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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BODY ON ITS TWENTY-FOURTH
SESSION HELD IN GENEVA FROM 11 TO 14 DECEMBER 2007**

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Decision 2006/1**Data availability under the convention**

The Executive Body,

Intent on implementing article 7 (Research and development) and article 8 (Exchange of information) of the Convention, and mindful of article 5 (Public awareness) of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol,

Bearing in mind that sharing of scientific and technical knowledge has been essential for the agreement and implementation of protocols and believing that future development of the Convention will rely upon output from its scientific and technical bodies,

Acknowledging the important contributions made by the lead Parties and programme centres of the Convention to its scientific and technical programmes,

Stressing the need for Parties to submit their national data to the secretariat or programme centres and to contribute to the scientific and technical work of the Convention, and urging Parties to continue their efforts to this end,

Affirming that the Convention's use of scientific and technical data should be open and transparent to all,

Noting, however, that issues such as intellectual property rights and commercial restrictions may affect the availability of some national data,

1. *Decides* that scientific and technical data submitted by Parties or their national focal centres shall be publicly available at programme centres, unless:
 - (a) A Party or one of its national focal centres provides a reason why data release is delayed; or
 - (b) The Executive Body or one of its main subsidiary bodies decides that it is not timely to release the data;
2. *Invites* any Party, national focal point or Convention body that indicates data release should be delayed, to indicate what it considers an appropriate time for the data's release;
3. *Recognizes* that when a programme centre is requested to provide certain data sets or data formats that are not readily available, it may need to charge the recipient for preparing the data;
4. *Requests* that programme centres make efforts to ensure that data users give due acknowledgement to the Convention and/or its bodies as well as, where appropriate, to providers of original data.

Decision 2006/2

Implementation Committee, its structure and functions and procedures for review

The Executive Body,

Determined to promote and improve compliance with the existing protocols to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,

Recalling its decision 1997/2 establishing the Implementation Committee for the review of compliance by the Parties with their obligations under the protocols to the Convention and its decision 1998/3 on procedures for amending decisions pertaining to the Implementation Committee,

Decides that the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedures for review of compliance shall be as follows:

STRUCTURE

1. The Committee shall consist of nine Parties to the Convention; each member of the Committee shall be Party to at least one protocol. The Executive Body shall elect Parties for terms of two years. Outgoing Parties may be re-elected for one consecutive term, unless in a given case the Executive Body decides otherwise. The Executive Body shall elect a Chair of the Committee from among the members annually.

MEETINGS

2. The Committee shall, unless it decides otherwise, meet twice a year. The secretariat shall arrange for and service the Committee's meetings.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

3. The Committee shall:

(a) Review periodically compliance by the Parties with the reporting requirements of the protocols;

(b) Consider any submission or referral made in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 5 below with a view to securing a constructive solution;

(c) Where it deems it necessary, be satisfied, before it adopts a report or recommendation on such a submission or referral, that the quality of data reported by a Party has been evaluated by a relevant technical body under the Executive Body and/or, where appropriate, by an expert nominated by the Bureau of the Executive Body; and

(d) Prepare, at the request of the Executive Body, and based on any relevant experience acquired in the performance of its functions under subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c)

above, a report on compliance with or implementation of specified obligations in an individual protocol.

SUBMISSIONS BY PARTIES

4. A submission may be brought before the Committee by:

(a) One or more Parties to a protocol that have reservations about another Party's compliance with its obligations under that instrument. Such a submission shall be addressed in writing to the secretariat and supported by corroborating information. The secretariat shall, within two weeks of receiving a submission, send a copy of it to the Party whose compliance is at issue. Any reply and information in support thereof shall be submitted to the secretariat and to the Parties involved within three months or such longer period as the circumstances of a particular case may require. The secretariat shall transmit the submission and the reply, as well as all corroborating and supporting information, to the Committee, which shall consider the matter as soon as practicable; or

(b) A Party that concludes that, despite its best endeavours, it is or will be unable to comply fully with its obligations under a protocol. Such a submission shall be addressed in writing to the secretariat and explain, in particular, the specific circumstances that the Party considers to be the cause of its non-compliance. The secretariat shall transmit the submission to the Committee, which shall consider it as soon as practicable.

REFERRALS BY THE SECRETARIAT

5. Where the secretariat, in particular upon reviewing the reports submitted in accordance with a protocol's reporting requirements, becomes aware of possible non-compliance by a Party with its obligations, it may request the Party concerned to furnish necessary information about the matter. If there is no response or the matter is not resolved within three months or such longer period as the circumstances of the matter may require, the secretariat shall bring the matter to the attention of the Committee.

