

# REFRESHER SEMINAR ON STEPWISE APPROACH TO INVENTORY REVIEWS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR THE REVIEW PROCESS

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## Topic II

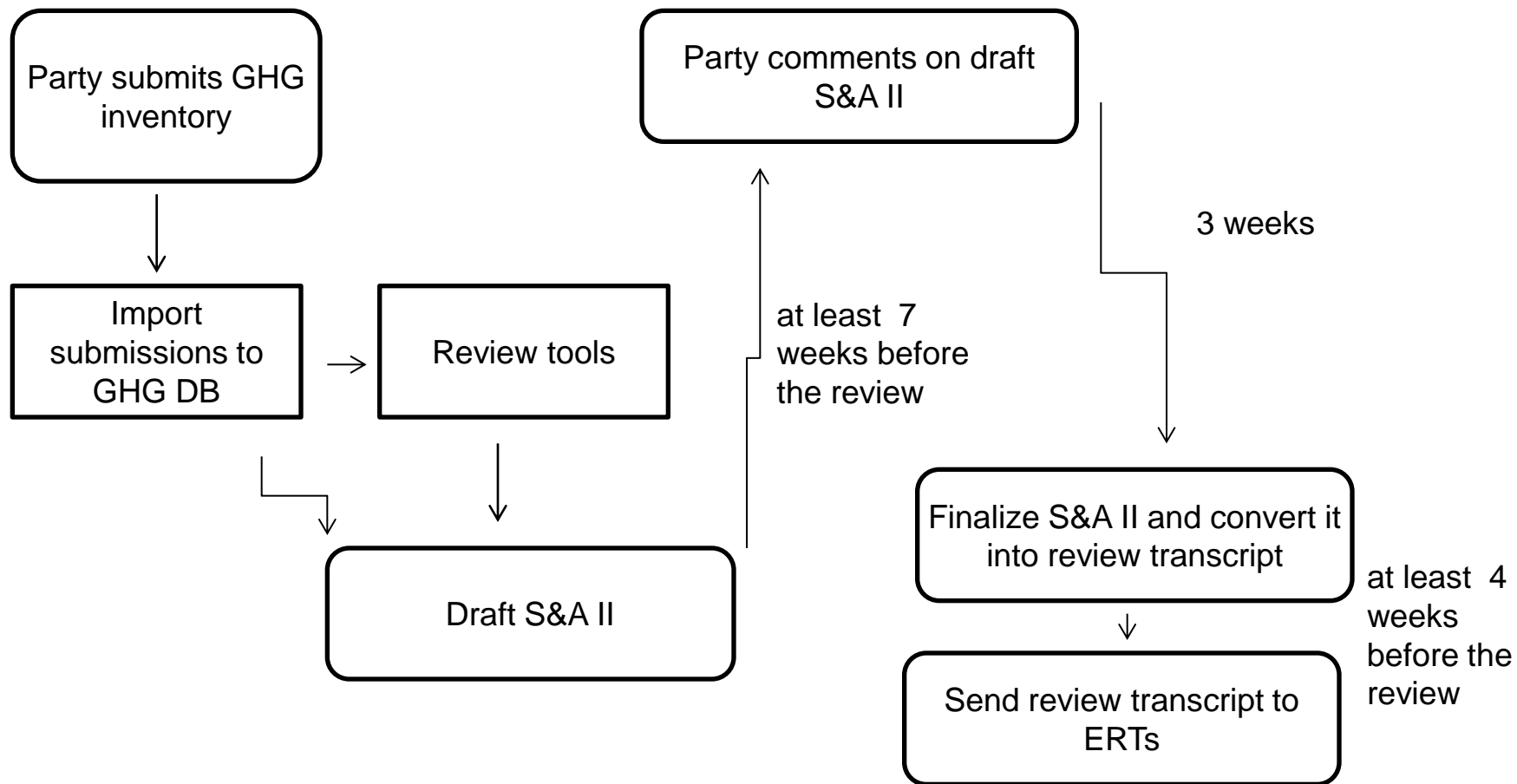
# Synthesis and assessment report (Part II) and the review transcript



## Synthesis and assessment, part 2 (S&A II)

- Preliminary analysis of Annex I inventories that helps identify issues to be considered by the ERT during the review
- *Mandatory requirement of the review guidelines (FCCC/CP/2002/8)*
- **Objectives**
  - ✓ Identify issues with potential irregularities, lack of completeness or inconsistencies in EFs, AD and emission trends

# Workflow for S&A II



# Synthesis and assessment, part 2

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## General

- Assessment of the submission (CRF and NIR)
- Assessment of the key category and uncertainty analyses by the Party
- Consistency of information on methodologies and emission factors between the CRF and the NIR
- Range of recalculations
- Trend of time series
- Secretariat's key category analysis
- Assessment of the supplementary information under Article 7.1 of the Kyoto Protocol



