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Addendum

Decisions adopted at the twenty-eighth session

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Decision 2010/1

Revised mandate for the Task Force on the Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution

The Executive Body,

Noting with appreciation the effectiveness of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution in documenting the growing scientific evidence of hemispheric transport of air pollution, and its impacts on health, ecosystems, and climate;

Further noting with appreciation the excellent work produced by the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Black Carbon, as well as ongoing work by the Arctic Council, the United Nations Environment Programme and others, on the growing evidence of potential impacts of air pollutants on the regional climate of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) area, especially the Arctic and high altitude environments;

Noting that the work of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution should be conducted in collaboration with experts from other subsidiary bodies under the Convention, including the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling, the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections and the Task Force on Measurement and Modelling, as well as the programmes and centres of work of the Working Group on Effects;

Decides to revise the mandate of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution as set out in the Annex to this decision.

Annex

Revised mandate for the Task Force on the Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution

1. The Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution, under the leadership of the European Union and the United States of America, will examine the transport of air pollution across the northern hemisphere and its regional impacts, considering both air quality impacts and those on climate.
2. 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 workplan.
3. The Task Force will carry out the tasks specified for it in the workplan adopted annually by the Executive Body, and will report thereon to the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP).
4. 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.
5. 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 30 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. 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. All reports prepared by the Task Force for the Executive Body and other groups under the Convention will reflect the full range of views expressed during its meetings.
8. 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 across the northern hemisphere and the effects/impacts of potential mitigation options for consideration in the reviews of protocols to the Convention;
 - (b) Identify areas for coordination, as well as key issues for fostering complementary work and collaboration on the issue of particulate matter and its components, including black carbon and tropospheric ozone and its precursors by Parties under the Convention and by external bodies (including the Arctic Council/Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC));
 - (c) Cooperate closely with appropriate technical bodies under the Convention (e.g., the Expert Group on Techno-Economic Issues and the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling) to estimate the extent to which these emissions and their impacts can be reduced, and regional climate co-benefits can be increased, by implementation of existing legislation and by implementation of specific control measures;
 - (d) Assess the impacts of emission-reduction opportunities in the UNECE region, as identified above, on regional and intercontinental transport of air pollution and their associated air quality, health, ecosystem and near-term climate effects; and begin to examine the impacts of complementary measures that might be taken in other regions where mitigation may prove more cost-effective;
 - (e) Identify the scientific and technical requirements (such as methods for emissions quantification, ambient monitoring and estimating global warming potential), as well as non-technical measures, needed for implementing options to reduce black carbon and ozone and their impacts in the region over time. This work should be done in collaboration with experts from subsidiary bodies under the Convention, including the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling, the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections and the Task Force on Measurement and Modelling, as well as the programmes and centres of the Working Group on Effects;
 - (f) Develop a multi-year plan for carrying out further analyses on the tasks referred to in paragraphs (a) through (e), and report back to the EMEP Steering Body and Executive Body in 2011 for consideration in the 2012 workplan;
 - (g) Carry out such other tasks related to the above work as the Executive Body may assign to it in the annual workplan.

Decision 2010/2
Implications of the reports of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution and the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Black Carbon

The Executive Body,

1. *Acknowledges* the conclusions of the reports of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution and the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Black Carbon, which demonstrate the need for taking action in the near term to reduce emissions of short lived climate forcers (SLCFs), specifically black carbon and tropospheric ozone precursors including methane and carbon monoxide. Reductions of these pollutants will improve air quality, provide significant public health benefits, and provide regional climate benefits by protecting the Arctic and glaciated mountainous regions in particular from accelerated rates of melting of ice, snow and permafrost;

2. *Recognizes* that all measures to reduce emissions of black carbon (BC) also reduce emissions of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), but that not all PM_{2.5} measures correspondingly reduce BC;

3. *Decides* to include consideration of BC, as a component of particulate matter (PM), in the process of the revision of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol);

4. *Requests* the Working Group on Strategies and Review to consider, beginning in its April 2011 session, the inclusion of BC in the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol, with the aim of concluding the Protocol revision in 2011. Specifically, the Working Group on Strategies and Review should prepare text to address:

(a) The importance of reducing BC emissions as a component of PM for air quality, health benefits, and climate reasons in preambular text;

(b) The need for ongoing work to:

(i) Develop national emission inventories, ambient monitoring and source measurements; and

(ii) Improve understanding of adverse effects, efficacy of control techniques, and costs and benefits of abatement;

(c) Measures covered by the draft technical annexes on PM to the Gothenburg Protocol that at the same time reduce BC emissions and abatement techniques for significant source categories of BC as a component of PM;

5. *Requests*, in relation to 4 (c) above, the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues and the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections, in conjunction with the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling, to produce guidance on those sources, measures, and abatement techniques to inform the April 2011 meeting of the Working Group on Strategies and Review;

6. *Also requests* the Working Group on Strategies and Review to consider including a review clause and an expedited procedure to allow for rapid adjustments of the Gothenburg Protocol, if necessary, as emerging research and other knowledge becomes available;

