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A compilation of questions to - and answers by – Romania
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[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: Base year

For the sake of transparency, Romania should clarify with a footnote in Table 1 which is the “base year”.

[Answer by Romania](#) at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The base year under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and under the Kyoto Protocol, for Romania, is 1989.

In the next Biennial Report submission, Romania will replace in the Common Tabular Format (CTF) table 1 the term “base year” with “1989”.

[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: Correction

There is a misinformation about the term “base year”. According to Romania’s Review Report related to its 2013 National Inventory Submission, the year of 1989 was chosen to be its base year regarding KP. However, Table 2(a) determines 1990 as the base year. If Romania wants to keep 1989 as its base year, the cell informed “% of 1990” should be kept blank.

[Answer by Romania](#) at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The base year under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change And under the Kyoto Protocol, for Romania, is 1989.

In the next Biennial Report submission, in the CTF table 2(a), Romania will include the data on the emission reduction target in the column associated to the “% of base year/base period” instead of including it in the column associated to the “% of 1990”.

[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: Emission reduction target

Regarding Table 2(a) "Description of quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: base year", the emission reduction target is said to be 80% of 1990. Does Romania mean it wants to reduce 20% of 1990's emissions by 2020? If so, the figure in this table should be 20%.

[Answer by Romania](#) at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The base year under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and under the Kyoto Protocol, for Romania, is 1989.

In the next Biennial Report submission, in the CTF table 2(a), Romania will include the data on the emission reduction target in the column associated to the "% of base year/base period" instead of including it in the column associated to the "% of 1990".

Considering the status of member State of the European Union of Romania and based on the Annex I to Decision 1/CMP. 8-Section A footnote 4 to the table (updated Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol), the Quantified Emission Limitation or Reduction Commitments (QELRC) for the European Union and its member States for a second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol are based on the understanding that these will be fulfilled jointly with the European Union and its member States, in accordance with Article 4 of the Kyoto Protocol. The QELRCs are without prejudice to the subsequent notification by the European Union and its member States of an agreement to fulfil their commitments jointly in accordance with the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol.

In the next Biennial Report submission, Romania will include in the CTF table 2(a) "20.00" as data associated to the Emission reduction target and "% of base year/base period" instead of "80.00" associated to the Emission reduction target and "% of 1990".

[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: Reduction of fuel consumption

In Table 3, the second action named "Energy efficiency at energy consumer level", with the objective of "reduction of fuel consumption in the industrial, agriculture and transport sectors" has the same impact (in kt CO₂ eq) as the policy "GD 1460/2008 National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania. 2013 – 2020 - 2030 Horizon", as contained in NC6 Table IV_ 6 Policies and measures to reduce GHG emissions, with the objectives on "the future evolution of energy sector, of industrial sector, of agriculture and forestry, of rural development of the transport sector". In NC6, this GD 1460/2008 policy is further defined including the field of

agriculture and food production, on ensuring the safety in supply and the safety of food, e.g.: improving the efficiency in the use of nitrate fertilizers, as well as fertilizer storage to reduce CH₄ and N₂O emissions and to contribute to the mitigation of climate change; stimulating/encouraging the use of equipment for the treatment of waste waters in farming; reducing the fragmentation degree of agricultural surfaces and stimulating the concentration of small farms; increasing the nutritional value of the herbaceous carpet, ensuring the balanced and efficient meal of various categories of animals, particularly cattle and sheep, in order to obtain non-polluted zoo technical products and an adequate state of health for animals. The referred policy is also involved in industrial development, in accordance with general objectives of the sustainable economic development, in line with EU industrial policies, with various components other than reduction of fuel consumption (NC6 page 130). Could we understand that the GD 1460/2008 policy related only to reduction of fuel consumption gives less estimated of mitigation impact than that informed in CTF Table 3? In such case, figures should be changed in this table.

[Answer by Romania](#) at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The figure related to the estimative mitigation impact presented in the NC6 “Table IV_6 Policies and measures to reduce GHG emissions in the WEM scenario” and in BR1, “Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target”, are correct, considering the following:

-In the NC6 Table IV_6, line 3 the estimative effect of the policy (GD 1460/2008) include only the contribution of reduction of fuel consumption in the industrial, agriculture and transport sector, considering the reporting of the policy under the **Energy sector**;

-The estimative effect of the policy (GD 1460/2008)non related to the fuel consumption is reported also in NC6 Table IV_6, under the **Agriculture sector**, namely:

- Line 28 – improvement of quality of nutrition for cattle, sheep and goats,
- Line 29 – improvement of manure management;
- Line 30 – Protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources.