# Synthesis and assessment, part 2

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## Sectoral

- Consistency of time series (inter-annual changes in IEFs and/or AD, drop/increase in emissions or removals, IEFs or AD of which the reason is difficult to understand)
- Detection of outliers (comparison among Parties, years and with IPCC default values)
- Comparison with international data sets



# Synthesis and assessment, part 2

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## ➤ Fixing thresholds

- ✓ Mostly focus on key categories and last reported year
- ✓ Statistical tool are used for the detection of inter-annual changes in time series and outliers within fixed thresholds to avoid highlighting irrelevant patterns
- ✓ Some issues can be repeated along the years because the problem is considered unsolved (the Party has not provided adequate response and the previous ERT consider the item unsolved or the experts have not provided guidance on how to proceed with the issue (resolved or not))



## ➤ Taking advantages of the S&A II

- ✓ S&A part II, together with the comments provided by the respective Party, is a basis for the Secretariat for preparing the “review transcripts”
- ✓ These reports are provided to the corresponding expert review team as input for the individual review
- ✓ Useful tool
- ✓ Questions should not be a repetition of what a Party has already responded to the Secretariat, but further clarification that may be needed



# Synthesis and assessment, part 2

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## ➤ Taking advantages of the S&A II:

- ✓ Key categories (Party vs Secretariat)
- ✓ Analysis of the reference approach
- ✓ Comparison with international data (also for bunkers)
- ✓ Use of notation keys and missing categories, potential identification of underestimation
- ✓ Analysis of emission trends (identification of outliers)
- ✓ Analysis of IEFs (identification of outliers as compared to IPCC default values and other Parties)
- ✓ Provision of information on changes in National System, National Registry, 3.14, SEF and KP-LULUCF issues



# Review transcript

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## What should each reviewer do ?

### ➤ Making use of the analysed issues:

- If the Party has provided responses which satisfy the ERT, the issue can be considered resolved. The item can be ticked as resolved, so the Secretariat has a clear message, the same issue would not appear in the subsequent S&A II
- If insufficient explanations have been provided or no reply at all has been received, the issue is unresolved. The ERT can use the content of the review transcript as a basis for asking for more clarification. The description of the issue is there and the reviewer can use it

### ➤ Asking for new questions:

- List them in the review transcript



# Review transcript

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## ➤ **Conclusions of the last LRs meeting:**

- ✓ The review transcript is a useful tool
- ✓ However, it is not always filled in by review experts prior to the preparation of the ARR draft and not always updated after the ARR draft is finalized and after the Party's comments to the draft review report have been provided
- ✓ Need to raise the importance of the review transcript with the review experts during the whole review cycle



# Review transcript

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## ➤ However, transcripts are often not used. Why?

- ✓ Experts perceive them as useless
- ✓ They feel they are duplicating their work when developing the transcript and the ARR at the same time
- ✓ Pressure to finalize the zero-order draft before the end of the review week may lead them to disregard the transcript or use it only as a reminder checklist

*These problems are a consequence of not writing the transcript from the start of the review process and waiting till the end*



# Review transcript

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➤ **The review transcript instead is a useful tool. However it must be compiled from the start and properly**

- ✓ Compile the transcript daily from the start of the review week
- ✓ Describe in detail each issue
- ✓ Write down the questions as you ask them
- ✓ Write down responses by the Party as they arrive
- ✓ Note any further clarification you have asked for
- ✓ Note whether an issue can be considered solved



# Review transcript

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- **The review transcript instead is a useful tool. However it must be compiled from the start and properly (continued)**
  - ✓ At the end, review the problem's track before writing your final consideration
  - ✓ Start drafting a clear explanation on your assessment and a recommendation for your colleague in the next review that will be included in the zero draft report



# Review transcript

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- **Advantages of compiling the transcript properly and from the start:**
  - ✓ Shows work done during the review week
  - ✓ Prevents you from losing track of the question and answer process
  - ✓ Once written, it can help you quickly identify the main issues to be included in the review report
  - ✓ It is a useful tool for the next reviewer, providing a detailed guideline, especially for dealing with problematic issues
  - ✓ Offers content that can be included in the zero order draft report; if well-written it will require very little adaptation
  - ✓ A good transcript speeds up the writing of the ARR and helps ensuring its quality



# Review transcript

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## ➤ Therefore:

- ✓ Lead reviewers should insist on the importance of the compilation of the transcripts
- ✓ Delay in the completion of the review transcripts increases the risk of the transcript being not finalised at all
- ✓ LRs should insist for a final update of the version no later than 1 week following the review week (if transcript was properly done in a timely fashion, finalising it will not take much time)





