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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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

Working Group on Effects
(Twenty-third session, Geneva, 1–3 September 2004)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 1 September 2004

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report on the twenty-second session (EB.AIR/WG.1/2003/2).
3. Matters arising from the twenty-first session of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/79 and Add.1), the thirty-fifth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (EB.AIR/WG.5/76) and the twenty-seventh session of the Steering Body of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) (EB.AIR/GE.1/2003/2).

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.

4. Review of recent results and updating of scientific/technical knowledge:

- (a) Acidification;
- (b) Nutrient N;
- (c) Ozone;
- (d) Particulate matter;
- (e) Heavy metals;
- (f) Persistent organic pollutants (POPs);
- (g) Cross-cutting items:
 - (i) Land cover data and ecosystem classification harmonization (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10/Add.1);
 - (ii) Emissions, transport, deposition and effects of base cations in relation to acidification (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/15);
 - (iii) Other scientific/technical synergies.

5. Recent outputs and proposed short-term goals of the effect-oriented activities (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/3 and Add.1):

- (a) International Cooperative Programme (ICP) on assessment and monitoring of air pollution effects on forests;
- (b) ICP on assessment and monitoring of acidification of rivers and lakes;
- (c) ICP on effects of air pollution on materials, including historic and cultural monuments;
- (d) ICP on effects of air pollution on natural vegetation and crops;
- (e) ICP on integrated monitoring of air pollution effects on ecosystems;
- (f) ICP on modelling and mapping of critical levels and loads and air pollution effects, risks and trends;
- (g) Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution;
- (h) Joint Expert Group on Dynamic Modelling.

6. Review and assessment of present air pollution effects and their recorded trends, executive summary (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/14) and the full report (in English only).

7. Further development of the effect-oriented activities and their contribution to the future review of protocols:

- (a) Updated medium-term work-plan for the further development of the effect-oriented activities (2004-2006) (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/4);
- (b) Discussion on elements for long-term strategy.

8. Financing of effect-oriented activities (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/12).
9. Election of officers.
10. Other business.

To facilitate their access to the Palais des Nations, those delegates who do not have a valid badge should register with the secretariat by 13 August. Registration forms and explanatory instructions can be found on the Internet: <http://www.unece.org/env/registration/lrtap.htm>

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

The Working Group on Effects is expected to adopt the agenda of its twenty-third session (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/1).

Item 2: Adoption of the report on the twenty-second session

The Working Group on Effects is expected to adopt the report on its twenty-second session (EB.AIR/WG.1/2003/2).

Item 3: Matters arising from the twenty-first session of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the thirty-fifth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review and the twenty-seventh session of the Steering Body of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)

The secretariat will draw the attention of the Working Group to the relevant discussions held and decisions made by the Executive Body at its twenty-first session (ECE/EB.AIR/79 and Add.1), by the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its thirty-fifth session (EB.AIR/WG.5/76) and by the EMEP Steering Body at its twenty-seventh session (EB.AIR/GE.1/2003/2).

Item 4: Review of recent results and updating of scientific/technical knowledge

The Working Group will be presented with a review of recent results and updates of scientific/technical knowledge of the effect-oriented activities. The presentations will be divided in themes roughly following the table in the medium-term work-plan (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/4). Each theme, coordinated by a designated international cooperative programme (ICP) or task force, will have contributions of relevant work carried out in all the programmes. The themes are listed under items (a)-(g) of the agenda. Cross-cutting issues will be presented under item (g) including, inter alia, (i) land cover data and ecosystem classification harmonization (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10/Add.1), (ii) report of the workshop on emissions, transport, deposition and effects of base cations in relation to acidification (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/15), and (iii) other scientific/technical synergies.