Please note that the estimated effect of policy and measures reported in NC6 or in BR1, Table 3, should not to be sum up; these reflect only the current socio-economic condition, which changes and adapts over time.

[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: LULUCF

In Table 3 "Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects", there is an action related to LULUCF (improvement of land use). Should this be an indication that Romania is willing to use LULUCF sector in achieving its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target against the information in Table 2(d)?

Answer by Romania at Thursday, 28 May 2015

In accordance with the information in the Common Tabular Format (CTF) table 2(d), the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry(LULUCF) Sector is not covered under the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for the 2013-2020 period.. The EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package sets out three binding targets for 2020:

- a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels;
- raising the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%;
- a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency;

covering many sectors and gases, but excluding emissions from LULUCF. Further details on the EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package can be found on the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/package/index_en.htm. Under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol the EU and its Member States committed to reducing their economy wide emissions, which includes LULUCF emissions, by 20% on 1990 levels by 2020. The scope of this target differs from that of the EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package.

The joint fulfilment agreement detailing how the EU and its Member States will collectively meet the EU target to reduce emissions by 20% on 1990 levels by 2020 under the Kyoto Protocol, which is still being finalized, will set out how LULUCF emissions should be treated by individual Member States. The latest version of this agreement details that any net emissions from LULUCF in a Member State can be compensated by that Member State's over performance in other sectors not covered under the Union Emission Trading Scheme or by use of the Kyoto Protocol's flexible mechanisms. A Member State may also use surplus emission rights carried over from the first commitment period held in its Previous Period Surplus Reserve (PPSR) to cover emissions from LULUCF, to the extent that its emissions exceed its assigned amount.

In practice this means that Member States where LULUCF is a net sink for the 2013 to 2020 period will deliver greater emissions reductions than their targets require under the EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package, as these reductions are outside the scope of this package so cannot be counted towards Member States EU targets. Additionally, Member States where LULUCF is a net source for the 2013 to 2020 period will also need to deliver greater ambition than their EU 2020 targets require as they must compensate for these LULUCF emissions, as detailed above.

Romania will update accordingly the data and information in the Biennial Report CTF table 3, as part of next submission.

[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

Could Romania provide further information on the use of units from market-based mechanism?

[Answer by](#) Romania at Thursday, 28 May 2015

The Kyoto Protocol target for the first commitment period for Romania is to reduce its level of total GHG emissions by 8 per cent below the base year, 1989, level. Romania met its Kyoto Protocol target related to the first commitment period, without using the Kyoto Protocol flexible mechanisms and without using the accounted amount associated to the KP-LULUCF activities.

In respect to the first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, Romania signed 10 Memoranda of Understanding with different Annex I countries (Switzerland, the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Austria, Sweden, France, Italy and Finland) as well with the World Bank for the Prototype Carbon Fund (PCF), establishing the legal framework for developing Joint Implementation projects, as a host country. Under these Memoranda a number of 18 JI projects have received the Letter of Approval, and they are currently in different stages of development.

Also, in accordance with The EU legislation on EU ETS, during the first commitment period the operators were allowed to use CERs and ERUs up to 10% of the total initial allocation. For the second commitment period, based on the Article 4 of the Kyoto Protocol, Romania choose to fulfil its commitment under Article 3 jointly, together with the other Member States of the European Union. According to the FCCC/SB/2011/INF.1/Rev.1 and FCCC/KP/AWG/2012/MISC.1, the Kyoto Protocol target for the second commitment period, 2013-2020, for European Union and its Member States is to reduce their level of total GHG emissions by 20 per cent below the base year, 1990 level; European Union and its Member States presented a conditional offer to move to a 30 per cent emission reduction. The exact number of CERs and ERUs that can be used during the period 2013-2020 can be determined following the availability of final data on the use of these units in the first commitment period. The amount of AAUs for the second commitment period have not yet been determined; EU expects to achieve its target with the implementation of the Directive 2003/87/CE (Emission Trading Scheme Directive) and of the Decision 406/2009/CE (Effort Sharing Decision) which do not allow the use of such units from non-EU Parties.