# Review transcript: examples (bad ones!)

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Category	Key	Issue	Response by Party	Status	Explanation	Recommended follow up
gas 1.A Stationary combustion CO2	Yes	A Tier 1 method (default EF) is used while key category	In the future the [Party] plans to develop a CS EF	Unresolved	This issue has been raised by several previous ERTs without any success.	hopeless national system issue

*Critical issue indicated as potential national system issue, already raised by previous ERTs. Which are the main problems for not implementing higher tiers? is there a specific improvement plan with scheduled steps? There is no concrete follow up in this review and for the next reviewer*



# Review transcript: examples (bad)

Category gas	Key	Issue	Response by Party	Status	Explanation	Recommended follow up
1.A.1.c. Manufacture of Solid Fuels and Other Energy Industries	Yes	Is it possible to get an explanation on the coke production process. In 1B1b emissions are reported as IE, but there is no evidence of this inclusion	No real explanation was available. [The party] inventory team assumes all CO2 emissions are emitted by the combustion of coke oven gas	Unresolved	Raised by previous ERT but nothing considered by [Party]. The [Party] should try to assess whether the assumption is correct. ETS data might be very useful for this purpose	Check calculation coke oven emissions in next submission

*The issue is indicated for analysis to the next ERT. It is not clear the response provided by the Party, the phrase 'no real explanation was provided' is subjective. The term 'real' is vague and not analytical. There is no concrete follow up in this review. Is this a serious issue/potential problem? Indications to the next reviewers are not provided*



# Review transcript: examples (bad)

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Category	Key	Issue	Response by Party	Status	Explanation	Recommended follow up
1.A Stationary combustion	No	Reported as NO, but there will probably be military buildings, so should be IE	Will be reported in next NIR as IE in 1A4a	solved	raised by previous ERT but not considered. Party promised to change notation key	Check and Reiterate question

*The issue is indicated as resolved, but it is not. The source where these emissions are included is not indicated. There is no concrete follow up in this review. Is this a serious issue/potential problem? What means reported in the next NIR as IE? It could be resolved in the next submission, but the next ERT needs to verify it.*



# Review transcript: examples (bad)

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category	Key	Issue	Response by Party	Status	Explanation	Recommended follow up
General		A list of previous QA reviews, their major conclusions and follow-up actions is included in the MS Excel worksheets available at the Ministry for the Environment's website (website provided). However according to the information in the MS Excel worksheet QA review rather outdated in national system, industrial processes and no QA review in Solvent and other product use.		Unresolved		Check next submission

*The problem is not described clearly. It seems that the QA procedures are outdated, but it is not reported if any question was asked to the Party. Was it only a problem of QA or also QC? Is there a recommendation how to solve the issue? Could be a serious issue affecting the functions of the NS?*

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# Review transcript: examples (so so)

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category	Key	Issue	Response by Party	Status	Explanation	Recommended follow up
1.A.1.a. Public Electricity and Heat Production	No	Grateful if you could send a copy of the recent study that confirmed the updated emission factor of 0 for CH <sub>4</sub> emissions from waste incineration (Ref.)	Document provided	solved	Document reviewed, factor of 0 is supported.	None

*The EF was checked and the references reviewed by the ERT so the issue is resolved in that it seems that there is no need to revise the documentation again. What could have been provided by the ERT would have been some details of the reference on the figure*



# Review transcript: example (good one!)

Category	Key	Issue	Response by Party	Status	Ex	Recommended follow up
2.A.1 Cement production	Yes	<p>The information available in the NIR does not allow understanding and reconstruction of trends in IEF. The ERT reiterated the request already provided by previous review reports that the Party provide information on CaO and MgO content in clinker and on the amount of CKD recycled to the kiln</p>	<p>The Party replied that they do not have access to the background data collected within the EU ETS, since they receive IEF calculated by entrepreneurial associations. However, the inventory system is actively exploring other channels that in the next future could facilitate access to process background data at plant level</p>	Unres olved		<p>The ERT recommends the Party to continue to explore channels that could allow direct access to background data, and to report this information in its next submissions. In case this information is not available in time for the next submission, the ERT recommends that the Party provide a qualitative assessment of the range of IEFs, on the basis of the quality of raw material used in the country</p>

*Identification of the problem, request for rationale to the Party, reported answer by the Party. Clear status of the problem: not resolved taking into account the answer provided. Indication on specific follow up and how to resolve the issue in the next submission. Options on what can be done, including in case Party cannot implement the recommendation. Written in a manner that can be copied and pasted in the ARR*



## *Summary*



# Best use of the review transcript

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- *Simple steps can make the transcript seem more user friendly and functional*
  - ✓ *Think of the transcript as a record of the work during the review week*
  - ✓ *Use the transcript in a systematic way to report findings, to update issues, for providing explanations on assessments, for providing clear and follow up to the next ERT*
- *Work on the transcript will save work on the draft of review report, helps ensure its quality and efforts on future versions*

