Initial report referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, chapter IV.A (Initial report)

Party	Tunisia
NDC period	2021 - 2030
Report number for the NDC period[a]	1
Report type Initial report Updated initial report	 ☒ ☐
Updated initial report number	
Version[b]	1.0
Date	18/09/2025
Name(s) of cooperative approach(es) included in this report *(Include a line for each additional cooperative approach)*	The Joint Crediting Mechanism [between the Government of the Republic of Tunisia and the Government of Japan

[a] Ascribe sequential number for updated initial reports. The number '1' is reserved for the initial report.
[b] Ascribe version number as follows: decimal increase for minor revisions (typos, corrections) and digit increase for content changes.

I. Participation responsibilities (para. 18(a))

A. Information on how the Party ensures that it is a Party to the Paris Agreement (para. 18(a), para. 4(a), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Tunisia ratified the Paris Agreement on 17th October, 2016 and continues to be a Party to the Paris Agreement.

B. Information on how the Party ensures that it has prepared, communicated and is maintaining an NDC in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2 (para. 18(a), para. 4(b), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Tunisia communicated the updated NDC on 10 October 2021 and continues to implement the updated NDC in accordance with national plans and policies.

C. Information on how the Party ensures it has arrangements in place for authorizing the use of ITMOs towards achievement of NDCs pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 3 (para. 18(a), para. 4(c), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Tunisia will formally establish the national institutional framework necessary to operationalize Article 6 before the end of 2025. This framework will cover all the arrangements necessary to effectively operationalize Article 6 in Tunisia, including mainly the establishment of the Article 6 Authorizing Entity and the rules and criteria applicable to eligible projects. Regulatory texts to frame this entire process on the legal level will be promulgated during the last quarter of 2025.

D. Information on how the Party ensures it has arrangements in place that are consistent with the Article 6, paragraph 2, guidance and relevant decisions of the CMA for tracking ITMOs (para. 18(a), para. 4(d), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Tunisia will consider establishing its own registry to track its ITMOs transactions, particularly for the purposes of self-directed and daily management and monitoring.

Pursuant to decision 2/CMA3, the UNFCCC secretariat was tasked to implement an international registry for participating Parties who don't have or don't have access to a registry. Furthermore, pursuant to decision 6/CMA4, the UNFCCC Secretariat, as the administrator of the international registry, shall implement such a registry and make it available to participating Parties very soon. This could be a first interim solution for Tunisia.

In the meantime, since neither the national registry nor the UNFCCC international registry is in place and fully functional yet, Tunisia will record issuances and transactions relating to credits issued by the Tunisian side under the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) in the JCM Registry implemented and administrated by Japan, with a unique identifier assigned to each credit.
The authorized JCM credits are issued and tracked in the Japan side's JCM registry. The issuance and authorization records of JCM credits can be accessed both on the Article 6 Authorizing Entity of Tunisia website (link to be implemented soon as part of the Tunisian Ministry of Environment Website) as well as on the country page of the JCM website.

E. Information on whether the most recent national inventory report required in accordance with decision 18/CMA.1 has been provided (para. 18(a), para. 4(e), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Tunisia submitted the most recent National Inventory Document on 30 December 2024, as part of its 1st BTR to the UNFCCC, covering the period 1990-2023, and putting a special emphasis on the period 2010-2023.

F. Information on how the Party ensures participation contributes to the implementation of its NDC and long-term low-emission development strategy, if it has submitted one, and the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement (para. 18(a), para. 4(f), to be updated by para. 21(a))

Tunisia intends to achieve the unconditional mitigation target under the NDC through domestic efforts. The international market-based cooperation with other Parties, through article 6 of the Paris Agreement, will contribute to enhancing the GHG mitigation ambition of Tunisia, while promoting sustainable development and access to advanced low-carbon technologies and innovations. Article 6 will also provide for new financial opportunities to support Tunisia's achievement of NDC and pathway towards Carbon Neutrality by 2050, hence supporting Tunisia to contribute to the achievement of the long-term mitigation goal of the Paris Agreement.
Therefore, Tunisia will engage in Article 6 on all eligible sources, and more particularly to develop electricity production from all renewable energy sources, and to improve its energy efficiency. Tunisia is also foreseeing the implementation of projects that contribute to reducing emissions in the industrial process sector, as well as in the waste and wastewater sectors. Article 6 projects, targeting agriculture and forestry and land use will also be identified. All the projects that are foreseen under Article 6 umbrella will pave the way to engaging towards the net carbon neutrality in 2050, which is the objective pursued by Tunisia in accordance with its long-term low-emission development strategy.