The number of carry-over units from the first commitment period that can be used for compliance during the period 2013-2020 can only be determined after the true-up period of the first commitment period; in the second commitment period the use

of such units depend on the extent by which emissions during the second commitment period exceed the assigned amount for that commitment period. At CMP.9 the EU made a declaration when adopting the Doha amendment of the Kyoto Protocol that the European Union legislation on Climate- Energy Package for the implementation of its emission reduction objectives for the period 2013-2020 does not allow the use of surplus AAUs carried over from the first commitment period to meet these objectives. EU does not intend to use the accounting of KP-LULUCF activities to meet its target.

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: LULUCF sector

Whether LULUCF will be included in the target?

Answer by Romania at Thursday, 28 May 2015

In accordance with the information in the Common Tabular Format (CTF) table 2(d), the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry Sector is not covered under the quantified economy wide emission reduction target for the 2013-2020 period. The EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package sets out three binding targets for 2020:

- a 20% reduction in EU greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels;
- raising the share of EU energy consumption produced from renewable resources to 20%;

- a 20% improvement in the EU's energy efficiency;

covering many sectors and gases, but excluding emissions from LULUCF. Further details on the EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package can be found on the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/package/index_en.htm. Under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol the EU and its Member States committed to reducing their economy wide emissions, which includes LULUCF emissions, by 20% on 1990 levels by 2020. The scope of this target differs from that of the EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package.

The joint fulfilment agreement detailing how the EU and its Member States will collectively meet the EU target to reduce emissions by 20% on 1990 levels by 2020 under the Kyoto Protocol, which is still being finalized, will set out how LULUCF emissions should be treated by individual Member States. The latest version of this

agreement details that any net emissions from LULUCF in a Member State can be compensated by that Member State's over performance in other sectors not covered under the Union Emission Trading Scheme or by use of the Kyoto Protocol's flexible mechanisms. A Member State may also use surplus emission rights carried over from the first commitment period held in its Previous Period Surplus Reserve (PPSR) to cover emissions from LULUCF, to the extent that its emissions exceed its assigned amount.

In practice this means that Member States where LULUCF is a net sink for the 2013 to 2020 period will deliver greater emissions reductions than their targets require under the EU 2020 Climate and Energy Package, as these reductions are outside the scope of this package so cannot be counted towards Member States EU targets. Additionally, Member States where LULUCF is a net source for the 2013 to 2020 period will also need to deliver greater ambition than their EU 2020 targets require as they must compensate for these LULUCF emissions, as detailed above.

[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, Romania 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 Romania is not exceeding 19% above the verified emissions from the 2005. However, it is not clear how much effort Romania 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 Romania 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](#) Romania at Thursday, 28 May 2015

Romania would like to point to the fact that there is no Romanian quantified economy wide emission reduction target as defined in para 4 of the "UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties" in Annex I to Decision2/CP.17. The EU and its Member States communicated an independent quantified economy-wide emission reduction target, which will be fulfilled jointly by the EU and its Member States. EU-internal provisions lay down targets for sectors(EU-ETS) and for member states (non-trading sectors), respectively, which contribute to the joint fulfilment of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target communicated by the EU and its Member States.

The EU-wide cap under 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.

The free allocation of allowances was made through a EU wide and fully harmonized implementing measures and based on determined ex-ante benchmarks so as to ensure that the free allocation of emission allowances took place in a manner that provided incentives for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and energy efficient techniques. The EU rules for free allocation of allowances took into account the complexity of the production processes, product definitions and classifications were available that allow for verification of production data and a uniform application of the product benchmark across the Union for the purposes of allocating emission allowances.

The allocation of allowances takes place through auctions and free allocation. The share of allowances auctioned on behalf of each Member State in each year is public and can be obtained from the relevant auction platforms.

However, free allocation is provided on the basis of EU-wide rules to installation operators within a certain limit. For each of the nearly 12.000 installations in the EU ETS, the allocation has been calculated based on the common rules approved through Decision 278/2011/EU. These common rules will ensure the reduction of GHG emissions to 2020 at EU level according to the 2020 Package.

According to the EU legislation, the EU ETS is bound by a 21 % emission reduction target by 2020 in relation to 2005 emission levels, and fulfillment of this target is ensured by the limited amount of allowances in the system. In Romania the emissions volume of all installations within the EU ETS in 2007, **the first year for the EU-ETS implementation as Romania become Member State of the European Union at 1 January 2007**, was 68.593.832 t CO₂ and it dropped to 42.575.226t CO₂ in 2014 (the emissions level decreased by 37.9 % in 2014 compared to the level in 2007). This approach contributes well to the fulfillment of the EU ETS target in 2020.
