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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action
under the Convention
Fifteenth session, part two
Doha, x November 2012-***

Agenda item 3(b)(ii)

Nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity-building, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner

Submission of more information by developing country Parties, subject to availability, relating to nationally appropriate mitigation actions, including underlying assumptions and methodologies, sectors and gases covered, global warming potential values used, support needs for implementation of nationally appropriate mitigation actions and estimated mitigation outcomes

Submissions from Parties

Addendum

1. In addition to the four submissions contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.2, one further submission has been received.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is attached and reproduced** in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

* The second part of the session will be held in conjunction with the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties. The opening and closing dates of the fifteenth session, part two, of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention will be determined in due course.

** This submission has been electronically imported in order to make it available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the text as submitted.

FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.2/Add.1

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Submission from Israel

Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions by Developing Country Parties 13 August 2012

Israel welcomes the opportunity to submit information on its pledge for a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 below "business as usual" levels. As communicated in our association with the Copenhagen Accord, this goal will be achieved primarily through a 10% share of renewable energy in electricity generation and through a 20% reduction in electricity consumption.

Enhanced transparency and information sharing will contribute greatly to learning from best practice and to capacity building for professionals.

Background:

In 2009, the Ministry of Environmental Protection commissioned two studies to examine the potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and it was found that under a "business as usual" scenario, Israel is expected to double its greenhouse gas emissions between 2005 and 2030. This situation is primarily due to Israel's relatively high growth in population and a continuous increase in the standard of living.

The first study constructed a baseline forecast termed the business as usual scenario. It pointed to a 63% increase in GHG emissions by 2025, largely stemming from an increase in fuel combustion in the energy sector. The calculation of GHG emissions for the base year (2006) and the forecast for the following years up to 2025 are based on the 1996 IPCC guidelines. As the energy sector is the major sector with regard to GHG emissions in Israel, the study mainly focused on foreseen developments in this sector.

The second study was commissioned to further assist in estimating the GHG abatement potential, and evaluate the costs involved in realizing this potential. The methodology analyzed over 200 technical measures (levers) aimed at reducing GHG emissions across ten sectors, with the results integrated into a single cost curve. The report provided a quantitative database to determine policy and measures. Most of the abatement measures fell into two categories: low carbon energy sources and improved energy efficiency.

National circumstances

There is relatively low abatement potential in Israel due to low feasibility of many abatement measures such as:

- Lack of hydroelectric power;
- Absence of heavy industry (significant abatement potential);
- Low feasibility of biomass and carbon capture and storage;
- Land scarcity.

National plan for the reduction of GHG emissions:

Following COP 15 in Copenhagen, a government decision was taken on the formulation of a national plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, based on the results of the studies. An inter-ministerial committee of all relevant ministries, headed by the Director General of the Finance Ministry, was set up to specify the steps required for the implementation of the national plan including, among others, regulation, removal of barriers, cost benefit analyses, and economic incentives. In November 2010, the plan was approved by the government and called for reducing emissions in the fields of energy efficiency, green building, transportation, and education and information. A significant budget was allocated over the coming decade for implementation of the various measures defined in the plan. The government decision called on the inter-ministerial committee to follow up on the implementation of the plan and to review additional policy measures for greenhouse gas reductions, including renewable energy .

Implementation of all current measures in the national plan will bring a reduction of about 75% of the national target in 2020, while the net economic benefit of the plan is significant. Additional steps will be examined and taken in order to meet the target.

Main (budgeted) measures in the government decision

- Program of subsidies allocated by the Ministry of Environmental Protection in the coming decade for supporting investments targeted at the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the industrial, commercial and public sectors.
- A program for the scrapping of inefficient refrigerators and air conditioners in the household sector, replacing them with energy efficient models .
- Promoting pilot projects for new and existing green buildings, including a building survey; and an experimental project for retrofitting insulation in existing buildings within the framework of the government's urban renewal project.
- Investment in education and information projects to increase awareness and promote behavioral changes in the public in order to achieve energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reductions.
- Investment in the commercial integration of Israeli technologies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Tracking Implementation

The Minister of Environmental Protection will oversee the manner in which the measures by all ministries (Energy and Water; Industry, Trade and Labor; Construction and Housing; Transportation and Road Safety) are implemented. In addition, there will be follow-up on the progress of specific requirements listed in the plan such as regulations on improved energy efficiency of electrical appliances and tax measures to promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles.

During 2013, procedures for tracking progress on the implementation of the national plan will be established. The Ministry of Environmental Protection is preparing guidelines for all Ministries, to be approved by the inter-ministerial committee, for data collection and for the monitoring of GHG emissions reduction measures. The guidelines specify the type of data to be collected (quantitative or qualitative) and the parameters for calculating reductions. The monitoring results will be reported to the government by the Minister of Environmental Protection at the end of each year. Concerning the methodologies and emissions factors used, the Ministry and the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) are coordinated in order to minimize gaps in reported data between the macro and micro levels. The CBS prepares the national GHG inventory .

Subsidy Program and MRV

As mentioned above, a key element of the national plan is a government sponsored program of subsidies to the industrial, commercial and municipal sectors for greenhouse gas reduction projects. Under the program, which is jointly administered by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Investment Center in the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Labor, eligible projects may receive a subsidy of up to 10 million shekels (~ 2.5 million USD) or up to 20% of the total investment, provided the project will deliver quantified reductions in greenhouse gas emissions until at least 2020. Furthermore, the Chief Scientist in the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor will grant additional assistance to approved projects that are based on technologies that were developed by Israeli companies and will be commercially installed for the first time.

Professional prerequisites for the submission of applications for support include:

- Preparation of a detailed plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
- Calculation of the anticipated reduction in GHG emissions and energy consumption from each activity based on an approved methodology;
- Preparation of a monitoring and control program for the project;
- Review of the cost of the reduction plan and appropriate funding sources ;
- Determination of the requested level of support.

Projects are ranked according to the level of financial support requested per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent abated, with preference to low reduction cost. A bonus may be given for additional benefits such as air pollutant reduction and load shifting from the electricity grid.

In the first phase of the subsidies program (November 2011) a total of 48 million shekels were distributed among 76 greenhouse gas reduction projects. Most projects were from the industry and commercial sectors with a reduction potential of approximately 120,000 tons of CO₂eq a year with an average reduction cost of 39 shekel (\$11) a ton (in the industrial sector). The second phase of the program will open for applications in August 2012.

A mandatory requirement for all projects is the submission of a verified annual emissions reduction report to the Ministry of Environmental Protection, until 2020.

Future Plans

A new cost-benefit analysis to examine the potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions after 2020 is to be commissioned, which will form the basis for a long-term strategy for emissions reduction.

A national MRV system will be established, which will track implementation of the national plan for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions as well as for all additional government measures implemented for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
