

Compilation of information relating to possible quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives as submitted by Parties

Informal note by the secretariat

6 June 2009

Introduction

1. A number of Annex I Parties that are also Parties to the Kyoto Protocol made a joint submission on 5 May 2009 to the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) with information on possible quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives (QELROs) for 2020. This submission is included in document FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.8. In addition, Iceland made a statement during the plenary meeting of the present session of the AWG-KP announcing its decision to reduce emissions by 15 per cent between 1990 and 2020.
2. The AWG-KP requested the secretariat to aggregate these possible QELROs and prepare relevant information for consideration by the AWG-KP.

Background

3. Table 1 below contains the values of the possible QELROs, the reference year, whether the land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector is included, and the status of possible QELROs. Table 1 is presented with minimal changes from the table contained in document FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.8, with the addition of Iceland's proposal.

Table 1. Information on possible quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives submitted by Annex I Parties that are also Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

Party	Information relating to possible QELROs		Inclusion of LULUCF	Status
	Range or single value by 2020	Reference year		
Australia	-5 to -15% or 25%	2000	Yes	Officially announced
Belarus	-5 to -10%	1990	TBD	Under consideration
Canada	-20%	2006	TBD	Officially announced
European Community	-20 to -30%	1990	No for -20% Yes for -30%	Adopted by legislation
Iceland	-15%	1990	TBD	Officially announced
Norway	-30%	1990	Yes	Officially announced
Switzerland	-20 to -30%	1990	Yes	Consultations in progress
Ukraine	-20%	1990	TBD	Under consideration

Abbreviations: LULUCF = land use, land-use change and forestry, TBD = to be determined.

4. Parties proposed a single possible QELRO or a range of possible QELROs subject to certain conditions and context. The information on these conditions and context is contained in the annex to this note.

→ include LULUCF

5. In most of the cases, whether the LULUCF sector would be included in the possible QELROs is yet to be determined by Parties. Even where there is an indication that the LULUCF sector has been included, it is not always clear which accounting rules have been used for the calculation of possible QELROs. In addition, the extent of the use of the Kyoto mechanisms, the inclusion of new greenhouse gases¹ and the changes in emission estimates that would result from possible use of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* on emission trends and possible QELROs are also not clear.

Overview of results

6. The calculation of the emission reductions in aggregate was based on the most recent inventory data that are available on the UNFCCC website, which contains emission estimates up to 2006. Alternatively, calculations could be made using the current base year data under the Kyoto Protocol that are used to establish the assigned amount for the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. However, figures for the base year for the Kyoto Protocol are not available for the 27 Parties that are member States of the European Community as a group.

7. In responding to the request mentioned in paragraph 2 above, the secretariat prepared two sets of emission reductions in aggregate for the Parties that have submitted information on possible QELROs in order to deal with uncertainties associated with LULUCF, as noted in paragraph 5 above. The results of these calculations are included in table 2 below.

8. The first set of emission reductions in aggregate was calculated using emissions in 1990 or any other reference year specified by Parties, excluding emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector, but including emissions from deforestation in accordance with the current accounting rules under the Kyoto Protocol. In this case, emission reductions in aggregate of the Parties are expected to be between 17 and 26 per cent below 1990 levels in 2020. The second set was calculated using emissions in 1990 or any other reference year specified by Parties including emissions and removals from the LULUCF sector. In this case, emission reductions in aggregate of the Parties are expected to be between 16 and 24 per cent below 1990 levels in 2020.

9. Given the uncertainties associated with the possible QELROs, noted in paragraph 5 above, including the lack of clarity over the accounting rules for the LULUCF sector, the ranges of aggregate emission reductions presented in paragraph 8 above should be considered as preliminary.

¹ This refers to the consideration by the AWG-KP of the coverage of greenhouse gases under its agenda item 5 (d).

Table 2. Greenhouse emission trend and emission reductions in aggregate for the Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that have submitted information on possible quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives

