

Session SBI45 (2016)

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Question by Japan at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Questions about process for estimating mitigation impacts of policies and measures

Could you tell us about the institutional arrangement (role of each stakeholder, preparation process) for estimating mitigation impacts of individual policies and measures? Are any adjustments made to estimated values for avoiding double counting of mitigation impacts between policies and measures? In addition, are there any official processes to approve the estimation results? How long does the estimation process take and how often the estimation is conducted?

Answer by Malta, Friday, 28 October 2016

The Malta Resources Authority (MRA) coordinates the technical aspects of the estimation of mitigation impacts of policies and measures. This work includes, among others: (a) sourcing of information on actions being taken by different sectors, through requests for information and the holding of one-to-one meetings with the entity/ies responsible for the implementation of the measure(s) in each sector; (b) the estimation of the impact of measures on emissions using a modelling tool developed for this purpose; (c) the elaboration of relevant reports, including the biennial report, for consultation with all entities prior to finalisation for submission. Where submissions are involved that arise from a formal legal requirement, such as biennial reports under UNFCCC/Kyoto Protocol or the European Union Monitoring Mechanism Regulation, the formal approval of any such submission is the prerogative of the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change (MSDEC). A steering committee was setup to coordinate the data gathering and modelling processes, the committee including representatives from the MRA, the MSDEC and the main entities responsible for, and serving as providers of information on sectoral measures. The issue of double counting is addressed during the modelling stage, when the specific impact of each measure is studied in detail. Prior to its inclusion in the modelling framework, the impact of the individual measure is compared with those of existing measures within the particular sector. If the possibility of double counting is identified, the two measures are either collated into one measure (e.g. energy efficiency measures implemented in different timeperiods) or in very few specific cases, a corrective calculation is carried out which negates the double counting (e.g. efficiency improvements in the electricity generation). The duration of the estimation process depends on the type of measure and sector. A timeframe for the completion of the estimation process is normally one year. The estimation and modelling processes are conducted at least biennially, in line with the biennial nature of reporting requirements in this area, though annual updates may take place if the need arises.

Question by Japan at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Methodologies to estimate mitigation impacts of individual policies and measures

Malta estimates mitigation impacts for almost all of the policies and measures reported in the BR. We consider this reporting is highly transparent and appreciated. What kind of methodologies does Malta use to estimate mitigation impacts of individual policies and measures?

Answer by Malta, Friday, 28 October 2016

A modelling tool has been developed for the estimation of the mitigation impacts of policies and measures. The modelling is based on partial equilibrium and economic estimation using regression techniques. Efforts are made to include each measure in the modelling process, whereby the impact is estimated on the particular sector. The way the mitigation impact is estimated would depend upon the particular sector and on the driver(s) of emissions in that sector, and availability of any additional useful information, e.g. the mitigation impact of biodiesel is estimated depending taking also into account on the usage of diesel for each vehicle type. A partial equilibrium model is applied to the electricity generation sector whereby it seeks to equilibrate supply and demand using exogenous variables (such as GDP and fuel prices), policy decisions and mitigation measures, as the main drivers to project emissions. In the transport, fuel sectors and IPPU (f-gases), emissions projections are based on a regression analysis using a number of exogenous variables such as GDP, GVA, vehicle efficiency projections etc. and the impact of mitigation measures. The starting point for the Waste sector modelling approach is the estimation of future waste generation trends and the application of the First Order Decay model for that part of waste that is envisaged to go to landfill, whereas for the Agriculture sector, the approach depends on estimation of future sectoral activity trends and subsequent application of emission estimation approaches on the thus estimated activity trends.

Question by Japan at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Stakeholder coordination for projections

For preparation of projections, are the coordination with stakeholders (business communities, relevant ministries and NGO) carried out? If so, could you tell us the contents of the coordination?

