

Final Review Report

2018 annual review of national greenhouse gas inventory data

pursuant to Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013

Belgium

20 April 2018

- Version of 29 June 2018, including corrected Table 4-

Contents

Conclusions from step 1 of the 2018 annual ESD review	3
Legal background and procedures of the 2018 annual ESD review	4
National totals	5
Greenhouse gas emissions covered by Decision 406/2009/EC.....	6
Detailed results of step 1 of the 2018 annual ESD review	7
Annex I: Checks carried out during the 2018 annual ESD review in line with Art.29 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 749/2014	8

List of tables

Table 1: Scope of the 2018 annual ESD review	4
Table 2: National totals	5
Table 3: Greenhouse gas emissions covered by Decision 406/2009/EC.....	6
Table 4: Overview of issues raised during step 1 of the 2018 annual ESD review.....	7

Conclusions from step 1 of the 2018 annual ESD review

This Final Review Report presents the findings from the first step of the 2018 annual review of the GHG emission inventory of Belgium, pursuant to Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013.

The EU inventory team (European Environment Agency (EEA), European Topic Centre on Air Pollution and Climate Change Mitigation (ETC/ACM), Joint Research Centre (JRC), Eurostat) performed the checks pursuant to Article 29 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 749/2014 in order to verify the transparency, accuracy, consistency, comparability and completeness of the national greenhouse gas inventory for the year 2016 submitted in 2018 by Belgium pursuant to Articles 7(1) and 7(3) of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013, as part of the annual review referred to in Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013.

The checks performed did not identify any significant issues, therefore Belgium is not subject to a second step of the 2018 annual ESD review. As no revised estimates nor technical corrections were deemed necessary, the GHG emissions data officially reported by Belgium by 15 March 2018 under the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation can form the basis for determination of ESD emissions (see Table 2 and Table 3).

More information on the ESD legislation and the procedures of the 2018 annual ESD review is presented in the following section of this Final Review Report.

Legal background and procedures of the 2018 annual ESD review

The Effort Sharing Decision No 406/2009/EC (ESD) sets national emission limits for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the sectors outside the EU's Emission Trading System (ETS) for the period 2013-2020. The ESD and the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (EU) 525/2013 (MMR) lay down annual reporting obligations, compliance checks and a Union review process to ensure that the compliance with annual GHG emission limits is assessed in a credible, consistent, transparent and timely manner. The requirements for the Union review of the national inventory data submitted by Member States are set out in Article 19 of the MMR.

The details concerning the review process, such as the timing and steps of conducting the annual and comprehensive reviews are set out in Chapter III and Annex XVI of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 749/2014.

The objectives of the 2018 annual ESD review of Member States' GHG emission inventories are:

- a) to support the European Commission by ensuring it has accurate, reliable and verified information on annual GHG emissions for determining compliance with ESD targets for the year 2016 in a credible, consistent, transparent and timely manner, according to Article 19 (2) of the MMR;
- b) to assist Member States in improving the quality of their GHG inventories.

The 2018 annual ESD review of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory data is carried out for the compliance year 2016 pursuant to Article 19 of the MMR. The EEA review secretariat (consisting of Melanie Sporer, Claire Qoul and Emma Salisbury) coordinates the 2018 annual ESD review as foreseen in Article 28 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 749/2014.

The scope of the 2018 annual ESD review is presented in Table 1 and consists of 2 steps. Step 1 was combined with the 'EU QA/QC procedures' (i.e. initial checks) and was carried out by the EU inventory team (EEA, ETC/ACM, JRC, Eurostat). All findings from the initial checks that were relevant for the ESD and that were not resolved within the initial check phase will be followed up in the second step of the annual review. More information on the ESD legislation and the procedures of the 2018 annual ESD review is presented in the following section of this Final Review Report. The checks carried out during the first step of the 2018 annual ESD review are presented in Annex I.