Party	Total GHG including LULUCF, in Tg CO ₂ eq.			Total GHG and LULUCF, in Tg CO ₂ eq.			Total GHG including LULUCF, in Tg CO ₂ eq.			Possible ODI, 2008 in % of reference year emissions			Total GHG and LULUCF, in Tg CO ₂ eq.			Total GHG including LULUCF, in Tg CO ₂ eq.		
	1990	2000	2006	1990	2000	2006	1990	2000	2006	Min	Max	Reference year	Reference year level	Min 2008	Max 2008	Reference year level	Min 2020	Max 2020
Australia	416.2	495.2	536.1	522.6	566.1	599.0	514.9	514.9	546.9	-5%	-25%	2000	506.1	537.8	424.6	524.9	493.7	392.7
Bahrain	127.4	69.8	81.0	127.4	69.8	81.0	105.3	42.5	53.0	-5%	-10%	1990	127.4	121.0	114.6	105.3	100.1	94.8
Canada	922.2	777.7	720.6	922.2	777.7	720.6	483.8	620.1	752.0	-20%	-20%	2006	720.6	574.5	574.5	752.0	601.6	507.6
European Community (EU-27)	5 964.0	5 094.1	5 129.6	5 668.7	5 086.1	5 131.5	5 163.1	4 492.2	4 632.7	-20%	-30%	1990	5 365.7	4 452.6	3 896.0	5 163.1	4 130.4	3 614.1
Iceland	3.4	3.7	4.2	3.4	3.7	4.2	4.9	5.0	5.4	-15%	-15%	1990	3.4	2.9	2.9	4.9	4.2	4.2
Norway	49.7	53.5	53.5	49.7	53.5	53.5	36.0	30.1	25.7	-30%	-30%	1990	49.7	34.8	34.8	36.0	25.2	22.2
Switzerland	52.8	51.8	53.2	52.8	51.8	53.2	30.2	22.6	31.9	-20%	-30%	1990	52.8	42.1	37.0	50.2	40.2	35.2
Lithuania	922.0	395.0	443.2	922.0	395.0	443.2	855.1	344.1	410.5	-20%	-20%	1990	922.0	737.6	737.6	855.1	694.1	684.1
Total in Tg CO ₂ eq.	7 227.7	6 840.8	7 211.4	7 666.0	6 913.7	7 086.3	7 216.3	6 286.6	6 485.1	-	-	-	6 505.4	5 824.0	5 824.0	6 694.4	5 451.8	5 451.8
Total in %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-17%	-29%	-	-15%	-24%

1990
1990
USA

1990

Iceland

5. The decision of the Government of Iceland to reduce emissions by 15 per cent between 1990 and 2020 is made with the understanding that the provision of decision 14/CP.7 are extended to 2020.

Japan

6. Japan's mid-term target is now being considered with reference to the six options presented by the Mid-term Target Committee, established under the Council on Global Warming Issue chaired by the Prime Minister (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.1/Add.2).

New Zealand

7. New Zealand is developing a range of possible medium-term targets consistent with a global goal of stabilisation at 450 ppm CO₂-eq and with New Zealand's long-term target of a 50 per cent reduction in net emissions from 1990 levels by 2050.

Norway

8. In the context of an ambitious global agreement, Norway intends to cut global emissions equivalent to 100 per cent of its own greenhouse gas emissions, becoming a carbon neutral nation within 2030. Norway will undertake to reduce total greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent by 2020 relative to 1990 levels. The aim is to reduce two thirds of emissions domestically bringing Norway on the path to become a low carbon society (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.1, page 39).

Russia

9. Russia is currently considering establishing a national mid-term target.

Ukraine

10. Ukraine is ready to commit to the greenhouse gas emissions reduction by 20 per cent by 2020 and by 50 per cent by 2050. Imposing stricter obligations on Ukraine will not only render impossible the economy growth, but will also prevent social and economic recovery of the country (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.1, page 48 and further elaboration by Ukraine).

ANNEX

Information relating to possible quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives as submitted by Parties

Australia

1. On 4 May, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd committed the Australian Government to reduce Australia's emissions by 25 per cent on 2000 levels by 2020 if the world agrees to an ambitious global deal capable of stabilising levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at 450 ppm CO₂-eq or lower. The Australian Government retains its previous policy commitment to unconditionally reduce Australia's emissions by 5 per cent on 2000 levels by 2020, and to reduce emissions by up to 15 per cent by 2020 if there is a global agreement which falls short of securing atmospheric stabilisation at 450 ppm CO₂-eq, and under which major developing economies commit to substantially restrain emissions and advanced economies take on commitments comparable to Australia's.

Belarus

2. Belarus informs that if the amendment adopted via decision 10/CMP.2 comes into effect before the end of the first commitment period, for the period after 2012 the Republic of Belarus will consider an option of assuming the commitment to meet the target of 90-95 per cent of 1990 emission level; and if the aforementioned amendment does not take effect, the Republic of Belarus will refrain from voluntary commitments for the post-Kyoto period that would establish the target lower than 100 per cent of 1990 emission level (FCCC/KP/A WG/2008/ MISC.4, page11).

Canada

3. In the medium-term, the Government of Canada is committed to reducing Canada's total GHG emissions by 20 per cent by 2020 relative to 2006 levels. This equals a reduction in annual emissions of approximately 145 Mt by 2020. This commitment has been developed as a domestic goal on Canada's long-term emission reduction pathway. It does not assume or provide for significant use of the Kyoto mechanisms, in particular emission trading under Article 17. In the long-term, the government is committed to reducing Canada's GHG emissions by 60-70 per cent below 2006 levels by 2050 (FCCC/KP/A WG/2007/MISC.4/Add.1, page 5 and further elaboration by Canada).

The European Community and its Member States

4. The European Union agreed in 2008 its "Energy and climate package". The package includes a unilateral commitment to reduce EU-27 GHG emissions by at least 20 per cent by 2020 compared to 1990 levels and by 30 per cent provided that other developed countries commit themselves to comparable emission reductions and that economically more advanced developing countries contribute adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities consistent with staying below 2°C (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.1, page 20).