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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-eighth session  
Geneva, 19–22 September 2006

**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, 19 September 2006<sup>1</sup>

**I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of the report of the Meeting of the Heads of Delegation

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<sup>1</sup> New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the Convention's website (<http://www.unece.org/env/registration/lrtap.htm>), and to transmit it to the secretariat no later than 2 weeks before the meeting. On the day of the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section new location at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the Convention's website).

3. Review of the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals
4. Review of the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants
5. Review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol
6. Financing of core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol
7. 2007 Draft workplan
8. Exchange of information and technology
9. Election of officers
10. Other business
11. Adoption of the decisions of the Working Group

## **II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

### **Item 1. Adoption of the agenda**

*Tentative timing:* Tuesday, 19 September, 3 p.m.

*Documentation:* ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/83

### **Item 2: Adoption of the report of the Meeting of the Heads of Delegation**

*Tentative timing:* Tuesday, 19 September, afternoon

*Documentation:* ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/82 (Report of the Meeting of the Heads of Delegation)

### **Item 3: Review of the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals**

*Tentative timing:* Tuesday, 19 September, afternoon

*Documentation:* ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/2 (Review of the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess work completed on the sufficiency and effectiveness review of the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals, in accordance with

article 10 of the Protocol, 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 and international initiatives.

The Working Group will have before it the report by the Chair of the Task Force on Heavy Metals of the third meeting of the Task Force, held in Ottawa on 9–12 May 2006, which was preceded by an informal editorial meeting held on 8–10 February 2006 in Dessau (Germany). The report includes summaries of the technical elements of a sufficiency and effectiveness review; proposals for potential emission limit values for mercury from existing chlor-alkali plants and from mercury-containing emissions from medical waste incineration (annex V, paras. 19 and 23(c)); and elements for taking into account the extent to which a satisfactory basis exists for the application of an effects-based approach. The full agreed texts of the sufficiency and effectiveness review are posted on the website of the Task Force (under the heading “background information”).

The Task Force requests guidance from the Working Group on (a) whether to include in the sufficiency and effectiveness review products not specifically mentioned in the Protocol that have the potential for indirect air emission of heavy metals; (b) the need for additional work on products and product groups; and (c) other work to be carried out by the Task Force as indicated in its draft workplan.

#### **Item 4: Review of the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants**

***Tentative timing:*** Wednesday, 20 September, morning

***Documentation:*** ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/10 (Technical input for reviewing substances under the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants)  
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/11 (Report of the Ad Hoc Group of Legal Experts on POPs)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess progress in the work on persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and present to the Executive Body a proposal for further action. The Task Force has requested guidance from the Working Group on several issues, as mentioned below.

The Working Group will have before it the report of the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on POPs, which contains the results of its fourth meeting, held on 6–7 February 2006 in Dessau (Germany), and its fifth meeting, held on 9–12 May 2006 in Ottawa. The report summarizes the results of the “track A” and “track B” technical reviews of the dossiers forwarded to the Task Force by the Executive Body after its twenty-third session of hexachlorobutadiene (HCBD),

octabromodiphenyl ether (Octa-BDE), polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCN), pentachlorobenzene (PeCB) and short-chain chlorinated paraffins (SCCP), as well as results of “track B” reviews, including the exploration of management options, of substances accepted as POPs by the Executive Body at its twenty-third session: pentabromodiphenyl ether (Penta-BDE) and perfluorooctane sulfonates (PFOS).

The report sets out the future priorities of the Task Force and its workplan for 2007 and requests guidance from the Working Group on several issues, namely the interpretation of paragraph 2(b) of Executive Body decision 1998/2; the role of observers in Task Force meetings; the treatment of additional information and comments on dossiers that were summarized; and the use of summaries of track A peer reviews that were not seen in all cases to accurately reflect the original peer reviews in a subjective manner.

The Working Group will also have before it the report of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Legal Experts on POPs, held on 27 April 2006 in the Hague, presenting options for possible amendments to the Protocol on POPs, as requested by the Executive Body at its twenty-third session (ECE/EB.AIR/87, para. 31).