INFORMATION GATHERING

6. To assist the performance of its functions under paragraph 3 above, the Committee may:

(a) Request, through the secretariat, further information on matters under its consideration;

(b) Undertake, at the invitation of the Party concerned, information gathering in the territory of that Party; and

(c) Consider any information forwarded by the secretariat concerning compliance with the protocols.

7. The Committee shall ensure the confidentiality of any information that has been provided to it in confidence.

ENTITLEMENT TO PARTICIPATE

8. A Party in respect of which a submission or referral is made shall be entitled to participate in the consideration by the Committee of that submission or referral, but shall not take part in the preparation and adoption of any report or recommendations of the Committee in accordance with paragraph 9 below.

COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE BODY

9. The Committee shall report at least once a year on its activities to the Executive Body and make such recommendations as it considers appropriate, taking into account the circumstances of the matter, regarding compliance with the protocols. Each report shall be finalized by the Committee no later than 10 weeks in advance of the session of the Executive Body at which it is to be considered.

COMPETENCE OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

10. Only those Committee members that are Parties to the protocol in respect of which compliance procedures in accordance with paragraphs 3, 6, 7 and 9 above are being undertaken may participate in those procedures. If as a result of the operation of this paragraph the size of the Committee is reduced to five members or less, the Committee shall forthwith refer the matter in question to the Executive Body.

CONSIDERATION BY THE EXECUTIVE BODY

11. The Parties to the protocol concerned, meeting within the Executive Body, may, upon consideration of a report and any recommendations of the Committee, decide upon measures of a non-discriminatory nature to bring about full compliance with the protocol in question, including measures to assist a Party's compliance. Any such decision shall be taken by consensus.

RELATIONSHIP TO SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

12. Application of the present compliance procedures shall be without prejudice to the settlement of disputes provisions of the protocols.

Decision 2006/3**Compliance by Slovenia with its obligations under the 1994 Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions (ref. 1/00)**

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. *Recalls* its decision 2004/5, in which it urged Slovenia to fulfil its obligation under article 2.5(b) of the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee (EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 7 and 8) concerning Slovenia's compliance with article 2.5(b) of the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur, and in particular the Committee's conclusion that it was apparent from the information provided by Slovenia about the installation of the desulphurization equipment and the actual emissions from the Trbovlje Power Plant that Slovenia had achieved compliance with its obligation under article 2.5(b) of the Protocol in October 2005; and
3. *Decides* that there is no longer any reason for the Implementation Committee to continue to review Slovenia's compliance with its obligation under article 2.5(b) of the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur as initiated by Slovenia's self-submission in 2000.

Decision 2006/4

Compliance by Norway with its obligations under the 1991 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or Their Transboundary Fluxes (ref. 1/01)

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. *Recalls* its decisions 2001/1, 2002/2, 2003/1, 2004/6 and 2005/2;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the progress made by Norway, based on the information provided by Norway on 30 March and 22 June 2006 (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 10–12), and in particular its conclusion that Norway remained in non-compliance with the emission reduction obligation of the 1991 Protocol Concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) or Their Transboundary Fluxes;
3. *Welcomes* the significant national measures that have been taken by Norway to reduce its VOC emissions;
4. *Also welcomes* the fact that Norway's final data for 2003 and 2004 confirm a downward trend in its total national emissions and its tropospheric ozone management area (TOMA) emissions, and that, according to preliminary data for 2005, Norway appears to be in compliance with its obligation to ensure that its total national annual emissions do not exceed its 1988 levels, as required by article 2.2(b) of the Protocol;
5. *Remains concerned*, however, by Norway's continuing failure to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to reduce its annual emissions within the TOMA specified under annex I by at least 30 per cent by the year 1999, using 1989 as its base year, as required by article 2.2(b) of the Protocol;
6. *Expresses its disappointment* that, notwithstanding Executive Body decision 2005/2, Norway has not endeavoured to shorten the seven years it had anticipated remaining in non-compliance;
7. *Strongly urges* Norway to ensure that it lives up to its expectation to achieve compliance with its obligation to reduce its annual emissions within the TOMA as from 2006;
8. *Calls on* Norway to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2007, with information on the progress that it has made towards achieving compliance with these two obligations; and
9. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review Norway's progress and timetable, and to report to it thereon at its twenty-fifth session.