[Answer by Malta](#), Friday, 28 October 2016

A steering committee was setup to coordinate, among others, the collection of information on measures, and the analysis of feedback from the entities who are responsible for the implementation of the measure(s) in each sector. The steering committee also serves to present to, and discuss with, all relevant stakeholders the results of modelling undertaken. Meetings of the steering committee serve as an important forum to facilitate dialogue with, and amongst, the relevant stakeholders covering data collection, the implemented and proposed measures, the costs and benefits from the implementation of the measures and the modelling process to estimate the emissions projections.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Tuesday, 30 August 2016

[Category](#): Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type](#): Before 31 August

[Title](#): CTF Table 3

Regarding mitigation actions referred to in “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, are there any current estimates of mitigation impacts since the respective years of implementation?

[Answer by Malta](#), Friday, 28 October 2016

An assessment of the impact of mitigation measures from the start of implementation to the present has not been undertaken. Notwithstanding, during the modelling process, the base year is updated with the latest available data on historic emissions; hence, the cumulative impact of mitigation measures can be assessed.

[Question by Brazil](#) at Tuesday, 30 August 2016

[Category](#): Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type](#): Before 31 August

[Title](#): Mitigation actions

Could Malta explain why there was a decrease in the number of mitigation actions reported in BR2 compared to BR1 – from 52 actions to 33 actions?

[Answer by Malta](#), Friday, 28 October 2016

Rather than a decrease in mitigation action, a number of different measures have been aggregated into one measure to align for better reporting of policies and measures for climate action reporting purposes (including with regards to the Biennial Report) with other reporting processes, such as the National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) and National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP), amongst others. Other measures at a national level have been found to be more effective in the local context and thus favour alternative mitigation measures e.g. to promote renewable energy sources from photovoltaic panels as opposed to onshore and offshore wind turbines.

[Question by China](#) at Monday, 29 August 2016

[Category](#): Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type](#): Before 31 August

[Title](#): institutional arrangements

Could Malta provide further information on its institutional arrangements for domestic compliance, MRV, etc., in particular how these arrangements contribute to improving evaluation of progress towards its target?

[Answer by Malta](#), Friday, 28 October 2016

Information on institutional arrangements currently in place to facilitate the evaluation of the mitigation impact of measures, and thus, the respective and overall contribution of measures to the overall achievement of mitigation targets has been provided in Malta's responses to previous questions. It is also worth noting that a national legal framework has also been established, through the enactment of the Climate Action Act, 2015 (CAP543) which, among others, provides for the Maltese Government to "formulate, implement, publish and update policies regarding measures to mitigate climate change by limiting, and, to the extent possible, reducing anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources, and by enhancing removals of greenhouse gases by sinks". Malta is also required to prepare annual inventories of greenhouse gas emissions and removals, both under the UNFCCC/Kyoto Protocol and the European Union's Monitoring Mechanism Regulation. GHG inventories serve as a crucial tool in monitoring progress towards Malta's targets; indeed GHG inventories serve as the main basis for the assessment by the European Commission, of Malta's progress in respect of

targets set under the so-called Effort-sharing Decision (Decision 406/2009/EC) which is an important pillar of the European Union's GHG emission reduction effort for 2020 and beyond. Finally, the afore-mentioned Climate Action Act provides for the setting up of a Climate Action Board, among whose functions include, among others "to monitor that Malta is in fulfillment of its obligations under the UNFCCC and its obligations as a Member State of the European Union".

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: detailed information on technology advancements

According to the BR2, most of the emissions reductions in energy industries occurred during the period of 2014-2015 (from 1600 Gg CO₂-eq to 800 Gg CO₂-eq) and the major driver of this significant drop is technical development and improvement in power generation efficiency (BR2, page 80). Could Malta provide more details of technical development and improvement?

Answer by Malta, Friday, 28 October 2016

In 2015, the interconnector between Malta and Sicily became online, which shifted around 1GWh or 45% of total electricity generation from local production to imports. Another factor is the shut-down of the low efficiency (27%) turbines running on heavy fuel oil and the bringing into operation of newer combined cycle turbines having a greater efficiency (48%) and running on gasoil, to eventually (in 2016/2017) run on natural gas. Further information on these developments may be found in Chapter 4 of Malta's 2nd Biennial Report (section 4.1.1 in particular).

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