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## **Mutual Learning Program for Enhanced Transparency (MLP) Reporting of mitigation actions in the agriculture sector under Art.13 (Azerbaijan - Georgia - Japan - Moldova - Uzbekistan)**

### **- Main Meeting -**

**Date: July 30, 2024 | Place: Baku, Azerbaijan | Format: In-person**

**Venue: Nasimi Room in Radisson Hotel Baku**

**Time: 9:00-17:00 (Registration opens at 9:00)**

**Language: English with simultaneous translation to Russian and Azerbaijani**

### **Background:**

The Mutual Learning Program for Enhanced Transparency (MLP), implemented and funded by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ), aims to assist countries to prepare their Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) under the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement through mutual learning of practices. The MLP is managed by Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting (MURC) in close collaboration with the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency - Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP).

In 2023, representatives of the five countries, namely Azerbaijan, Georgia, Japan, Moldova, and Uzbekistan, successfully completed the MLP for reporting of mitigation actions in the energy sector. In 2024, representatives of the same countries started the second phase of the MLP focusing on the agriculture sector.

On May 30 2024, they met together at the kick-off meeting (online) and discussed the detailed plan of the second phase of the MLP including a reporting exercise of common tabular format (CTF)-5 associated with BTRs. Since then, they have worked on the exercise, exchanged and reviewed each other's exercise, and shared their questions and comments.

This main meeting, graciously hosted by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan, aims to provide the opportunity for the country experts to discuss each country's reporting exercise in detail and next steps for the countries to submit the First BTRs by the end of 2024, continuously improve BTRs over time, and link this information to the implementation of NDCs.

### **Expectation shared by countries and objectives:**

At the kick-off meeting in May, countries shared their expectations for the main meeting. Based on their expectation and needs, the main meeting specifically aims to:

- **As several countries are to finalize the draft BTR, the main meeting can be the opportunity to verify the draft's compliance with the BTR requirements and adjust it for improvements.**

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- More specifically, the following topics are the countries' interest/concern (at the time of the kick-off meeting) which can be further discussed:
  - Amount of information, detail, granularity etc.
  - Approaches to quantify expected emission reductions, which are not yet the part of the existing plan
  - How to overcome limited data and reduce uncertainties
  - How to use the flexibility mechanism
  - Impacts of mitigation actions in the sector, including intersectoral policies
  - How to track progress with conditional vs. unconditional targets

### Expected outcomes:

At the end of the main meeting, participants should be able to:

- Increased understanding of how to complete the CTF-5 in the agriculture sector as part of the BTR
- Increased confidence to submit the CTF-5 as part of the BTR
- Shared knowledge of how to make progress and overcome challenges with BTR preparation
- Increased awareness and inspiration of how to link the information of BTRs to NDCs
- Enhanced collaborative networks among the participating experts, organizations, and countries
- Recommendations for future collaboration, including through the MLP and other channels

### Agenda:

Time expressed in Azerbaijan Time (GMT+4)

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 9:00-9:30   | Registration   |
| 9:30-10:00  | <b>Opening session</b><br>Opening of the Main Meeting by the Moderator: Chisa Umemiya, IGES<br>Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Azerbaijan's representative</li> <li>● Representative from MOEJ (Video message)</li> <li>● Welcoming remarks on behalf of CBIT-GSP</li> </ul> Self-introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Country representatives and members of the MLP</li> </ul> Group photo |
| 10:00-10:30 | <b>Introductory session</b><br>Objectives and flow of the main meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chisa Umemiya, IGES</li> </ul> Interactive exchange among the countries: What are updates from the kick-off meeting in May for BTR, NDC, agriculture policies etc.? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nailia Timerkhanova, CBIT-GSP</li> </ul>  |
| 10:30-10:45 | Coffee break   |
| 10:45-11:15 | <b>Main session</b><br><i>This session provides the opportunity to discuss a country's reporting exercise (CTF-5) in the agriculture sector in detail. <b>Please be reminded that as several countries are to finalize the draft</b></i>   |

