

Annex IV

**DECISION 2004/4 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT
A TASK FORCE ON THE HEMISPHERIC TRANSPORT OF AIR POLLUTION**

The Executive Body,

Noting the growing scientific evidence of hemispheric transport of air pollution,

Recalling the conclusions of the Workshop on Review and Assessment of European Air Pollution Policies in Gothenburg, Sweden, in October 2004, that the issue of hemispheric transport of pollutants was scientifically motivated and policy-relevant for air quality in Europe and the northern hemisphere and that a framework for providing scientific support on the hemispheric transport of air pollutants to support policy development was needed,

1. Establishes a task force, under the leadership of the United States and the European Community, to address the technical issues needed to understand and estimate the transport of air pollution across the northern hemisphere. The lead Parties will assume principal responsibility for coordinating the work of the Task Force, for organizing its meetings, for designating its chair(s), for communications with participating experts, and for other organizational arrangements in accordance with the work-plan;

2. Decides that the Task Force will carry out the tasks specified for it in the work-plan adopted annually by the Executive Body and will report thereon to the Steering Body to EMEP;

3. Also decides that the Task Force will be composed of experts from the Parties to the Convention. Each Party will nominate a focal point to the secretariat. Meetings of the Task Force will be open to designated representatives of intergovernmental or accredited non-governmental organizations. The chair(s) are encouraged to invite individuals with expertise relevant to the work of the Task Force and experts from non-Convention countries in the northern hemisphere;

4. Furthermore decides that the functions of the Task Force will be to:

(a) Plan and conduct the technical work necessary to develop a fuller understanding of the hemispheric transport of air pollution for consideration in the reviews of protocols to the Convention;

(b) Plan and conduct the technical work necessary to estimate the hemispheric transport of specific air pollutants for the use in reviews of protocols to the Convention and prepare technical reviews thereon for submission to the Steering Body of EMEP;

(c) Carry out such other tasks related to the above work as the Executive Body may assign to it in the annual work-plan;

5. Decides that appropriate technical documents for a meeting of the Task Force will be distributed by the secretariat to the focal point nominated by each Party to the Convention at least 60 days in advance of the meeting. Where this has not occurred, the report of the meeting will indicate that the relevant documents were not provided in sufficient time for consideration, unless the Task Force decides otherwise by consensus;

6. Also decides that, at the end of each meeting, the Task Force will approve those parts of its report that constitute the key elements of its deliberations relating to the tasks assigned to it by the Executive Body. The report will be distributed by the secretariat to the focal points nominated by the Parties to the Convention and to the observers and experts who were present at the meeting;

7. Furthermore decides that technical reports prepared by the Task Force for the Steering Body of EMEP will reflect the full range of views expressed during its meetings.