II. Description of the Party's NDC, as referred to in decision 18/CMA.1, annex, paragraph 64, where a participating Party has not yet submitted a biennial transparency report (para. 18(b), to be updated by para. 21(b))

A. Target(s) and description, including target type(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(a))

The target type is the national carbon intensity in 2030, calculated on the basis of net emissions as of GDP, and expressed in terms of tCO_2e/1000 dinars of GDP (at 2010 constant prices).
Tunisia's NDC unconditional target is materialized by a 27% decrease in its carbon intensity in 2030 compared to 2010. This unconditional target is expected to be achieved through domestic efforts and resources.
Tunisian NDC also states a conditional target that is materialized by an additional 18% decrease in its carbon intensity up to 2030. In aggregate (unconditional + conditional) the Tunisia's ambition is to reduce its carbon intensity by 45% in 2030 compared to 2010.

B. Target year(s) or period(s), and whether they are single-year or multi-year target(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(b))

Target year: 2030, single-year target

C. Reference point(s), level(s), baseline(s), base year(s) or starting point(s), and their respective value(s) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(c))

As mentioned in its NDC update, 2010's reference value of carbon intensity is 0.555 tCO_2e/1000 dinars of GDP. The objective consists of a reduction in carbon intensity to 0.306 in year 2030; i.e. –45% as compared to its value in 2010.

The GHG inventory figures were recalculated as part of the preparation of the Biennial Transparency report (BTR1) which was submitted in December 30th , 2024, leading to a slight upward reassessment (+1,4%) in carbon intensity value for the baseline year 2010 (0.563 if considering AR4-based Global Warming Potential in the latest version of the inventory).

However, as the latest inventory version used the AR5-based Global Warming Potential of gases, **the final recalculated figure of the reference carbon intensity was finally set at 0.578**.

D. Time frame(s) and/or periods for implementation (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(d))

2021-2030

E. Scope and coverage, including, as relevant, sectors, categories, activities, sources and sinks, pools and gases (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(e))

<Sectors>
Energy (all sources and sectors), Industrial Processes, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and Waste

<Gases>
CO_2, CH_4, N_2O and HFCs

F. Intention to use cooperative approaches that involve the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes under Article 6 towards NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(f))

Tunisia intends to engage on all Article 6 eligible sources, and more particularly to develop electricity production from all renewable energy sources, and to improve its energy efficiency, emission reduction in the industrial process sector; such as HFCs mitigation projects, controlled and improved management of waste and wastewater systems, as well as measures targeting agriculture; forestry and land use.

Furthermore, Tunisia has been able to develop a projects portfolio, mainly in Energy and Industrial processes fields, that could lend themselves to Article 6 applications. The list of projects thus constituted were prioritized (on the basis of a multi-criteria analysis), with a view to quickly including them in Article 6 operations, as soon as practical institutional arrangements and Article.6 rules and operational modalities enter into force.

Tunisia intend to update this portfolio and to complement it by including Agriculture, Forestry and Waste projects.

G. Any updates or clarifications of previously reported information (e.g. recalculation of previously reported inventory data, or greater detail on methodologies or use of cooperative approaches) (decision 18/CMA.1, annex, para. 64(g))

National Emissions in year 2010 (**AR4**):
- NDC Update: 35 $MtCO_2e$
- BTR1: 35.5 $MtCO_2e$

National Emissions in year 2010 (**AR5**):
- BTR1: 36.5 $MtCO_2e$

III. Information on ITMO metrics, method for applying corresponding adjustments and method for quantification of the NDC (para. 18(c–f))

A. ITMO metrics (para. 18(c))

The ITMO metric is tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2eq).

B. Method for applying corresponding adjustments as per chapter III.B (Application of corresponding adjustments) (para. 18(c))

1. Description of the method for applying corresponding adjustment for multi- or single year NDCs that will be applied consistently throughout the period of NDC implementation, if applicable (para. 18(c))

Tunisia will apply corresponding adjustments by using the method referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, III.B., [para. 7(a)(i)]

2. Description of the method for applying corresponding adjustments where the method is a multi-year emissions trajectory, trajectories or budget, if applicable (para. 18(c))

Not applicable.