Decision 2006/5**Compliance by Greece with its obligations under the 1988 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or Their Transboundary Fluxes (ref. 2/02)**

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. *Recalls* its decisions 2002/6, 2003/5, 2004/7 and 2005/4;
2. *Notes* the report of the Implementation Committee on the progress made by Greece (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 14–17), in particular its conclusion that Greece has failed to respond to the requirements of decision 2005/4;
3. *Expresses its disappointment* at the continuing failure of Greece to fulfil its obligation to take and implement effective measures to control and/or reduce its national annual emissions so that these do not exceed its emissions in 1987;
4. *Notes with concern* that Greece has not provided the Implementation Committee with the information requested in paragraph 6 of decision 2005/4;
5. *Expresses its deep concern* that Greece has repeatedly failed to respond and to provide the information requested by decisions of the Executive Body and by the Implementation Committee through the secretariat, and is thereby hindering the Executive Body and the Implementation Committee in performing their work to review compliance with the Protocol;
6. *Once again strongly urges* to Greece to fulfil its obligation under article 2.1 of the Protocol as soon as possible, and to adopt and effectively implement the measures necessary to achieve compliance with its obligations;
7. *Reiterates its requests* to Greece as articulated in paragraphs 6 and 8 of its decision 2005/4; and
8. *Reminds* Greece, that, when revising historical data, the country is required to also revise its base year data in a consistent way.

Decision 2006/6

Compliance by Spain with its obligations under the 1988 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or Their Transboundary Fluxes (ref. 4/02)

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. *Recalls* its decisions 2002/8, 2003/7, 2004/9 and 2005/6;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the progress made by Spain, based on the information provided by Spain on 2 March and 14 July 2006 (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 19–23), and in particular its conclusion regarding the failure of Spain to provide the information requested in paragraph 5 of decision 2005/6;
3. *Expresses* its disappointment at the continuing failure of Spain to fulfil its obligation to adopt and implement effective measures to control and/or reduce its national annual emissions so that these do not exceed its emissions in 1987;
4. *Notes with concern* that Spain has not provided the Implementation Committee with the information requested in paragraph 5 of decision 2005/6;
5. *Expresses its deep concern* that Spain has repeatedly failed to provide the information requested by decisions of the Executive Body and by the Implementation Committee through the secretariat, and is thereby hindering the Executive Body and the Implementation Committee in performing their work to review compliance with the Protocol;
6. *Strongly urges* Spain to fulfil its obligation under article 2.1 of the Protocol as soon as possible, and to adopt and effectively implement the measures necessary to achieve compliance with its obligation;
7. *Reiterates its requests* to Spain as articulated in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of its decision 2005/6.

Decision 2006/7**Compliance by Spain with its obligations under the 1991 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or Their Transboundary Fluxes (ref. 6/02)**

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. *Recalls* its decisions 2003/8, 2004/10 and 2005/7;
2. *Notes* the report of the Implementation Committee on the progress made by Spain, based on the information provided by Spain on 2 March and 14 July 2006 (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 25–27), and in particular its conclusion regarding the failure of Spain to provide the information requested in paragraph 5 of decision 2005/7;
3. *Continues to be strongly concerned* by Spain's failure to fulfil its obligation to adopt and implement effective measures to reduce its national annual emissions by at least 30 per cent by the year 1999, using 1988 as its base year;
4. *Expresses its deep concern* that Spain has repeatedly failed to provide the information requested by decisions of the Executive Body and by the Implementation Committee through the secretariat, and is thereby hindering the Executive Body and the Implementation Committee in performing their work to review compliance with the Protocol;
5. *Continues to urge* Spain to fulfil its obligation under article 2.2(a) of the Protocol as soon as possible, and to adopt and effectively implement the measures necessary to achieve compliance with its obligation;
6. *Requests* Spain to provide to the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2007 and by 31 March of each subsequent year until compliance is achieved, a report describing the progress it has made towards achieving compliance. The report should set out a timetable that specifies the year by which Spain expects to be in compliance, lists the specific measures taken or scheduled to be taken to fulfil its emission reduction obligation under the Protocol on volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and sets out the projected effects of each of these measures on its VOC emissions up to and including the year of predicted compliance;
7. *Requests* Spain, when revising its historical data, to also revise its base year data in a consistent way;
8. *Calls on* Spain, until such time as it achieves compliance, to make a presentation containing the information referred to in paragraph 6 to the next annual session of the Executive

Body, in any year in which it fails to provide that information to the Implementation Committee, in time for the Implementation Committee's second meeting of the year; and

9. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review Spain's progress and timetable, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-fifth session and subsequent annual sessions until Spain has reached compliance.