#### **Item 5: Review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol**

***Tentative timing:*** Wednesday, 20 September, afternoon

***Documentation:*** ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/1/Rev.1 (Preparations for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol)  
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/3 (Integrated assessment modelling)  
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/4 (Integrated Assessment Modelling)  
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/5 (Economic impacts of air pollution on cultural heritage)  
EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/6 (Techno-economic issues)  
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/7 (Ammonia abatement)  
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/8 (Particulate matter)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to continue its work on the review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol, including progress in reducing acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone and the pollutants responsible for these effects. The Working Group will have before it a document on the preparations for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, reflecting the comments and suggestions made at the meeting of the Heads of Delegation to the Working Group (held on 19–21 April). The Working Group is expected to further discuss the document and provide a final version to the Executive Body at the latter’s twenty-fourth session in December 2006.

The Working Group will also review progress in the work on particulate matter pollution and decide upon any additional action required. It will have before it the report of the second and third meetings of the Expert Group on Particulate Matter, held on 7–8 November 2005 in London and on 13–14 March 2006 in Dessau (Germany).

The Working Group will have before it the reports of the results of the thirty-first and thirty-second meetings of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling, as well as the workshop on non-technical measures for air pollution abatement, held in December 2005 in Gothenburg (Sweden) and in May 2006 in Rome.

Furthermore, the Working Group will have before it the report on progress in ammonia abatement, which includes the results of the seventh meeting of the Expert Group on Ammonia Abatement, held jointly with a panel on agriculture and nature of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in Pruhonice (Czech Republic) on 26–28 April 2006. The review under article 10, paragraph 2 of the Protocol should take into account emission ceilings for ammonia (annex II, table III) as well as measures for controlling emissions of ammonia from agricultural sources (annex IX). The Guidance Document on Control Techniques for Preventing and Abating Emissions of Ammonia, updated by the Expert Group, will be submitted to the Working Group as an informal document, in English only.

The Working Group will have before it the report on progress made in the development of a techno-economic database and the report of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues on the results of its ninth meeting (held on 9 April 2006 in Paris, followed by a workshop on emerging technologies on April 10).

The delegations of the United States and Canada will give a short presentation on North American activities related to the review of the Gothenburg Protocol and particulate matter. The Working Group will also have before it the report of the fourth workshop of the Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments, which focused on the economic impacts of air pollution on cultural heritage and was held on 6–7 April 2006 in Catania (Italy).

**Item 6: Financing of core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol**

*Tentative timing:* Thursday, 21 September, afternoon

The Working Group is expected to continue its discussion on possible alternatives to Executive Body decision 2002/1 which might be more effective in securing stable financing for core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol, as requested by the Executive Body at its twenty-third session.

**Item 7: 2007 draft workplan**

*Tentative timing:* Thursday, 21 September, afternoon

*Documentation:* ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/9 (2007 Draft Workplan for the Working Group on Strategies and Review)

The Working Group is expected to consider and agree on its workplan and forward it for consideration by the Executive Body.

**Item 8: Exchange of information and technology**

*Tentative timing:* Friday, 22 September, morning

*Documentation:* ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/12 (Action plan for EECCA countries)

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 secretariat will inform the Working Group on progress in the project for capacity-building for air quality management and the application of clean-coal combustion technologies in Central Asia (CAPACT), aimed at implementing the Convention and its protocols and funded from the United Nations Development Account.

The Working Group will have before it a draft report on implementation of the action plan for the EECCA countries, prepared by the secretariat. It is expected to discuss the report and finalize it for presentation to the Executive Body.

**Item 9: Election of officers**

*Tentative timing:* Friday, 22 September, afternoon

The Working Group is expected to elect its vice-chairs for 2006–2007.

At its thirty-seventh session, the Working Group re-elected Ms. K. Scavo (United States), Ms. N. Karpova (Russian Federation), Mr. J. Sliggers (Netherlands) and Mr. P. Jilek (Czech Republic) as Vice-Chairs (EB.AIR/WG.5/80, para. 70).

**Item 10: Other business**

*Tentative timing:* Friday, 22 September, afternoon

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

**Item 11: Adoption of the decisions of the Working Group**

*Tentative timing:* Friday, 22 September, afternoon

*Documentation:*

In accordance with the revised practice adopted by the Executive Body at its twenty-third session on a two year trial basis, the Working Group will adopt the decisions of the Working Group taken during the session. The draft report of the session, reflecting the decisions, will be finalized by the Chair, in consultation with the secretariat, following the session and posted on the website of the Convention. It will be presented for adoption at the thirty-ninth session of the Working Group.