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FCCC/SBI/2020/INF.7



Framework Convention on
Climate Change

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English only

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Status of submission and review of national communications and biennial reports

Note by the secretariat


Abbreviations and acronyms

Annex I Party	Party included in Annex I to the Convention
BR	biennial report
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTF	common tabular format
NC	national communication
TRR	technical review report (of a biennial report)

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1. This document provides information on the status of submission and review of BR4s from Annex I Parties as at 30 October 2020.
2. COP 17 requested Annex I Parties to submit their second and subsequent BRs two years after the due date of a full NC.¹ The due date for BR4s was 1 January 2020.
3. In addition, COP 17 adopted the “UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties” and decided that developed country Parties shall use them for preparing their BRs.² COP 18 adopted the CTF for those guidelines³ and COP 21 revised it and decided that developed country Parties shall use the revised format when preparing and submitting their BRs in accordance with decision 2/CP.17.⁴
4. At the time of preparation of this document, the secretariat had received 40 BR4s, including their corresponding BR4 CTF tables, from Annex I Parties. The BR4s and BR4 CTF tables of Iceland, Ukraine and the United States of America as well as the BR4 of Luxembourg had not yet been submitted.
5. Also at the time of preparation of this document, the secretariat had received NC7s from 42 Annex I Parties. The NC7s of Ukraine and the United States had not yet been submitted.
6. A total of 29 Annex I Parties submitted their BR4s and 26 Annex I Parties submitted their BR4 CTF tables before the due date of submission in accordance with decision 2/CP.17, while 11 Annex I Parties submitted their BR4s and 15 Annex I Parties submitted their BR4 CTF tables after that date. Five of the Parties previously mentioned as submitting late informed the secretariat of their challenges in meeting the due date for the BR4 and indicated a revised date for submission.
7. To address areas for improvement noted during the technical review, 18 of the 26 Annex I Parties for which TRRs had been completed at the time of preparation of this document provided resubmissions within two weeks of the review week. Of those 18 Parties, 9 resubmitted both BR4s and BR4 CTF tables, 2 resubmitted BR4s only and 7 resubmitted CTF tables only.
8. All BR4s and BR4 CTF tables received have been posted on the UNFCCC website.⁵ The dates of submission and resubmission and of scheduled review weeks are presented in the table below.
9. COP 20 decided that the “Guidelines for the technical review of information reported under the Convention related to greenhouse gas inventories, biennial reports and national communications by Parties included in Annex I to the Convention” shall be used for the review of BRs, starting with BR2s in 2016.⁶
10. As at 30 October 2020, the secretariat had coordinated the reviews of 30 BR4s. These reviews were conducted virtually⁷ in six centralized reviews of four to six Annex I Parties each. The TRRs of 26 Parties had been finalized and published as at 30 October 2020. Of these, 25 TRRs were finalized within the mandated timeline⁸ (four months after the review week) despite the additional effort required to complete the reviews of the resubmissions received from 18 Parties. The time required to finalize a TRR on average was three months. The figure below shows how many months after the review week it took to finalize the 26 TRRs published as at 30 October 2020.

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, para. 13.

² Decision 2/CP.17, paras. 12–13.

³ Decision 19/CP.18, para. 1.