Decision 2006/8**Compliance by Denmark with its obligations under the 1998 Protocol
on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ref. 1/06)**

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 (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 29–31) concerning Denmark's compliance with article 3.5(a) of the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) 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 Denmark's failure to comply with the emission reduction obligation of the Protocol with regard to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs);

2. *Expresses* its concern at the failure by Denmark to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to reduce the emissions of each of the substances listed in annex III of the Protocol from their level in 1990, as required by article 3.5(a) of the Protocol;

3. *Notes* with concern that Denmark has not indicated when it will achieve compliance;

4. *Urges* Denmark to fulfil its obligation under the Protocol on POPs as soon as possible;

5. *Calls on* Denmark to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2007, with a report describing the progress made towards compliance and setting out a timetable that specifies the year by which Denmark expects to be in compliance, lists the specific measures taken or scheduled to fulfil its emission reduction obligations under the Protocol on POPs, and sets out the projected quantitative effects of each of these measures on its PAH emissions up to and including the year of compliance; and

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review Denmark's progress and timetable, and report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-fifth session.

Decision 2006/9

**Compliance by Iceland with its Obligations under the 1998 Protocol
on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ref. 2/06)**

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 (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 33–35) concerning Iceland's compliance with article 3.5(a) of the 1988 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants 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 that Iceland is in compliance with article 3.5(a) of the Protocol, based on article 3.7; and

2. *Decides* that there is no reason for the Implementation Committee to continue to review Iceland's compliance with its obligation under article 3.5(a) of the Protocol as initiated by the secretariat's referral in 2006.

Decision 2006/10

Compliance with Reporting Obligations

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, and ECE/EB.AIR/75, annex V),

1. *Takes note* of the ninth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to:
 - (a) The follow-up to Executive Body decision 2005/8 regarding compliance by certain Parties with their reporting requirements (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/Add.1, paras. 1–3);
 - (b) Compliance by Parties with their emission data reporting obligations under the Protocols, identified on the basis of information provided by EMEP (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3/Add.1, paras. 4–27 and tables 1–6); and
 - (c) Compliance by Parties with their obligations to report on strategies and policies for air pollution abatement (EB.AIR/2006/Add.1, paras. 28–36 and table 7);
2. *Notes* the completeness of the emission data reported by Parties for years up to and including 2001;
3. *Regrets*, however, that a number of Parties have still not reported final and complete emission data for 2002, 2003 and 2004;
4. *Reminds* all Parties of the importance not only of complying fully with their obligations to report emission data under the Protocols, including (where applicable) in accordance with any legally binding deadlines and formats, but also of submitting their final and complete data on time to ensure the efficient operation of the Convention;
5. *Recalls* that its decision 2005/8 noted that four Parties – Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and Romania – that were among those identified at its twenty-third session as not yet being in compliance with their obligations to report on strategies and policies, were still not in compliance, and that those Parties were called on to provide the missing information no later than 31 January 2006 (ECE/EB.AIR/87/Add.1, annex VIII);
6. *Notes with satisfaction* that Ukraine and the European Community have completed their replies to the 2004 questionnaire and have thus complied with their obligation to report on strategies and policies;
7. *Notes with regret* that Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Monaco, Portugal, Romania, Spain and the European Community are not in compliance with their strategies and policies reporting obligations for 2006;

8. *Urges:*

(a) Belarus to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1985 Protocol on Sulphur¹ and the 1988 Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides;²

(b) Bulgaria to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1991 Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs),³ the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur,⁴ the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol⁵;

(c) Croatia to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur;

(d) Denmark to complete its reporting on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;

(e) Estonia to complete its reporting on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1998 Protocol on POPs;

(f) Finland to complete its reporting on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;

(g) France to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1985 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1991 Protocol on VOCs, the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1998 Protocol on POPs and the 1988 Protocol on Heavy Metals;

(h) Greece to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1988 Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides and the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur;

(i) Iceland to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2004 and 2006 under the 1998 Protocol on POPs;

(j) Ireland to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1988 Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides and the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur;

(k) Latvia to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1998 Protocol on POPs, the 1988 Protocol on Heavy Metals and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;

¹ Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or Their Transboundary Fluxes by at Least 30 Per Cent.

² Protocol Concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or Their Transboundary Fluxes.

³ Protocol Concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or Their Transboundary Fluxes.

⁴ Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions.