C. Quantification of the Party's mitigation information in its NDC in t CO_2 eq, including the sectors, sources, GHGs and time periods covered by the NDC, the reference level of emissions and removals for the relevant year or period, and the target level for its NDC or, where this is not possible, the methodology for the quantification of the NDC in t CO_2 eq (para. 18(d))

Sector and sources covered by the NDC	Economy-wide (Energy, Industrial Processes, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and Waste)
GHG covered by the NDC	CO_2, CH_4, N_2O, and HFCs
Time period covered by the NDC	2021 – 2030
Reference level of Carbon intensity for base year	Base year 2010 : 0.555 tCO_2eq / 1000 dinars GDP at 2010' constant prices
Target level for the NDC	Unconditional target: Reduction of carbon intensity in 2030 up to 27% (0.405) as compared to 2010 level (0.555) Conditional target: 18% Additional reduction of carbon intensity in 2030, leading to an aggregate reduction in carbon intensity up to 45% (0.306) as compared to 2010 level (0.555)

The carbon intensity for the base year 2010 reflects the total net emission of Tunisia; 35 $MtCO_2eq$, as mentioned in NDC update (Ref. to Table 4 of NDC update) divided by the 2010's GDP of Tunisia (63,055 million dinars at 2010's constant prices).

Carbon intensity for target year (2030) will be calculated using the same method; i.e. actual net emissions in 2030 divided by actual GDP in 2030.

D. Quantification of the Party's NDC, or the portion in the relevant non-GHG indicator, in a non-GHG metric determined by each participating Party, if applicable (para. 18(e))

Not applicable.

E. For a first or first updated NDC consisting of policies and measures that is not quantified, information on quantification of the Party's emission level resulting from the policies and measures that are relevant to the implementation of the cooperative approach and its mitigation activities for the categories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks, as identified by the first transferring Party pursuant to paragraph 10, and the time periods covered by the NDC (para. 18(f))

Not applicable.

IV. Information on each cooperative approach (para. 18(g–i), para. 19)

Note: For the initial report and the updated initial report, chapters A–H below should be repeated for each cooperative approach. For each further cooperative approach, each participating Party shall submit the information referred to in para. 18(g–i) of the annex to decision 2/CMA.3 in an updated initial report (decision 2/CMA.3, annex, para. 19).

A. Copy of the authorization by the participating Party (para. 18(g))

The Memorandum of Cooperation in line with Article 6 to the Paris Agreement between Tunisia and Japan for JCM was approved and signed by the Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on August 26^{th} 2022.

Authorization decisions taken by the Article 6 Authorising Entity of Tunisia will be made publicly available on both Article 6 Authorizing Entity of Tunisia (link to be implemented soon as part of the Tunisian Ministry of Environment Website) and the country page of the JCM.

As per the paragraph 2 of the decision on CMA.6 Article 6 guidance on cooperative approaches, the authorization is clarified as the authorization of the use of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes from a cooperative approach referred to in decision 2/CMA.3, annex, paragraph 18. It was also noted that there are three components of authorization, as applicable: authorization of the cooperative approach, authorization of internationally transferred mitigation outcomes and authorization of entities.

Government of Tunisia authorizes the JCM as a cooperative approach and authorizes the JCM credits issued in the JCM registry of Japan as the ITMOs for use towards achievement of the NDC, and authorizes the entities, if any, as per the copy of authorization as attached template.

The following approach will be implemented in accordance with JCM rules and guidelines:

1. Authorize the JCM as the cooperative approach (anytime once it is ready)
   - Attach such authorization document to Initial Report
2. Authorize ITMOs on each project basis:
   - At JCM registration, Each of Partner country and Japan authorizes the estimated amount of ITMOs
   - At JCM credit issuance, Each of Partner country and Japan confirms the amount of ITMOs and report by annual information

B. Description of the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) facilitates diffusion of leading decarbonizing technologies, products, systems, services, and infrastructure as well as implementation of mitigation actions, and contributes to sustainable development of Tunisia. The JCM is implemented through investment by Japanese entities in partnership with Tunisia's entities and implemented consistently with the guidance on cooperative approaches, referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement, contributing to the achievement of both countries' NDCs while ensuring the avoidance of double counting through corresponding adjustments. Both sides establish a Joint Committee (JC) consisting of representatives from both governments. The JC develops rules and guidelines necessary for the implementation of the JCM.