The presentations will draw largely from the technical reports of the ICPs: summary report on the 2003 results of monitoring forest condition in Europe (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/5); report on biological recovery in ICP Waters sites (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/6); report on recent

corrosion trends and measurements of particulates and HNO₃ for the multi-pollutant exposure programme (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/7); technical report on the scientific background to the revised critical levels for ozone (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/8); technical report on heavy metal and nitrogen studies (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/9); technical report on the call for data from national focal centres with respect to critical loads for acidification and eutrophication and with respect to dynamic models (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10); summary report from the World Health Organization's European Centre for Environment and Health (WHO/ECEH) on the modelling and assessment of the health impacts of particulate matter and ozone (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/11); summary report of the fourth meeting of the joint expert group on dynamic modelling (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/13); as well as documents and publications made available by the programme centres. The Working Group is expected to take note of the reports and of the progress made. It may wish to provide guidance for future activities.

The Working Group is also expected to take note of the reports of (i) the workshop on critical loads for heavy metals and the expert meeting on harmonizing land cover information (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10/Add.1) and (ii) the workshop on emissions, transport, deposition and effects of base cations in relation to acidification (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/15).

Item 5: Recent outputs and proposed short-term goals of the effect-oriented activities

The Working Group will have before it the annual 2004 Joint Report of the International Cooperative Programmes and the Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution on the history (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/3) and progress in the effect-oriented activities, including proposed short-term goals (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/3/Add.1). Lead countries will draw attention to recent outputs and short-term goals, including proposed workshops, and, in particular:

- (a) ICP on assessment and monitoring of air pollution effects on forests will report on its twentieth meeting held in Växjö (Sweden);
- (b) ICP on assessment and monitoring of acidification of rivers and lakes will report on to its nineteenth meeting held in Lugano (Switzerland);
- (c) ICP on effects of air pollution on materials, including historic and cultural monuments, report on to its twentieth meeting held in London;
- (d) ICP on effects of air pollution on natural vegetation and crops will report on its seventeenth meeting held in Kalamata (Greece);
- (e) ICP on integrated monitoring of air pollution effects on ecosystems will report on its twelfth meeting held in Molln (Austria);
- (f) ICP on modelling and mapping of critical levels and loads and air pollution effects, risks and trends will report on its nineteenth meeting held in Laxenburg (Austria);
- (g) Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution: WHO/ECEH, Bonn Office, leading the Task Force, will report on its seventh meeting held in Bonn (Germany).

(h) Joint Expert Group on Dynamic Modelling will report on its fourth meeting held in Sitges (Spain).

Item 6: Review and assessment of present air pollution effects and their recorded trends

The Bureau of the Working Group will report on progress in finalizing the 2004 substantive report on the review and assessment of present air pollution effects and their recorded trends. The Working Group will have before it for consideration the executive summary (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/14) and the full report (in English only).

Item 7: Further development of the effect-oriented activities and their contribution to the future review of protocols

(a) The Working Group will have before it for consideration its medium-term work-plan for 2004-2006 of its Bureau (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/4). It has been prepared in consultation with the Extended Bureau of the Working Group taking into account the recent relevant decisions of the Executive Body, as well as available information on the Clear Air for Europe (CAFE) programme of the European Commission.

(b) The Chairman of the Working Group on Effects will introduce the discussion on elements for its long-term strategy.

Item 8: Financing of effect-oriented activities

The Working Group will have before it a note, prepared by the secretariat, on the financing of effect-oriented activities, summarizing the voluntary contributions received in 2003 and 2004, reviewing the use of the contributions in 2003/2004 and presenting plans for their use in 2004/2005 (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/12). The Working Group is expected to consider the note and approve its submission to the Executive Body at its twenty-second session.

Item 9: Election of officers

The Working Group is expected to elect a chairman and five vice-chairmen. The elected officers constitute the Bureau and will remain in office over the next session.

Item 10: Other business

The Working Group on Effects will have before it for consideration a provisional list of meetings for 2004/2005 compiled by the secretariat on the basis of information provided by the delegations and programmes.