⁵ Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

- (l) Liechtenstein to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2004 and 2006 under the 1985 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1988 Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides, the 1991 Protocol on VOCs, the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1998 Protocol on POPs and the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals;
- (m) Lithuania to complete its reporting on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1988 Protocol on Heavy Metals and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;
- (n) Luxembourg to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2004 and 2006 under the 1985 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1988 Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides, the 1991 Protocol on VOCs, the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1998 Protocol on POPs, the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;
- (o) Moldova to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1998 Protocol on POPs and the 1988 Protocol on Heavy Metals;
- (p) Monaco to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1991 Protocol on VOCs, the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur and the 1988 Protocol on Heavy Metals;
- (q) Portugal to comply with its obligation to report on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;
- (r) Romania to comply with its obligations to report on strategies and policies for 2004 and 2006 under the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals, the 1998 Protocol on POPs and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;
- (s) Spain to complete its reporting on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol; and
- (t) The European Community to complete its reporting on strategies and policies for 2006 under the 1988 Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides, the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur, the 1998 Protocol on POPs, the 1988 Protocol on Heavy Metals and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol;

and in these contexts to provide, as soon as possible but no later than 31 January 2007, all the missing information;

9. *Reminds* all Parties of the importance not only of complying fully with their obligations to report on their strategies and policies, as required under the protocols, but also of submitting their reports on time; and
10. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress made by the above-mentioned Parties with regard to their reporting on strategies and policies and to report thereon at its twenty-fifth session.

Decision 2006/11

Accreditation of Non-Governmental Organizations to attend meetings under the Convention

The Executive Body,

Decides that:

1. All non-governmental organizations having United Nations accreditation will continue being accredited for its meetings and its main subsidiary bodies;
2. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention, may apply for accreditation by making an application to the secretariat at least 60 days before a meeting of the Executive Body;
3. The Bureau, assisted by the secretariat, will consider applications for accreditation, taking account of each applicant's qualifications in matters covered by the Convention and will make a recommendation to the Executive Body on each application;
4. The Executive Body will decide on the recommendations of its Bureau at the beginning of the session following the application;
5. The secretariat will assist the Bureau and the Executive Body with its decisions by providing information on applications;
6. The secretariat will maintain a list of additionally accredited bodies or agencies;
7. The Executive Body will continue to allow ad hoc observers to attend meetings of the Executive Body and its main subsidiary bodies at the discretion of the body concerned.

Decision 2006/12**Funding of Secretariat Travel**

The Executive Body,

1. *Agrees* that travel by secretariat staff members to Convention meetings, or meetings where they represent the Convention, should, wherever possible, be funded through a United Nations trust fund;
2. *Requests* the secretariat to invite Parties to contribute voluntarily to the trust fund, while drawing the attention of lead and host Parties to the need to fund secretariat support to the meetings they host;
3. *Urges* Parties to contribute to the trust fund to ensure the effective support of the secretariat at meetings; and
4. *Requests* the secretariat to provide the Executive Body with an annual report on the trust fund and the travel of the secretariat.

Decision 2006/13

Facilitation of Participation of Countries with Economies in Transition

1. Broad participation by Parties in the activities under the Executive Body is essential to ensure progress in work under the Convention. To facilitate the participation of certain countries with economies in transition which would otherwise not be in a position to take part, Parties are invited to contribute to the Trust Fund for this purpose.

2. The secretariat is authorized to fund, subject to available resources, the participation of one governmentally designated representative from each of the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine, in meetings of the Executive Body and its three main subsidiary bodies, giving highest priority to negotiating groups and other meetings directly linked to preparatory or ongoing negotiations. Upon their accession to the Convention and their expressed intention to take part in the work of the Executive Body, the following countries may also qualify for funding: Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

3. Participation in other meetings may qualify for funding at the discretion of the Bureau of the Executive Body provided funds are available. However, for task force and expert group meetings, Parties are encouraged to sponsor directly the participating experts from countries in the above list.

4. To make efficient use of the limited funds available for travel, Parties are encouraged, to the extent possible, to finance their own participation in activities under the Convention.

5. The countries mentioned in paragraph 2 above that have applied for membership in the European Union and/or the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) are, in principle, expected to finance their own participation, and should only exceptionally make use of this offer.

6. The secretariat is authorized to decide, in consultation with the Chair of the Executive Body, on the extent of funding (travel and/or daily subsistence allowance, or lump sum), on the basis of available funds and forecasts for requests and contributions for each year, and taking due account of United Nations regulations.
