



United Nations

FCCC/SBSTA/2023/INF.7



Framework Convention on  
Climate Change

Distr.: General  
8 November 2023

English only

---

## **Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice**

### **Fifty-ninth session**

United Arab Emirates, 30 November to 6 December 2023

Item 14(c) of the provisional agenda

### **Annual reports on technical reviews**

### **Technical review of greenhouse gas inventories and other information reported by Parties included in Annex I**

## **Technical review of greenhouse gas inventories and other information reported by Parties included in Annex I, as defined in Article 1, paragraph 7, of the Kyoto Protocol**

### **Report by the secretariat**

#### *Summary*

This report provides information on the status of submission and review of the annual information required under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, including greenhouse gas inventories and supplementary information, on activities during the 2022 and 2023 review cycles, and on the reporting and review process for the additional period for fulfilling commitments (true-up period) for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. It also provides information on review training activities for experts participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, and on the compilation of the information submitted by Parties on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol.



## Abbreviations and acronyms

AAU	assigned amount unit
CER	certified emission reduction
CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
CRF	common reporting format
ERT	expert review team
ERU	emission reduction unit
GHG	greenhouse gas
LR	lead reviewer
RMU	removal unit
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
true-up period	additional period for fulfilling commitments

## I. Introduction

### A. Mandate

1. The secretariat is to prepare an annual report to the SBSTA on the composition of the ERTs participating in the review of the information submitted under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, including on the selection of experts for the review teams and the LRs.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the LRs are to collectively prepare an annual report to the SBSTA with suggestions on how to improve the review process.<sup>2</sup>

2. The secretariat is to continue to include in its annual report to the SBSTA on the technical review of GHG inventories and other information reported by Parties included in Annex I<sup>3</sup> information on the training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, in particular information on examination procedures and the selection of trainees and instructors, in order for Parties to assess the effectiveness of the programme.<sup>4</sup>

3. Finally, the secretariat is to annually compile information submitted by Parties on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol.<sup>5</sup>

### B. Scope of the report

4. In accordance with the “Guidelines for review under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol”, the review under the Kyoto Protocol encompasses the existing review under the Convention. The lessons learned and challenges in the review processes under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol have many common elements. This report focuses on the elements of the review process that are specific to the Kyoto Protocol and should be read in conjunction with the annual report on the technical review of GHG inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention.<sup>6</sup>

5. This report provides information on the:

(a) Status of submission of the annual information required from Parties included in Annex I<sup>7</sup> and the review of that information, including their GHG inventories (see chap. II.A below);

(b) Reporting and review process for assessing compliance after the true-up period for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (see chap. II.B below);

(c) Selection of experts and LRs for the review process and their participation in the process (see chap. III below);

(d) Annual report to the SBSTA prepared by the LRs, including their conclusions and recommendations on how to improve the review process (see chap. IV below);

(e) Training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol (see chap. V below);

(f) Compilation of information on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol (see chap. VI below).

<sup>1</sup> As per decision 22/CMP.1, annex, para. 35, in conjunction with decisions 3/CMP.11 and 4/CMP.11.

<sup>2</sup> As per decision 22/CMP.1, annex, para. 40(a), in conjunction with decisions 3/CMP.11 and 4/CMP.11.

<sup>3</sup> As defined in Article 1, paragraph 7, of the Kyoto Protocol.

<sup>4</sup> Decision 5/CMP.11, para. 3.

<sup>5</sup> As per decision 15/CMP.1, annex, para. 26, in conjunction with decisions 3/CMP.11 and 4/CMP.11.

<sup>6</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2023/INF.6.

<sup>7</sup> As defined in Article 1, para. 7, of the Kyoto Protocol.

### C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

6. The SBSTA will be invited to take note of this report.

## II. Submission and review of information from Parties included in Annex I

### A. Annual submissions for 2023

7. The annual inventory submission under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol comprises the national inventory report and the CRF tables. In addition, Parties included in Annex I must submit supplementary information under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol. The due date of the annual inventory submission is 15 April.

8. In 2023 the secretariat received 42 such submissions from Parties included in Annex I (see the table below).

9. Status reports for nine submissions from Parties included in Annex I were prepared and published on the UNFCCC website<sup>8</sup> and forwarded to the Compliance Committee. The individual reviews of submissions from nine Parties included in Annex I were conducted as centralized reviews. The reports on the reviews are under preparation.