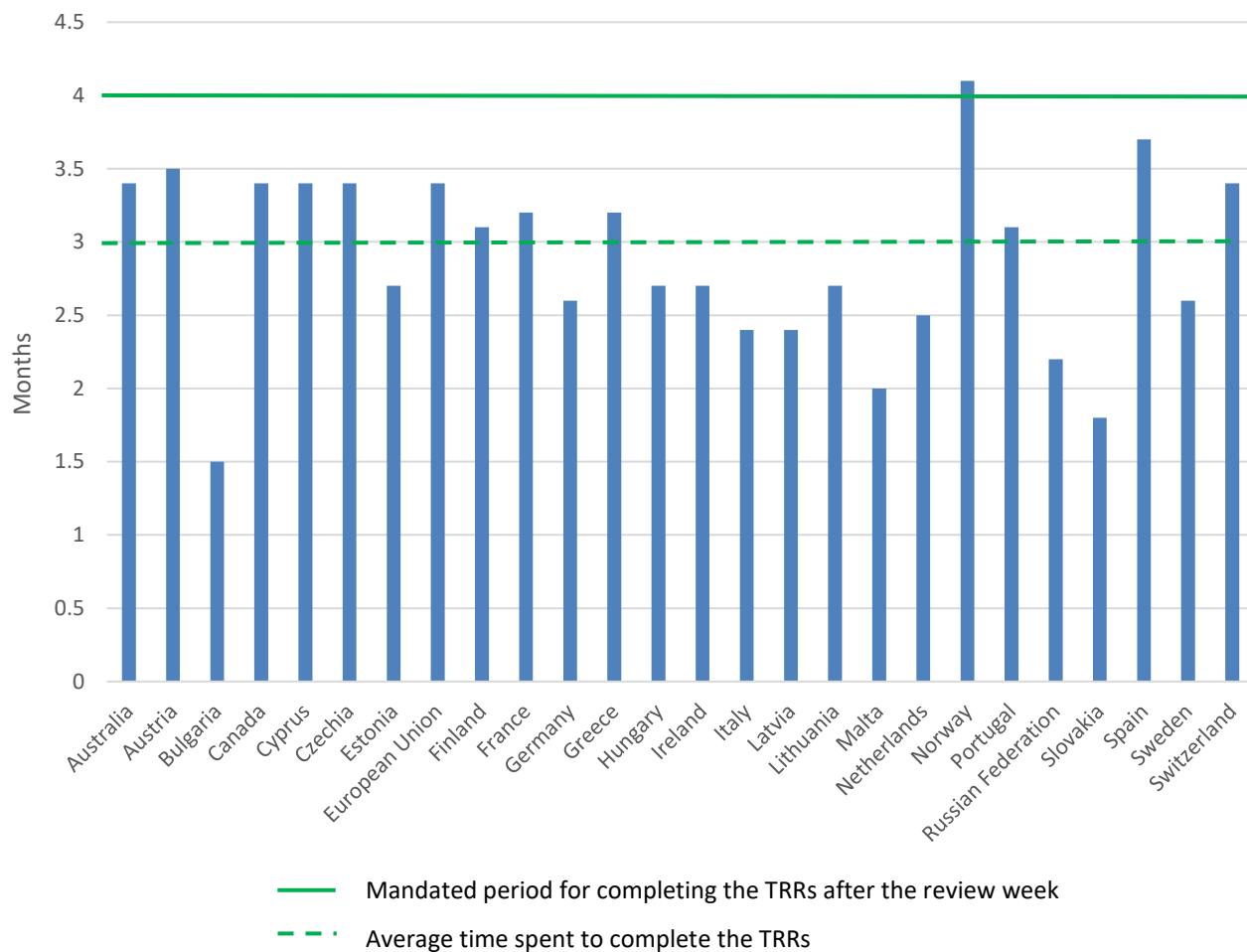
⁴ Decision 9/CP.21, para. 8.

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/BRs>.

⁶ Decision 13/CP.20, para. 2.

⁷ Owing to the circumstances related to the coronavirus disease 2019, the technical reviews of BR4s scheduled between March and October 2020 had to be conducted remotely.

⁸ Decision 13/CP.20, annex, paras. 109–111.

Time taken after the review week to finalize the technical review reports of fourth biennial reports


4 **Dates of submission and review of fourth biennial reports as at 30 October 2020**

<i>Annex I Party</i>	<i>Date(s) BR4 received</i>	<i>Language(s) of submission</i>	<i>Date(s) CTF tables received</i>	<i>Dates of (centralized) review week</i>	<i>Date(s) of publication of reports</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>
Australia	31 Dec. 2019	English	31 Dec. 2019	16–20 Mar. 2020	3 July 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/AUS
Austria	30 Dec. 2019	English	30 Dec. 2019 7 May 2020	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	17 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/AUT
Belarus	27 Jan. 2020	English	27 Jan. 2020	Planned as an in-country review for 2021 (date to be decided)	–	–
Belgium	31 Mar. 2020	English	31 Mar. 2020	26–30 Oct. 2020	Under preparation	–
Bulgaria	30 Dec. 2019 29 June 2020	English	30 Dec. 2019 29 June 2020	22–26 June 2020	12 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/BGR
Canada	31 Dec. 2019 13 Feb. 2020	English and French	31 Dec. 2019	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	14 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/CAN
Croatia	31 Dec. 2019	English	3 Jan. 2020	25–29 Jan. 2021	–	–
Cyprus	9 Mar. 2020 29 June 2020	English	9 Mar. 2020 14 July 2020	15–19 June 2020	2 Oct. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/CYP
Czechia	29 Nov. 2019	English	29 Nov. 2019	15–19 June 2020	2 Oct. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/CZE
Denmark	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019	26–30 Oct. 2020	Under preparation	–
Estonia	31 Dec. 2019	English	31 Dec. 2019	15–19 June 2020	11 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/EST
European Union	20 Dec. 2019 9 June 2020	English	20 Dec. 2019 3 Apr. 2020	9–13 Mar. 2020	26 June 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/EU
Finland	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019	9–13 Mar. 2020	16 June 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/FIN
France	8 Jan. 2020 15 May 2020	English and French	8 Jan. 2020 15 May 2020	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	7 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/FRA
Germany	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019 20 Mar. 2020	16–20 Mar. 2020	9 June 2020 14 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/DEU and Corr.1
Greece	1 Feb. 2020	English	1 Feb. 2020	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	7 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/GRC