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|-------------|---|
|             | <p><b><u>BTR, the session can be the opportunity to verify their draft's compliance with the BTR requirements and adjust it for improvements.</u></b></p> <p><i>It starts with a country presentation on a reporting exercise, followed by questions and comments from participants of other countries. <b>All country participants are requested to actively contribute to the session for "mutual learning of practices".</b></i></p> <p>Country presentation (10-15min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Azerbaijan</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All countries are asked to provide inputs</li> </ul> |
| 11:15-11:45 | <p>Country presentation (10-15min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Georgia</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All countries are asked to provide inputs</li> </ul>  |
| 11:45-12:15 | <p>Country presentation (10-15min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Takashi Morimoto, MURC/Japan</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All countries are asked to provide inputs</li> </ul>   |
| 12:30-13:30 | Lunch break   |
| 13:30-13:45 | <p>Interactive exchange among the countries: Getting ready for the afternoon sessions!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nailia Timerkhanova, CBIT-GSP</li> </ul>  |
| 13:45-14:15 | <p>Country presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Moldova (10-15min)</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All countries are asked to provide inputs</li> </ul>  |
| 14:15-14:45 | <p>Country presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Uzbekistan (10-15min)</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All countries are asked to provide inputs</li> </ul>   |
| 14:45-15:00 | Coffee break  |
| 15:00-16:15 | <p><b>Discussion session</b></p> <p><b><u>Round-table discussion by all participants</u></b></p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How did you find your draft reporting exercise after the main session? Is it ready to submit as part of your country's BTR or is there anything to improve?</li> <li>● What are the remaining issues to be addressed even after the submission of the First BTR?</li> <li>● How can the information of BTRs be linked with the implementation of NDCs?</li> <li>● Recommendations for future collaboration, including through the MLP and other channels</li> </ul>                                    |
| 16:15-17:00 | <p><b>Closing session</b></p> <p>Feedback and evaluation of the MLP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nailia Timerkhanova, CBIT-GSP</li> </ul> <p>Summary and next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nailia Timerkhanova, CBIT-GSP</li> <li>● Chisa Umemiya, IGES</li> </ul>  |

**Meeting documents saved in Box:**

<https://iges.app.box.com/folder/260819260229?s=dlq7nkks31e178wi0n1ou4k5y590mhdu>

**List of Participants:**

| No | Country    | Organization   | Name                  | Title  |
|----|------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| 1  | Azerbaijan | Azerbaijan Branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (RECC)   | Mr Yashar Karimov     | Director   |
| 2  |            |  | Mr. Rasim Sattarzada  | CBIT Coordinator   |
| 3  |            |  | Mr. Aslan Shikhaliyev | Programme Management Specialist on Transparency  |
| 4  |            | National Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan | Dr. Fuad Humbatov     | Head of the International Relations Department of National Hydrometeorological Service                                       |
| 5  |            |  | Ms. Sevinc Ahmadova   | Head of the Climate Change Centre of National Hydrometeorological Service  |
| 6  |            |  | Ms. Aygun Narimanova  | Deputy Head of the Climate Change Centre of National Hydrometeorological Service, GHG Inventory Expert and Mitigation Expert |
| 7  |            |  | Ms. Gulnar Muradova   | GHG Inventory Expert, National Hydrometeorological Service   |
| 8  |            |  | Ms. Nigar Mirkamilli  | GHG Inventory Expert, National Hydrometeorological Service   |
| 9  |            |  | Mr. Nazrin Hasanli    | GHG Inventory Expert, National Hydrometeorological Service   |
| 10 | Moldova    | Ministry of Environment Republic of Moldova (MERM)   | Mr. Mihai TIRSU       | Mitigations Working Group Coordinator, BTR1  |
| 11 |            |  | Ms. Lilia TARANU      | GHG Inventory Working Group Coordinator , Agriculture Mitigation Expert, BTR1  |

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| 12 | Georgia                  | Environmental Information and Education Centre                    | Ms. Salome Pipia        | BTR/NC Project Manager   |
| 13 |                          | The Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (REC Caucasus) | Ms. Sopiko Gelashvili   | Agriculture Expert   |
| 14 | Uzbekistan               | Uzhydromet  | Ms. Olga Belorussova    | Mitigation and GHG Projections Expert                          |
| 15 |                          | Uzhydromet  | Ms. Lyudmila Shardakova | Mitigation Cluster Lead, BTR/NC project for Uzbekistan         |
| 16 | Organizers / Secretariat | CBIT-GSP  | Nailia TIMERKHANOVA     | Regional Network Coordinator for Central Asia and the Caucasus |
| 17 |                          | MURC  | Takashi MORIMOTO        | Chief Analyst  |
| 18 |                          | IGES  | Chisa Umemiya           | Research Manager   |