted, it is quite challenging for Poland to achieve its QEWERT, what is Poland's plan to decarbonize its energy supply and reduce the GHG emission from transportation and agriculture sector?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

As a Party to the Kyoto Protocol, the Republic of Poland undertook to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 6% in 2008–2012 and by 20% up to 2020 relative to the emissions in the base year, for which 1988 was adopted. Poland successfully achieved these objectives in the first commitment period and is on right track to achieve its target for 2020, as the reduction in the greenhouse gas emissions has already reached about 29% relative to the base year. It's worth mentioning that at the same time its GDP grew more than twice. However in spite of this significant overachievement, Poland continues to undertake efforts towards climate change mitigation.

Currently the Polish Government is preparing „Energy Policy for Poland until 2050”, which will focus on achieving long-term climate policy objectives, which were agreed in the European Union. It will include means to increase the share of renewable energy sources in the energy-mix, as well as establishment of a nuclear power plant. Strong emphasis will be put on the energy efficiency measures i.a. in the power-generation sector.

In Polish circumstances, where about 90% of energy is produced from coal, and we have significant coal and lignite deposits while renewables development potential is limited comparing to other Parties, decarbonization is not an easy task and cannot be conducted in a sustainable manner during a short period of time. It needs to be emphasized, that this is also a matter of utmost importance for energy security. However, the Polish energy sector is implementing significant investments to reduce

GHG emissions. The most important ones are undergoing under derogation instrument for electricity producers within the EU ETS, which gives possibility for electricity generators to receive free allowances provided that they would carry out investments in retrofitting and upgrading of the infrastructure and in clean technologies. This mechanism, originally designed for the period from 2012 to 2020 has been recently extended until 2030.

From 2020 there will be an additional tool in the EU ETS for the energy sector in Poland and some other Member States. The tool is called modernization fund and its aim is to improve energy efficiency and to modernise the energy systems of the benefitting Member States.

In the non-ETS sector, each EU Member State has its individual reduction target. According to Member-States' projections (with existing measures), the EU as a whole will achieve the emission reductions foreseen in the non-ETS sector. According to the projections of Member States, a total overachievement of around 700 MtCO₂ eq. can be expected in the non-ETS sector over the period 2013-2020. The transport sector is the largest contributor to GHG emissions in the non-ETS sector and emissions are projected to remain stable with existing measures. Energy efficiency measures in the residential and service sectors (the second largest source of emissions in the non-ETS) are expected to contribute towards three quarters of the projected savings in the non-ETS sectors.

As regards transport sector Poland's development is closely linked to the convergence with the level of developed countries, especially the average level of the EU. This also applies to the mobility of citizens and the evolution of logistic processes. On average, the share of emissions from the transport sector in the EU stands at one-fourth of the total emissions from all sectors, but in Poland we anticipate the share of GHG emissions from transport in total emissions to have increased by 2020 only to approx. 14%. However our policies assume reduction of the growth rate of emissions in relation to the growth rate of passenger and cargo transportation mainly by improving transport efficiency. Measures to achieve this objective were indicated in the adopted by the Government in January 2013 Transport Development Strategy by 2020 (with perspective by 2030). The direction of actions are:

- supporting the diversity and complementarity of the transport modes;

- supporting the least polluting organizational solutions in transportation;

- management of the transport demand deploying new transport technologies to reduce negative impact on the environment.

PaMs that are focused on growing emissions from non-ETS sectors (transport, agriculture, housing, waste etc.) will be implemented according to the sectoral development strategies, taking into account cost-effectiveness of the various actions in the country. With regard to transportation one can indicate the following:

improving the organization of transport (including the development of logistics services and intermodal transport)

improving traffic management (implementation of Intelligent Transport Systems);

improving energy efficiency and emission of the road transport (infrastructure solutions conducive to smooth motion and fuel efficient vehicles with appropriate cargo and passenger capacity);

increasing the share of alternative fuels and electricity in transport;

improvement and modernization of collective transport, including public transport in cities;

modernization of railway infrastructure and rolling stock;

promotion of non-motorized transport, including walking and cycling;

supporting technical solutions for improved energy efficiency of ships;

introduction of organizational solutions conducive to reduction of emissions in air transport, including route optimization.