Table 1: Scope of the 2018 annual ESD review

Element	Scope	Further information
Member States	EU geographical coverage of the Member States	
Years	2016	
Gases	CO ₂ , CH ₄ , N ₂ O, HFCs, PFCs, SF ₆	NF ₃ is not covered by the ESD
Sectors	All emission source sectors excluding LULUCF	National totals exclude emissions/removals from LULUCF and emissions reported under memo items
Indirect CO ₂ emissions	Included in national total	
Inventory submission	Submissions received by 15 March, 2018	

National totals

Table 2: National totals

Data / Source category	Reference	Emission estimates (kt CO ₂ equivalent) ¹
		2016
Total greenhouse gas emissions, including indirect CO ₂ , without land use, land-use change and forestry as reported by Belgium pursuant to Article 7(1) and (3) of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013.	BEL_2018_1_14032018	117 727.113
Total greenhouse gas emissions submitted by Belgium		117 727.113
CO ₂ emissions from 1A3a Domestic aviation	BEL_2018_1_14032018	7.522
NF ₃ emissions	BEL_2018_1_14032018	0.715

(¹) The tables presented in this report show numbers rounded to three decimal places, although most numbers are available with greater precision. For all calculations (in particular of total GHG emissions and total ESD emissions), all available decimal places were used. Therefore, the totals shown may slightly differ from calculation results where only three decimals would be taken into account.

Greenhouse gas emissions covered by Decision 406/2009/EC

Table 3: Greenhouse gas emissions covered by Decision 406/2009/EC

Data	Reference	Emissions (kt CO ₂ equivalent) ¹
		2016
Total greenhouse gas emissions submitted by Belgium	<i>See Table 2 above</i>	117 727.113
Total verified emissions from stationary installations under Directive 2003/87/EC	Extracted by the European Commission from EUTL on 8 March 2018 (as agreed at the Working Group I of the Climate Change Committee on 18 May 2015) ²	43 655.728
CO ₂ emissions from 1A3a Domestic aviation	<i>See Table 2 above</i>	7.522
NF ₃ emissions	<i>See Table 2 above</i>	0.715
Total ESD emissions		74 063.149

(¹) The tables presented in this report show numbers rounded to three decimal places, although most numbers are available with greater precision. For all calculations (in particular of total GHG emissions and total ESD emissions), all available decimal places were used. Therefore, the totals shown may slightly differ from calculation results where only three decimals would be taken into account.

(²) The emissions of ETS stationary installations were independently verified and recorded in the EU Transaction Log (EUTL).

Detailed results of step 1 of the 2018 annual ESD review

The EU inventory team (EEA, ETC/ACM, JRC, Eurostat) carried out the checks to be performed during the first step of the 2018 annual ESD review as described in Annex I.

Table 4 provides an overview of the number of issues raised during step 1. No unresolved issues have been forwarded to step 2.

Table 4: Overview of issues raised during step 1 of the 2018 annual ESD review

IPCC Sector	Issues raised during step 1	Issue(s) subject to step 2
Energy	11	-
Industrial processes and product use	5	-
Agriculture	8	-
LULUCF (including KP)	11	-
Waste	1	-
Cross-cutting	1	-
Total number of observations	37	-

Annex I: Checks carried out during the 2018 annual ESD review in line with Art.29 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 749/2014

As part of the EU's effort to assist Member States in improving the quality of the GHG inventories, the checks to verify the transparency, consistency, comparability and completeness of the greenhouse gas inventory included:

First step review checks:

1. Assessment whether all emission source categories and gases required under Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 are reported;
2. Assessment whether emissions data time series are consistent;
3. Assessment whether implied emission factors across Member States are comparable taking the IPCC default emission factors for different national circumstances into account;
4. Assessment of the use of 'Not Estimated' notation keys where IPCC tier 1 methodologies exist and where the use of the notation key is not justified in accordance with paragraph 37 of the UNFCCC reporting guidelines on annual greenhouse gas inventories as included in Annex I to Decision 24/CP.19;
5. Analysis of recalculations performed for the inventory submission, in particular if the recalculations are based on methodological changes;
6. Comparison of the verified emissions reported under the Union's Emissions Trading System with the greenhouse gas emissions reported pursuant to Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 with a view of identifying areas where the emission data and trends as submitted by the Member State under review deviate considerably from those of other Member States;
7. Comparison of the results of Eurostat's reference approach with the Member States' reference approach;
8. Comparison of the results of Eurostat's sectoral approach with the Member States' sectoral approach;
9. Assessment whether recommendations from earlier Union or UNFCCC reviews, not implemented by the Member State could lead to a technical correction;
10. Assessment whether there are potential overestimations or underestimations relating to a key category in a Member State's inventory.