C. Duration of the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

The JCM covers the period starting from the signing of bilateral document. Either government may terminate the bilateral cooperation by giving a prior notice to the other government in accordance with the bilateral document.

D. Expected mitigation for each year of the duration of the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

Estimated emissions reductions in each year will be included in the Project Design Document (PDD), a document that includes monitoring methods and estimated emission reductions. Actual reductions will be recorded in the monitoring reports based on the methodology agreed upon for each project.

E. Participating Parties involved in the cooperative approach (para. 18(g))

Tunisia and Japan

F. Authorized entities (para. 18(g))

Tunisia authorizes project participants in Tunisia to participate as JCM projects developers. The list of project participants in Tunisia will be made available both on the Article 6 Authorizing Entity of Tunisia (link to be implemented soon as a part of the Tunisian Ministry of Environment Website) and the country page of the JCM

G. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity (para. 18(h), to be updated by para. 22(b))

1. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures that there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods (para. 18(h)(i), to be updated by para. 22(b)(i))

In accordance with the bilateral document, both governments mutually recognize that part of credits generated from emission reductions and removals by the implementation of JCM projects (hereinafter referred to as "JCM credits") may be used towards the achievement of Japan's NDC, while ensuring that double counting is avoided on the basis of corresponding adjustments, consistent with the Article 6.2 guidance. The JCM ensures that there is no net increase in emissions within and between NDC implementation periods through methodologies with conservative reference levels (described in G.2.) and application of corresponding adjustments by both governments in accordance with the guidance of the CMA. Additionally, in accordance with para. 8(b) of Annex to decision 2/CMA.3, JCM credits will be used towards achievement of Japan's NDC within the same NDC implementation period as when they occurred to ensure there is no net increase in global emissions within and between NDC implementation periods.

2. Description of how the cooperative approach ensures environmental integrity through robust, transparent governance and the quality of mitigation outcomes, including through conservative reference levels and baselines set in a conservative way and below 'business as usual' emission projections (including by taking into account all existing policies and addressing uncertainties in quantification and potential leakage) (para. 18 (h)(ii), to be updated by para. 22(b)(ii))

JCM is established by a bilateral document signed between both governments and implemented in line with the relevant domestic laws and regulations. In accordance with the bilateral document, the JC is established as the governing body, consisting of government officials from Japan and Tunisia. All the rules and guidelines as well as decisions made by the JC are made publicly available on the JCM website. In addition, all calls for public inputs on proposed methodologies and proposed projects are informed on the same website.

The methodologies are developed in accordance with "JCM Guidelines for Developing Proposed Methodology", which explains the key concepts such as reference emissions and eligibility criteria under the JCM. The JC assesses and considers the approval of the proposed methodologies. The list of approved JCM methodologies can be found in the JCM website.

The JCM Guidelines for Developing Proposed Methodology stipulates that the reference emissions are calculated to be below business-as-usual (BaU) emissions which represent plausible emissions in providing the same outputs or service level of the proposed JCM project. Therefore, the baselines are to be set in such a way that emission reductions would not over-estimate mitigation from an activity.

3. Description of how the cooperative approach is minimizing the risk of non-permanence of mitigation across several NDC periods and how, when reversals of emission reductions or removals occur, the cooperative approach will ensure that these are addressed in full (para. 18(h)(iii), to be updated by para. 22(b)(iii))

Where there is a risk of non-permanence, which generally might occur in forestry, agricultural and other removal projects, the rules and procedures concerning buffer credits which shall be withheld from issued carbon credits of the activities will apply to mitigation activities.

In any case, arrangements to minimize the risk of non-permanence; such as implementing a robust MRV System, identifying and measuring any reversals that may occur in the country will be established. Furthermore, any reversals will be systematically addressed.

H. Additional description of the cooperative approach (para. 18(i))

1. Description of how the cooperative approach minimizes and, where possible, avoids negative environmental, economic and social impacts (para. 18(i)(i), to be updated by para. 22(f))

The JCM has guidelines for Project Design Documents (PDD) in which the Project Participants (PPs) are requested to follow legal requirements of environmental impact assessment for the proposed project. For social risks, the PPs will gather opinions from stakeholders through local stakeholder consultation as required in the same guidelines.

