



United Nations

FCCC/SBI/2021/INF.2



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



1. This document provides information on the status of submission and review of BR4s from Annex I Parties as at 11 May 2021.
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 42 BR4s, including their corresponding BR4 CTF tables, from Annex I Parties; the BR4s, BR4 CTF tables and NC7s of Ukraine and the United States of America had not yet been submitted.
5. 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 as per decision 2/CP.17. A total of 13 Annex I Parties submitted their BR4s and 16 Annex I Parties submitted their BR4 CTF tables after that date, 5 of which informed the secretariat about the delay in advance. 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.
6. 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
7. The secretariat coordinated the reviews of 41 of the submitted BR4s in nine centralized reviews.⁷ The planned in-country review of the NC7 and BR4 of Belarus had to be postponed owing to the pandemic.
8. At the time of preparation of this document, the TRRs for 31 Parties had been finalized and published on the UNFCCC website.⁸ Of those, 30 TRRs were finalized within the mandated timeline⁹ (four months after the review week) despite the additional effort required to complete the reviews of the resubmissions received from 16 Parties. The average time required to finalize a TRR was three months.
9. To address areas for improvement noted during the technical reviews, 27 Annex I Parties resubmitted documentation during or after the reviews: 14 resubmitted both their BR4s and BR4 CTF tables, 15 resubmitted their BR4s and 26 resubmitted their CTF tables.

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 pandemic, the technical reviews of BR4s scheduled between March 2020 and March 2021 had to be conducted remotely.

⁸ <https://unfccc.int/review-reports-ncs-brs>.

⁹ Decision 13/CP.20, annex, paras. 109–111.

Dates of submission and review of fourth biennial reports as at 11 May 2021

<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 TRR</i>	<i>TRR 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 in-country review in 2021 (date to be decided once travel is no longer restricted)	–	–
Belgium	31 Mar. 2020	English	31 Mar. 2020	26–30 Oct. 2020	27 Jan. 2021	FCCC/TRR.4/BEL
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 11 Feb. 2021	25–29 Jan. 2021	Under preparation	–
Cyprus	9 Mar. 2020 29 June 2020	English	9 Mar. 2020 29 June 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	10 Feb. 2021	FCCC/TRR.4/DNK
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 17 Feb. 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

<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 TRR</i>	<i>TRR document symbol</i>
Greece	1 Feb. 2020	English	1 Feb. 2020	27 Apr. to 1 May 2020	7 Aug. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/GRC
Hungary	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019 21 July 2020	22–26 June 2020	18 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/HUN
Iceland	25 Nov. 2020	English	25 Nov. 2020	22–26 Mar. 2021	Under preparation	–
Ireland	13 Feb. 2020	English	13 Feb. 2020 18 May 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 1 Oct. 2020	26–30 Oct. 2020	19 Feb. 2021	FCCC/TRR.4/JPN
Kazakhstan	1 Apr. 2020 29 Mar. 2021	English	1 Apr. 2020 29 Mar. 2021 23 Apr. 2020	1–5 Mar. 2021	Under preparation	–
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	Under preparation	–
Lithuania	4 Jan. 2020	English	6 Jan. 2020 29 June 2020	15–19 June 2020	11 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/LTU
Luxembourg	23 Nov. 2020	English	21 Jan. 2020 23 Nov. 2020	25–29 Jan. 2021	Under preparation	–
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 1 Mar. 2021	25–29 Jan. 2021	28 Apr. 2021	FCCC/TRR.4/MCO
Netherlands	20 Dec. 2019	English	20 Dec. 2019 20 Jan. 2020 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	20 Mar. 2021	FCCC/TRR.4/NZL

<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 TRR</i>	<i>TRR document symbol</i>
	13 Nov. 2020		13 Nov. 2020			
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	Under preparation	–
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 26 Dec. 2020	English	30 Dec. 2019 26 Dec. 2020	25–29 Jan. 2021	Under preparation	–
Russian Federation	31 Dec. 2019 30 Apr. 2020	Russian	31 Dec. 2019 13 May 2020 13 July 2020	22–26 June 2020	2 Sept. 2020	FCCC/TRR.4/RUS
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 4 Feb. 2021	25–29 Jan. 2021	Under preparation	–
Spain	23 Dec. 2019	Spanish	23 Dec. 2019 13 May 2020 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 19 Mar. 2021	English	27 Dec. 2019 19 Mar. 2021	1–5 Mar. 2021	Under preparation	–
Ukraine	Not yet submitted	English	Not yet submitted	–	–	–
United Kingdom	31 Dec. 2019 13 Apr. 2021	English	31 Dec. 2019 13 Apr. 2021	22–26 Mar. 2021	Under preparation	–
United States	Not yet submitted	English	Not yet submitted	–	–	–