<i>Annex I Party</i>	<i>Date(s) BR4 received</i>	<i>Language(s) of submission</i>	<i>Date(s) CTF tables received</i>	<i>Dates of (centralized) review week</i>	<i>Date(s) of publication of reports</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>
Hungary	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019 21 July 2020	22–26 June 2020	18 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/HUN
Iceland	Not yet submitted	–	Not yet submitted	Planned for 22–26 Mar. 2021, if the submission is received	–	–
Ireland	13 Feb. 2020	English	13 Feb. 2020 20 May 2020	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	23 July 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/IRE
Italy	30 Dec. 2019	English	30 Dec. 2019	16–30 Mar. 2020	29 May 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/ITA
Japan	27 Dec. 2019	English	7 Jan. 2020	26–30 Oct. 2020	Under preparation	–
Kazakhstan	1 Apr. 2020	English	1 Apr. 2020	1–5 Mar. 2021	–	–
Latvia	20 Dec. 2019 27 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019	15–19 June 2020	2 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/LVA
Liechtenstein	29 Dec. 2019	English	30 Dec. 2019	1–5 Mar. 2021	–	–
Lithuania	4 Jan. 2020	English	6 Jan. 2020 29 June 2020	15–19 June 2020	11 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/LTU
Luxembourg	Not yet submitted	English	21 Jan. 2020	25–29 Jan. 2021	–	–
Malta	3 Jan. 2020 30 June 2020	English	3 Jan. 2020 30 June 2020	15–19 June 2020	17 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/MLT
Monaco	27 Dec. 2019	English	27 Dec. 2019	25–29 Jan. 2021	–	–
Netherlands	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019 12 Mar. 2020	9–13 Mar. 2020	29 May 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/NLD
New Zealand	19 Dec. 2019	English	19 Dec. 2019	26–30 Oct. 2020	Under preparation	–
Norway	20 Dec. 2019 2 Apr. 2020	English	20 Dec. 2019 2 Apr. 2020	16–20 Mar. 2020	23 July 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/NOR
Poland	12 Feb. 2020	English	12 Feb. 2020	1–5 Mar. 2021	–	–
Portugal	30 Dec. 2019 1 Apr. 2020	English	30 Dec. 2019 1 Apr. 2020	9–13 Mar. 2020	17 June 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/PRT
Romania	30 Dec. 2019	English	30 Dec. 2019	25–29 Jan. 2021	–	–
Russian Federation	31 Dec. 2019	Russian	31 Dec. 2019	22–26 June 2020	2 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/RUS

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	30 Apr. 2020		13 July 2020			
Slovakia	30 Dec. 2019 9 July 2020	English	30 Dec. 2019 9 July 2020	22–26 June 2020	21 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/SVK
Slovenia	16 Apr. 2020	English	16 Apr. 2020	25–29 Jan. 2021	–	–
Spain	23 Dec. 2019	Spanish	23 Dec. 2019 29 July 2020	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	24 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/ESP
Sweden	19 Dec. 2019	English	3 Jan. 2020	16–20 Mar. 2020	10 June 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/SWE
Switzerland	18 Dec. 2019	English	18 Dec. 2019	16–20 Mar. 2020	3 July 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/CHE
Turkey	27 Dec. 2019	English	27 Dec. 2019	1–5 Mar. 2021	–	–
Ukraine	Not yet submitted	English	Not yet submitted	–	–	–
United Kingdom	31 Dec. 2019	English	31 Dec. 2019	22–26 Mar. 2021	–	–
United States	Not yet submitted	English	Not yet submitted	–	–	–