As for agriculture sector in Poland, it has a small share in overall emissions, as well as emissions in non-ETS sectors. Mitigation measures in agriculture that were mentioned in the Sixth National Communication remain Poland's priority in this sector:

rationalisation of the use of fertilisers, including nitrogen fertilisers;

rationalisation of energy management in agriculture, including energy production from biomass from waste, liquid manure and solid manure;

improvements in animal feeding techniques and feed management;

afforestation of agricultural land and the afforestation of non-agricultural land;

preferences for crops with high CO₂ capture;

rational management of farmland;

improvements in animal keeping systems and reductions in methane emissions from animal excreta;

elimination of gaseous pollutants emitted from poultry buildings by using phytomediation and solar ventilation.

It has to be noted, that during 2014-2020 significant amount of EU funds will be dedicated to “Programme for Development of Rural Areas”, of which over 3 bln EUR will be climate policy related expenditures.

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: projections for transportation and agriculture sector

In WM scenario, the emission from transportation sector and agricultural sector (major non- ETS sectors) will increase by 24% in 2020 compared to 2005 level, however for Poland under the EU ESD the limitation is a 14% increase. What additional PaMs will Poland take to address the emission increase from those sectors?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The ESD sectors include more than just two sectors (transportation and agriculture), so the 2020 ESD limit of +14% is to be met by all of them calculated together (transport, agriculture, households, small businesses, waste and fugitive emissions). Indeed, GHG emissions from transport and agriculture sectors are going to increase since 2005 but at the same time emissions from fuel combustion in households and services are projected to decrease up to 2020. According to most up-to-date GHG projections, the overall ESD emissions up to 2020 will not exceed ESD limits established for Poland.

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: market mechanism

How will Poland use the units from market mechanisms?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

We do not need to use offset credits to meet our KP target in the first and second commitment period. As Poland significantly overachieved the emissions reduction target, since 2009 the Minister of the Environment concluded 10 AAU Purchase Agreements all together worth over EUR190 million. The proceeds from the sale of AAUs are being spent within the Green Investment Scheme system, supporting

projects which directly reduce emissions (hard greening) or reduce them indirectly through policy development, strategies, education or projects where reductions cannot be measured (soft greening). Since 2012 over 350 projects have been implemented within 7Greening Programmes. Till now over 250 projects were completed. On the basis of grant agreements signed with beneficiaries, the avoided CO2 emission is estimated at a level of 995 494,90 Mg CO2/year. As a result of energy management in public buildings and in buildings of selected public sector entities thermal and electric energy are planned to be reduced by 1 100 000 GJ per year.

Question by China 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: national mitigation target

As a member of EU bubble, Poland doesn't pledge a national mitigation target under the UNFCCC. According to the BR, for those sectors not covered by EU-ETS, the emission limitation target for Poland is not exceeding 14% above the verified emissions from the 2005. However, it is not clear how much effort Poland is going to make on sectors covered by EU-ETS, nor the effort as a whole, compared with its base year level. What additional information would Poland provide in order to make its effort transparent? What is the emission volume of those entities covered by EU-ETS in the base year, and in the target year?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

GHG projections presented in the NC6 and CTF-BR1 indicate that in Poland overall emissions in 2020 are going to reach about 67% of base year (1988) emissions. The EU ETS is a market based mechanism setting a cap on the total amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted by operators in the EU. As a result, total emissions cannot exceed this cap. In addition, the cap decreases gradually every year.

In 2013, total verified emissions in the EU were 182 Mt CO₂ eq below the cap for that year. Verified emissions in 2013 decreased by 4% compared to verified emissions in the year 2012. Compared to 2005 verified emissions (scope-corrected), the reduction achieved in 2013 was about 19%. Further emissions reductions are projected until 2020. The reduction, that should be achieved by EU ETS in 2020, has been agreed on 21% comparing to the 2005 level. The EU-wide cap imposed on the EU ETS is determined for all EU Member States and the three EEA EFTA States (Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) without reflecting a specific share for each Member State.