#### Submission of the annual information required under the Kyoto Protocol in 2023

Party	Original submission dates			
	National inventory report	CRF tables	Standard electronic format tables for the first commitment period	Standard electronic format tables for the second commitment period
Australia	13 April 2023 <sup>a</sup>	13 April 2023 <sup>a</sup>	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Austria	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	14 June 2023	13 April 2023
Belarus	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	–	–
Belgium	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Bulgaria	12 April 2023	12 April 2023	12 April 2023	12 April 2023
Croatia	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023
Cyprus	12 April 2023	12 April 2023	–	12 April 2023
Czechia	13 April 2023	26 April 2023	24 April 2023	24 April 2023
Denmark	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Estonia	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	–	14 April 2023
European Union	15 April 2023	15 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Finland	12 April 2023	12 April 2023	–	6 April 2023
France	13 April 2023	25 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023
Germany	14 April 2023	26 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Greece	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	–	13 April 2023
Hungary	15 April 2023	15 April 2023	15 April 2023	15 April 2023
Iceland	15 April 2023	15 April 2023	15 April 2023	15 April 2023
Ireland	17 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Italy	14 April 2023	12 April 2023	12 April 2023	12 April 2023

<sup>8</sup> <https://unfccc.int/ghg-inventories-annex-i-parties/2023>.

<i>Party</i>	<i>Original submission dates</i>			
	<i>National inventory report</i>	<i>CRF tables</i>	<i>Standard electronic format tables for the first commitment period</i>	<i>Standard electronic format tables for the second commitment period</i>
Japan	20 April 2023	20 April 2023	–	–
Kazakhstan <sup>b</sup>	15 April 2023	15 April 2023	–	–
Latvia	12 April 2023	12 April 2023	–	12 April 2023
Liechtenstein	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	–	19 June 2023
Lithuania	7 April 2023	5 April 2023	5 April 2023	5 April 2023
Luxembourg	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023
Malta	12 April 2023	30 March 2023	30 March 2023	30 March 2023
Monaco	11 April 2023	11 April 2023	11 April 2023	11 April 2023
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	13 April 2023	14 April 2023	–	13 April 2023
New Zealand	14 April 2023	13 April 2023	–	–
Norway	15 March 2023	15 March 2023	15 March 2023	15 March 2023
Poland	28 March 2023	28 March 2023	–	28 March 2023
Portugal	3 April 2023	3 April 2023	3 April 2023	3 April 2023
Romania	6 April 2023	6 April 2023	6 April 2023	6 April 2023
Russian Federation	18 April 2023	18 April 2023	–	–
Slovakia	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023
Slovenia	14 April 2023	12 April 2023	–	12 April 2023
Spain	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	14 April 2023
Sweden	6 April 2023	6 April 2023	6 April 2023	6 April 2023
Switzerland	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023	13 April 2023
Türkiye <sup>c</sup>	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	–	–
Ukraine	18 May 2023	18 May 2023	–	18 May 2023
United Kingdom	14 April 2023	14 April 2023	–	14 April 2023

<sup>a</sup> Australia's national inventory report and CRF table submissions were made under the Paris Agreement.

<sup>b</sup> Kazakhstan is considered to be a Party included in Annex I for the purpose of the Kyoto Protocol while remaining a Party not included in Annex I to the Convention for the purpose of the Convention (FCCC/KP/CMP/2009/21, para. 91).

<sup>c</sup> Although Türkiye is considered to be a Party included in Annex I for the purpose of the Kyoto Protocol, in the absence of commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period, its reporting obligations under Article 7, para. 1, of the Kyoto Protocol do not appear to be triggered in relation to that period.

## **B. True-up period reporting and review process for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol**

10. The true-up period for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol was set to end 100 days after the date set by the CMP for the completion of the expert review process under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol for the last year of the commitment period.<sup>9</sup> Until the end of the true-up period, Parties included in Annex I may continue to acquire and transfer ERUs, CERs, AAUs and RMUs for the purpose of fulfilling commitments under Article 3, paragraph 1 bis, of the Kyoto Protocol, provided the eligibility of any such Party has not been suspended.<sup>10</sup>

11. CMP 17 decided that the expert review process under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol for the final year of the second commitment period shall be completed by 1 June 2023.<sup>11</sup> That process was completed on 17 May 2023. As a result, the end of the true-up period was 9 September 2023, that is 100 days after the deadline for completion of the expert review process.

12. CMP 17 also decided that Parties included in Annex I had 45 days after the end of the true-up period to submit the report upon expiration of the true-up period, covering the information required in decision 13/CMP.1, annex, paragraph 49, using the standard electronic format tables as agreed in decision 3/CMP.11 (i.e. the true-up period report).<sup>12</sup>

13. The assessment of compliance of a Party included in Annex I with a commitment inscribed in the third column of Annex B in the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol with said commitment shall be based on the comparison of the quantity of ERUs, CERs, AAUs and RMUs, valid for the second commitment period, retired by the Party with its aggregate anthropogenic carbon dioxide equivalent emissions of the GHGs and sources listed in Annex A to the Kyoto Protocol during the second commitment period.<sup>13</sup>

14. Furthermore, CMP 17 decided that the secretariat would make available in electronic format on 30 July 2023 and every four weeks thereafter until the month of completion of the true-up period information on each Party's emissions and units.<sup>14</sup> The final such true-up period information report by the secretariat, comprising data as at 24 September 2023, is available on the UNFCCC website.<sup>15</sup>

15. The secretariat plans to organize the review of the true-up period reports at the beginning of 2024.

## **III. Expert review teams and lead reviewers**

16. The information provided in the annual submissions under Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, including the GHG inventories, is examined by international teams of experts selected by the secretariat from the individuals nominated by Parties to the UNFCCC roster of experts. Invitations to experts to participate in the review are copied to the national focal point. Only experts who have taken the training courses under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and passed the corresponding examinations can participate in the review of annual submissions (see chap. V below).

