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

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**STRATEGIES AND POLICIES OF PARTIES AND SIGNATORIES TO THE CONVENTION
FOR THE ABATEMENT OF AIR POLLUTION**

**PREPARATION OF THE 2010 DRAFT QUESTIONNAIRE ON STRATEGIES AND
POLICIES FOR AIR POLLUTION ABATEMENT**

Note by the secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This note contains information on the draft questionnaire on strategies and policies for air pollution abatement for the 2010 review presented in documents ECE/EB.AIR/2009/12 and ECE/EB.AIR/2009/13. The secretariat prepared the draft questionnaire following a request of the Executive Body at its twenty-sixth session in 2008, taking into account feedback from the delegations, the ad hoc expert group convened in 2007 to work on the 2008 questionnaire, and the Implementation Committee¹.

2. At its twentieth session in 2002, the Executive Body had decided to separate the review process (and questionnaire) into two parts: the first consisting of protocol-related questions for

¹ ECE/EB.AIR/96, para. 80 (b).

compliance review to be carried out every two years, and the second of questions pertaining to a general policy review to be undertaken every four years. The 2010 questionnaire covers both protocol-related questions (ECE/EB.AIR/2009/12) and general policy questions (ECE/EB.AIR/2009/13).

3. The questionnaire is intended to assist Parties in providing information on strategies and policies as required under the protocols. It provides a basis for the review of compliance by individual Parties with their obligations under the protocols for assessing progress towards achieving the protocols' objectives, and also allows the exchange and dissemination of information about national experiences with implementation of the obligations.

4. This document describes the structure and content of the draft questionnaire (chapter II), provides guidance for filling out the questionnaire (chapter III), proposes a time schedule for carrying out the work related to the questionnaire (chapter IV), and offers draft conclusions for the consideration of the Executive Body (chapter V).

II. STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE DRAFT QUESTIONNAIRE

5. The questionnaire for priority compliance review covers obligations by Parties under the protocols in force, with the exception of the 1984 Geneva Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP Protocol). These are: the 1985 Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or their Transboundary Fluxes by at least 30 per cent (1985 Sulphur Protocol), the 1988 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes (NO_x Protocol), the 1991 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes (Protocol on VOCs), the 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions (1994 Sulphur Protocol), the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants; the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and the 1999 Protocol on Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol). The 66 questions in the questionnaire may provide, together with emission data and other information, a basis for the Implementation Committee to consider compliance by Parties with their obligations under the protocols.

6. The structure of the 2010 questionnaire for priority compliance review is the same as it was in 2008. The questionnaire contains questions related to protocol obligations: section 1 (question 1) for the 1985 Sulphur Protocol; section 2 (questions 2–6) for the NO_x Protocol; section 3 (questions 7–12) for the Protocol on VOCs; section 4 (questions 13–17) for the 1994 Sulphur Protocol; section 5 (questions 18–31) for the Protocol on POPs; section 6 (questions 32–38) for the Protocol on Heavy Metals; and section 7 (questions 39–66) for the Gothenburg Protocol.

7. Table formats are widely used throughout the questionnaire to help ensure the precision, correctness and comparability of the answers.
8. The draft general policy questions were reviewed and revised by the ad hoc group of experts in 2007.

III. GUIDANCE FOR FILLING OUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE

9. The questionnaire will be made available on the Internet for Parties to fill in online. If this is not possible, the secretariat can also provide the questionnaire by e-mail or in hard copy.
10. The questionnaire makes reference to specific articles and annexes to the protocols².
11. Parties are encouraged to keep replies brief and to the point, bearing in mind that the secretariat will summarize them for the Implementation Committee and the Executive Body. Where reference is made to specific articles of a protocol, a link to the protocol's text is provided to facilitate Parties' responses.
12. When filling out the questionnaire, Parties are encouraged to consult the 2006 Review of Strategies and Policies for Air Pollution Abatement³. As well as the replies to the 2006 and 2004 questionnaires⁴.
13. The following notes are intended to guide the replies of Parties:
 - (a) Parties should not just refer to the absence of a given (new) source regulated by a protocol, as this would not sufficiently demonstrate implementation of that protocol's obligations. Instead, Parties should indicate the measures taken to ensure that the obligations would be met should such a source be built or manufactured at a future date;
 - (b) Parties should provide a full reference to the national implementing legislation, including the title of that legislation and the date when it entered into force;
 - (c) Parties should provide details on the limit values, etc., which are set out in their national implementing legislation. European Union (EU) Member States should refer to their

² The full text of the Convention and its protocols can be found at:
http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/status/lrtap_s.htm.

³ ECE/EB.AIR/93, available at: <http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/conv/conclusi.htm>.

⁴ Available at: <http://apps.unece.org/ehlm/WebApt/Questionnaire/login.aspx>.

national implementing legislation, not to European Commission (EC) Directives or Decisions. As regards EC Regulations, which do not require national implementing legislation, EU Member States should refer to the relevant parts of the applicable EC Regulation;

(d) Parties may wish to cross-reference their answers to those in other questions, but should make sure that the full scope of their obligations is covered. Questions where cross-referencing may be appropriate are indicated throughout the questionnaire;

(e) When providing information in tables, Parties should use the formats set out in the questionnaire, to ensure consistency of the replies.

IV. TIME SCHEDULE

14. The tentative schedule for the work is as follows:

(a) December 2009: Approval of the draft questionnaire by the Executive Body at its twenty-seventh session;

(b) 15 January 2010: The questionnaire is made available on the Convention's website. Parties will be informed, by e-mail, that the questionnaire is available for use. Instructions will be provided;

(c) 31 March 2010: Deadline for submission of replies by Parties;

(d) April 2010: Preliminary information on replies presented to the Implementation Committee at its twenty-fifth meeting. Requests sent to Parties for clarification of replies or additional material, if necessary;

(e) May–August 2010: Preparation of draft review document for submission to the Executive Body at its twenty-eighth session, in December 2010.

V. DRAFT CONCLUSIONS

15. The Executive Body is invited:

(a) To approve the 2010 draft questionnaire comprising protocol-related questions (ECE/EB.AIR/2009/12) as well as general policy questions (ECE/EB.AIR/2009/13), and to request the secretariat to make it available on the Convention's website;

(b) To decide that the questionnaire will represent the uniform reporting framework referred to in: article 8, paragraph 2, of the NO_x Protocol; article 8, paragraph 4, of the Protocol on VOCs; article 5, paragraph 1, of the 1994 Sulphur Protocol; article 9, paragraph 2 of the Protocol on POPs; article 7, paragraph 2, of the Protocol on Heavy Metals; and article 7, paragraph 2, of the Gothenburg Protocol;

(c) To request Parties to reply to the questionnaire by the deadline of 31 March 2010, providing clear cross-references, if necessary, and replies that are brief and focused, including providing information in table formats when required;

(d) To request the secretariat to make the replies from Parties available on the Convention's website;

(e) To request the secretariat to provide the Implementation Committee with information from the replies, in order to enable the Committee to address issues of compliance related to the reporting of strategies and policies;

(f) To request the Implementation Committee to consider the results of the questionnaire and report to the Executive Body at its twenty-eighth session in 2010.