Referring specifically to the question regarding what Poland is going to do in the EU ETS sectors to mitigate the GHG emission, the answer is that Poland has already done a lot by acceding to the EU ETS. This system imposes a lot of additional burden on companies and forces them to monitor, manage and cut the emission. This is a market-based system, so the idea is that the European GHG emission is managed by market-based mechanisms, not by administrative actions.

Question by China 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: time series of GHG emission

Inconsistencies of the time series of energy sector, industry sector, agriculture, and wasted sector have been noted by the ERT, can Poland clarify on this issue?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

As indicated in the Table 3 of the review report ARR/2014/POL, time series consistency of the annual submission was assessed as “sufficiently consistent”. Any recommendations given for specific sectors aiming at further improving data used have been already implemented in the following submission.

Question by China 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: GHG emission in LULUCF sector

As the ERT noted, mandatory information regarding LULUCF emissions are missing in the Inventory, could Poland provide more information regarding this?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

In relation to the completeness of the national inventory, consecutive improvements are being introduced, taking into the consideration all ERT recommendations from previous inventory reviews.

In case of LULUCF category indicated (in Table 3, page 9, of the ARR/2014/POL report) as “not complete” – the simplified estimation approach was applied that

does not require to estimate the exact numerical data related to the carbon stock changes in certain pools.

Since this issue has been recognized and raised by the ERT only in 2014, it has been implemented thereafter based on updated data sets related to the land transition scheme and is to be included in the 2015 GHG inventory Submission.

Nevertheless the missing information does not affect the accounting procedure for Poland to meet the Kyoto Protocol emission reduction goal as the whole LULUCF sector (as net carbon sink) is excluded from GHG emission totals.

Question by Switzerland 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: Energy sector contributions to reversing emission trends

How are the projected development of energy use and GHG emissions (including continued high reliance of the Party on fossil fuels and emission-intensive industries) expected to contribute to longer term requirements to substantially lower GHG emissions and thus support the collective achievement of the 2 degree warming limit?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

Currently Polish Government is preparing „Energy Policy for Poland until 2050”, which will focus on achieving long-term climate policy objectives agreed in the European Union. It will include means to increase the share of renewable energy sources in the energy-mix, as well as establishment of a nuclear power plant. Strong emphasis will be put on the energy efficiency measures i.a. in the power generation sector.

Both current and planned energy policies in Poland are consistent with climate policies of the European Union. Therefore Poland will participate in the global efforts addressing climate change adequately to its starting point and mitigation potential. Use of coal in Polish power generation and industrial sectors will be conditional to implementation of best available clean coal technologies, which can significantly decrease GHG emissions in comparison to emission levels in current installations. Having in mind the need to shift Polish economy, including industrial sectors, into a low-emission pathway, Polish Government have decided to prepare a “National Programme for the Development of a Low-Emission Economy” which will specify the measures needed to achieve transformation, while ensuring sustainable development of the country - taking into account cost-effectiveness, impact on the environment and the effect on the competitiveness. In a long-term perspective the “Programme” should foster development of a modern material- and energy-

efficient, innovative economy which will be competitive on European and global markets. It is expected that the “Programme” will take into account new challenges in the context of the circular economy and the close-loop economy.

Question by Switzerland at Monday, 30 March 2015

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

Type: Before 31 of March

Title: Use of renewable energy sources

To what extent are renewable energy sources(RES) being used by the Party at present and how is the potential for replacing conventional fuels for power generation by RES estimated for 2020 and beyond? What share of RES in total national power generation is expected to be achievable by 2020 and 2030, respectively?

Answer by Poland at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The development of renewable energy sources is one of the most important directions of the “Energy Policy of Poland until 2030”, which is currently in force. This strategic document indicates main directions of energy sector modernization, in line with the requirements of the European Union’s climate and energy policy. “Energy Policy of Poland until 2030” envisages a share of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption in 2020 that shall reach around 15.5% (19% in power sector). The current level of renewable energy sources deployment has reached 11,25%, what exceeds our prognosis as well as European Union’s plans. At present, Ministry of Economy in cooperation with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) prepares an assessment of RES potential for Poland by 2030 (including power sector). It will be published in 2015 and therefore contribute to identify possible ways to further increase the share of renewable energy sources in the energy-mix.