---

<sup>9</sup> Decision 27/CMP.1, annex, chap. XIII.

<sup>10</sup> As footnote 9 above.

<sup>11</sup> Decision 1/CMP.17, para. 1.

<sup>12</sup> Decision 1/CMP.17, para. 3. The reports submitted by Parties will be available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-kyoto-protocol/second-commitment-period/reporting-and-review-process-for-the-true-up-period-of-the-second-commitment-period-of-the-kyoto>.

<sup>13</sup> Decision 13/CMP.1, annex, para. 14, in conjunction with decision 3/CMP.11.

<sup>14</sup> Decision 1/CMP.17, paras. 4–5.

<sup>15</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-kyoto-protocol/second-commitment-period/true-up-period-information-report-by-the-secretariat-second-commitment-period>.

17. The annual report on the technical review of GHG inventories of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention provides more information on the organization of reviews and the number of experts participating in the reviews in 2023 and their nominating Parties.<sup>16</sup>

#### **IV. Meeting of greenhouse gas inventory lead reviewers**

18. The 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of GHG inventory LRs was held in Bonn on 14 February 2023. A total of 47 experts from non-Annex I Parties and 69 experts from Annex I Parties were invited to the meeting. Of the 75 experts who registered for the meeting, 70 attended (56 in person and 14 remotely). Of the attendees, 33 were from non-Annex I Parties and 37 were from Annex I Parties. In addition, one representative of the European Commission attended the meeting as an observer.

19. The meeting facilitated the work of the LRs in fulfilling their task of ensuring consistency of reviews across Parties and in providing suggestions on how to improve the quality, efficiency and consistency of the reviews.<sup>17</sup> Topics discussed at the meeting included the organization of the reviews of the true-up period reports (see para. 12 above). The conclusions and recommendations from the meeting were made available for consideration by the SBSTA.<sup>18, 19</sup>

#### **V. Training of experts**

##### **Training programme for experts participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol**

20. In 2006 the secretariat began implementing the training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol with the aim of training them for the review of information submitted under Article 7 of the Kyoto Protocol.<sup>20</sup> All training courses and final examinations were offered online, in some cases with the support of an instructor, subject to the availability of resources.

21. The updated training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol was launched in 2016 in order to prepare them for conducting the reviews in the second commitment period.<sup>21</sup> All courses – including on national systems, application of adjustments, modalities for the accounting of assigned amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol, review of national registries and information on assigned amounts, and review of activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3–4, of the Kyoto Protocol – were updated to reflect the reporting requirements for Parties in the initial and subsequent years of the second commitment period.

22. The final annual inventory submissions under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol were submitted in 2022 and the relevant review reports were published by 17 May 2023. As a result, the training programme for members of ERTs participating in annual reviews under Article 8 of the Kyoto Protocol was not offered in 2023.

---

<sup>16</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2023/INF.6, chap. II.B.2.

<sup>17</sup> As per decision 13/CP.20, annex; decision 22/CMP.1, annex, in conjunction with decision 4/CMP.11; and decision 24/CMP.1, annex II.

<sup>18</sup> As per decisions 13/CP.20, annex, para. 44; and 22/CMP.1, annex, para. 40(a).

<sup>19</sup> See the annex to document FCCC/SBSTA/2023/INF.6.

<sup>20</sup> As per decisions 24/CMP.1 and 8/CMP.5.

<sup>21</sup> As per decision 5/CMP.11.

## **VI. Compilation of information on the minimization of adverse impacts in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol**

23. The secretariat compiles the supplementary information submitted annually by Parties relating to how they are striving, under Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol, to implement their commitments under Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol in such a way as to minimize adverse social, environmental and economic impacts on developing country Parties, particularly those identified in Article 4, paragraphs 8–9, of the Convention, and information on any changes that have occurred compared with the information reported in their previous annual submissions.<sup>22</sup>

24. The compilation is also to include information on how Parties included in Annex I that are also included in Annex II to the Convention and other Parties included in Annex I that are in a position to do so give priority in implementing their commitments under Article 3, paragraph 14, of the Kyoto Protocol to the actions referred to in decision 15/CMP.1, annex, paragraph 24, on the basis of relevant methodologies referred to in decision 31/CMP.1, paragraph 11.<sup>23</sup>

25. The compilation based on the annual submissions received for 2022 was published on 26 January 2023.<sup>24</sup>

---

---

<sup>22</sup> As per decision 15/CMP.1, annex, para. 26.

<sup>23</sup> As per decision 15/CMP.1, annex, para. 24.

<sup>24</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/workstreams/response-measures/compilation-reports-on-article-314-of-the-kyoto-protocol>.