

Annex VIII

**DECISION 2002/7 CONCERNING COMPLIANCE BY IRELAND WITH ITS
OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE 1988 NO_x PROTOCOL**

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 1997/2, annex, as amended in 2001, ECE/EB.AIR/75, annex V),

1. Notes the report provided by the Implementation Committee (EB.AIR/2002/2, paras. 29-36) concerning Ireland's compliance with the requirements of paragraph 1 of article 2 of the 1988 Sofia Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes following the referral by the secretariat pursuant to paragraph 5 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee, and in particular the Committee's conclusion regarding Ireland's failure to comply with the emission reduction obligation of the Protocol;
2. Expresses its concern at the failure by Ireland to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to control and/or reduce its national annual emissions so that these do not exceed emissions in 1987, as required by paragraph 1 of article 2 of the NO_x Protocol;
3. Notes that Ireland expects that the measures that it has adopted to implement the provisions of paragraph 1 of article 2 will bring it into compliance by no later than 2004;
4. Notes with concern that, if Ireland reaches the required emission reductions only by 2004, it will have been in non-compliance for nine years;
5. Urges Ireland to fulfil its obligation under the NO_x Protocol as soon as possible;
6. Calls on Ireland to provide to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2003 a report describing the progress made towards compliance and setting out a timetable that specifies the year by which Ireland expects to be in compliance, lists the specific measures taken or scheduled (giving particular attention to the transport sector) to fulfil its emission reduction obligations under the NO_x Protocol and sets out the projected effects of each of these measures on its NO_x emissions up to and including the year of compliance;
7. Requests the Implementation Committee to review Ireland's progress and timetable, and report to it thereon at its twenty-first session.