The contribution of the projects to Sustainable development is also among the main criteria applied by the Article 6 Authorizing Entity of Tunisia prior to any project approval.

Furthermore, the Guidelines for Developing Sustainable Development Implementation Plan and Report is adopted as part of the JCM project cycle. When designing a proposed JCM project, PPs are required to apply these Guidelines and provide a comprehensive description of an implementation plan on contributions to sustainable development (hereinafter referred to as "SD") through their project. PPs should conduct ex-ante analysis of the contribution to SD using the SDIP (Sustainable Development Implementation Plan) form and ex-post evaluation of the contribution to SD using the SDIR (Sustainable Development Implementation Report) form. The Guidelines for Developing Sustainable Development Implementation Plan and Report address issues of both environmental and social risks. The guidelines requires that PPs report on how environmental and social risks are addressed.

2. Description of how the cooperative approach reflects the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement, acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity (para. 18(i)(ii), to be updated by para. 22(g))

Tunisia monitors each project's compliance with the domestic laws and regulations, ensuring that the eleventh preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement is respected by the JCM projects. Furthermore, the criteria for admission to Article 6 that will be established in Tunisia will explicitly mention the terms used in the 11th preamble and will consider them as eliminatory criteria in the Article 6 project evaluation grid.

3. Description of how the cooperative approach is consistent with the sustainable development objectives of the Party, noting national prerogatives (para. 18(i)(iii), to be updated by para. 22(h))

The contribution of submitted project proposals to sustainable development goals is considered by the joint committee (JC), where government representatives from Tunisia and Japan make decisions on the implementation of the JCM.

The JC has the authority to decide on the registration of the JCM projects, process through which the representatives from Tunisia review and endorse the contribution of each single project to the national sustainable development goals.

It should be also noted that the assessment of the contribution of each project to the sustainable development is set among the main criteria to be applied by the Article 6 Authorizing Entity of Tunisia prior to any project approval under article 6 cooperative approaches.

For this purpose, a methodology is currently being prepared and will be publicly available on the Article 6 Authorizing Entity website.

Furthermore, the Guidelines for Developing Sustainable Development Implementation Plan and Report are adopted as part of the JCM project cycle. Project participants are encouraged to refer to, as appropriate, the related local and/or national regulations in their preparation of SDIP and SDIR.

4. Description of how the cooperative approach applies any safeguards and limits set out in further guidance from the CMA pursuant to chapter III.D (para. 18(i)(iv), to be updated by para. 22(i))

Not applicable.

5. Description of how the cooperative approach contributes resources for adaptation pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions), if applicable (para. 18(i)(v), to be updated by para. 22(j))

In accordance with the bilateral document, both governments aim for contributions to assist adaptation efforts of developing countries. Further agreements may be determined between the government of Tunisia and the government of Japan to support relevant Adaptation activities.

Tunisia may also consider making arrangements to allocate a percentage of the resources from the transfer of ITMOs to actions supporting Adaptation. Tunisia will publish soon the percentage to be applied for this purpose.

6. Description of how the cooperative approach delivers overall mitigation in global emissions pursuant to chapter VII (Ambition in mitigation and adaptation actions), if applicable (para. 18(i)(vi), to be updated by para. 22(k))

The mitigation activities implemented under this cooperative approach must be projects that lead to GHG reduction from sources or GHG sinks or reservoirs enhancement in addition to those prescribed in the baseline GHG mitigation plans. The JCM aims to deliver overall mitigation in global emissions. Further agreements may be determined between the government of Tunisia and the government of Japan. Tunisia will be authorizing ITMOs for use towards NDC, other international mitigation purposes and eventually other purposes, including voluntary offsetting. As per the Memorandum, Tunisia shall confirm the use case of the ITMOs when ready for issuance, transfer and recognition. In addition, Tunisia will apply a percentage deduction to mitigation outcomes with a view to holding them as reserves to mitigate the risk of overselling against the unconditional NDC objectives. Tunisia will publish soon the percentage to be applied and will issue an annual public notification of any eventual use of such reserves.

- - - - -