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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE BODY FOR THE CONVENTION ON  
LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

Working Group on Strategies and Review  
(Thirty-fifth session, Geneva, 16-19 September 2003)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION**

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 16 September 2003

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/3; EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/8).
3. Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/4).
4. Preparing for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/1; EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/2; EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/5 and Add.1).
5. Exchange of information and technology (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/6).
6. Communication strategy for the Convention (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/7).
7. Election of officers.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

Documents prepared under the auspices or at the request of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for GENERAL circulation should be considered provisional unless APPROVED by the Executive Body.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TENTATIVE TIMING**

**Item 1: Adoption of the agenda  
(Tuesday, 16 September, p.m.)**

The Working Group is expected to adopt the agenda of the session.

**Item 2: Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants  
(Tuesday, 16 September, p.m.)**

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess work in preparation for a review of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), including information on the pollutants scheduled for re-evaluation in the Protocol and on pollutants that may become candidates for future inclusion. This work is to take into account the relevant activities under the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) and the Working Group on Effects, and the relevant initiatives of the European Community, as well as relevant national initiatives. The Working Group is expected to prepare for the Executive Body a proposal on further action and required input for a review of the Protocol.

The Working Group will have before it the report on the further assessment of POPs (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/3) prepared by the Chairman of the Expert Group on POPs, reflecting the discussions at its fourth meeting held in Oslo on 17-19 March 2003. The report presents summaries of information relating to the scheduled reassessments of substance-related provisions in the Protocol on POPs and associated expert judgements. It also contains summaries of information on substances not included in the Protocol. The full text of the information dossiers on the substances covered in the work of the Expert Group has been printed in an informal background document as an addendum to the compendium prepared in 2002.

At its thirty-fourth session, the Working Group invited the two Co-Chairs of the Expert Group to prepare suggestions for the process of handling proposals for adding substances to the Protocol and other review items after it had entered into force and present them at its thirty-fifth session (EB.AIR/WG.5/74, para. 57 (e)). The results of the work undertaken by the Co-Chairs is presented in document EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/8.

**Item 3: Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals  
(Wednesday, 17 September, a.m.)**

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess work in preparation for a

review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, taking into account the relevant activities under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects, and the relevant initiatives of the European Community, as well as relevant national initiatives. The Working Group is expected to prepare for the Executive Body a proposal on further action and required input for a review of the Protocol, including a possible effects-based approach as a basis for future action.

The Working Group will have before it the results of the first meeting of the Expert Group on Heavy Metals, (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/4), which was held on 20-21 March 2003 in Geneva. It presents the elements of a work-plan for the Expert Group.

The Working Group will, furthermore, be informed about the progress made at the Coordination Center for Effects (CCE) and the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East (MSC-E) of EMEP.

**Item 4: Preparing for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol  
(Wednesday, 17 September, p.m., to Thursday, 18 September, a.m.)**

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to continue its assessment of preparatory work for the review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol, including progress in reducing acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone and the pollutants responsible for these effects. It will also review progress in the work on particulate matter pollution. This work is to take into account the relevant activities under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects, and the relevant initiatives of the European Community, as well as relevant national initiatives. The Working Group is expected to present to the Executive Body a proposal for further action and required input for a review of the Protocol.

The Working Group will have before it the report on integrated assessment modelling (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/5), including the results of the twenty-eighth meeting of the Task Force, held in Haarlem (Netherlands) on 7-9 May 2003. The Task Force discussed, inter alia, the preparation of baseline scenarios to be used for the Gothenburg Protocol's review.

The Working Group will also have before it the report on the valuation of ecosystem benefits from air pollution abatement (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/1). This report was prepared on the basis of the second workshop of the Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments (NEBEI) held on 2-3 October 2002 in Scheveningen (Netherlands).

Furthermore, the Working Group will have before it the report on progress made on ammonia abatement (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/2), including the results of the third meeting of the Expert Group, held jointly with the agriculture and nature panel of the Task Force on Emissions Inventories and Projections

on 28-30 October 2002 in Vienna. The Working Group may wish also to take into account the work on ammonia abatement technologies and costs, carried out in the context of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues. A joint meeting between the two Expert Groups took place in Paris on 11-12 June 2003. Its results are presented in the report of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/6).

**Item 5: Exchange of information and technology  
(Thursday, 18 September, a.m.)**

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to review progress in the exchange of information and technology, including the work on techno-economic issues and information on product-related measures to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), POPs and heavy metals.

The Working Group will have before it the report on progress made in the development of a techno-economic database (EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/6), including the results of the past three meetings of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues held in Paris on 23 January 2003, on 3-4 April 2003 and on 11-12 June 2003.

Moreover, the secretariat will inform the Working Group about a project proposal for capacity building for air quality management and the application of clean coal combustion technologies in Central Asia to implement the Convention and its protocols. The project has been proposed for funding to the United Nations Development Account and will consist of expert reports and international workshops on emissions inventories and modelling, beginning with Kazakhstan. Based on its results, the project may be used as a model for the development of expertise under the Convention in other Parties in Central Asia.

At its thirty-fourth session, the Working Group requested its Bureau to consider appropriate ways and means to facilitate the exchange of information and technology taking into account the needs of countries with economies in transition and to report back to it at its next session (EB.AIR/WG.5/74, para. 66 (c)). It had also invited Parties to consider organizing a workshop on a specific topic, such as control techniques for particulate matter. The Working Group may wish to review the progress made.

**Item 6: Communication strategy for the Convention  
(Thursday, 18 September, p.m.)**

The Working Group on Strategies and Review will have before it the report of the workshop on a communication strategy for the Convention, organized in London on 7-9 April 2003

(EB.AIR/WG.5/2003/7) with support from Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. The objective of the workshop was to: identify concrete actions to improve the Convention's visibility and profile; increase awareness about air pollution; and improve the dialogue on its abatement with Parties and other stakeholders.

**Item 7: Election of officers**  
**(Thursday, 18 September, p.m.)**

The Working Group is expected to elect its vice-chairpersons for 2003-2004.

At its thirty-fourth session, the Working Group re-elected Ms. K. SCAVO (United States) and Mr. J. ZUREK (Poland) as Vice Chairpersons. It elected Ms. N. KARPOVA (Russian Federation) and Mr. J. SLIGGERS (Netherlands) as new Vice-Chairpersons (EB.AIR/WG.5/74, para. 67).

At its twentieth session, the Executive Body re-elected Mr. R. BALLAMAN (Switzerland) as Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (ECE/EB.AIR/77, para. 97).

**Item 8: Other business**  
**(Thursday, 18 September, p.m.)**

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item.

On Friday morning, 19 September, starting at 10 a.m., there will be an informal information session on the air pollution abatement policies of the European Community. Experts from the European Commission will make presentations and be available to respond to questions.

**Item 9: Adoption of the report**  
**(Friday, 19 September, p.m.)**

In accordance with established practice, the Working Group will adopt the report of the session.

To facilitate their access to the Palais des Nations, those delegates who do not have a valid badge should register with the secretariat by 3 September. Registration forms and explanatory instructions are available on the Internet at [www.unece.org/env/wgs](http://www.unece.org/env/wgs).