7. *Further requests* the Working Group on Strategies and Review to prepare text of a revised Protocol, to maximize potential ratifications among Parties in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia;

8. *Requests* other Convention bodies, to further these aims, to enhance the current state of knowledge in their ongoing work programmes:

(a) In particular the EMEP Steering Body should direct in the short or medium term:

(i) The Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections to work on guidelines for BC inventories with a view to making it possible to begin voluntary national reporting of BC emissions in the near future;

(ii) The Task Force on Measurements and Modelling to identify the relevant characteristics of BC to be measured, monitored and reported, to be included in the EMEP monitoring strategy 2010–2019;

(iii) The Task Force on Hemispheric Transport and the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling to ensure inclusion of BC in the regional and hemispheric atmospheric transport modelling work; and

(iv) The Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling to include BC in their multi-pollutant assessment framework;

(b) The Working Group on Effects should direct:

(i) The Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution (Task Force on Health) to look at adverse effects on human health of black carbon as a component of PM_{2.5};

(ii) The International Cooperative Programmes to look at adverse effects of BC deposition on vegetation, soiling of materials and possibly other effects;

9. *Decides* to request the Chair of the Executive Body to inform the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of its concern about the climate and health impacts of BC emissions, and to urge the IMO to adopt requirements to reduce emissions of BC from international shipping, especially emissions in areas that impact the Arctic climate;

10. *Requests* subsidiary bodies to the Convention to examine over the longer term the regional impacts of reducing the levels of tropospheric ozone and its precursors, including methane and carbon monoxide, considering both climate change and air quality/health/agriculture benefits, based on the work already conducted by the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution and the recommendations for the EMEP work programme contained in the policy document submitted as informal document No. 3, ensuring there is no duplication of existing efforts, such as under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Global Methane Initiative. Additionally:

(a) The Working Group on Strategies and Review should direct:

(i) The Expert Group on Techno-Economic Issues to ensure, to the extent possible, that the information regarding control technologies and their effectiveness for ozone precursors is consistent with the information used in other forums; and

(ii) The Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments to explore the availability and use of appropriate methods to estimate the benefits of control strategies in terms of improved air quality and reduced climate change;

(b) The Working Group on Effects should examine the effects on health, ecosystems and crops due to different future projected ozone levels, depending on adopted measures under the Convention and other applicable requirements in countries, including the effects of improved air quality and reduced climate change.

Decision 2010/3

Compliance by Greece with the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides (ref. 2/02)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2002/6, 2003/5, 2004/7, 2005/4, 2006/5, 2007/3, 2008/3 and 2009/6;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2009/6 on compliance by Greece with its obligations under the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides, based on the information provided by Greece at the twenty-seventh session of the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 5–8), and in particular the Committee's conclusion regarding the failure of Greece to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;
3. *Expresses* its increasing disappointment at the continuing failure of Greece 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, and at its continuing non-compliance since 1998 with the emission-reduction obligation under article 2.1 of the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides;
4. *Notes with concern* that Greece has not provided the Implementation Committee with information meeting the requirements of paragraph 6 of decision 2005/4, as reiterated in paragraph 6 of decision 2008/3 and paragraph 6 of decision 2009/6;
5. *Once again strongly urges* 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;
6. *Recognizes* that Greece invited the Committee to carry out an information-gathering mission in November 2010;
7. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to continue the analysis of the findings of this information-gathering mission, and *calls on* Greece to provide the Committee with any follow-up information it deems necessary;
8. *Further requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Greece, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/4
Compliance by Spain with the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides (ref. 4/02)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2002/8, 2003/7, 2004/9, 2005/6, 2006/6, 2007/4, 2008/4 and 2009/7;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2009/7 on compliance by Spain with its obligations under the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides, based on the information provided by Spain in March and July 2010 (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 9–13), and in particular the Committee's conclusion regarding the failure of Spain to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;
3. *Reiterates* its disappointment at the continuing non-compliance of Spain with the emission-reduction obligation under article 2.1 of the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides since 1994;
4. *Once again 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;
5. *Reiterates* its requests to Spain, as articulated in paragraphs 5 and 7 of decision 2005/6, to continue to report annually on its progress towards achieving compliance, and *in addition reiterates* its requests to Spain to complement the progress report with information, as articulated in paragraph 5 of decision 2009/7;
6. *Decides* to caution Spain that stronger measures will be reconsidered by the Executive Body at its twenty-ninth session unless, by the time of its twenty-eighth session, the Implementation Committee is satisfied that sufficient progress has been made towards bringing Spain into compliance;
7. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Spain, and report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/5
Compliance by Spain with the Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds (ref. 6/02)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2003/8, 2004/10, 2005/7, 2006/7, 2007/5, 2008/5 and 2009/8;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2009/8 on compliance by Spain with its obligations under the Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds, based on the information provided by Spain in March and July 2010 (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 14–19), and in particular the Committee's conclusion regarding the failure of Spain to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;

3. *Reiterates* its increasing disappointment at the continuing failure of Spain 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, and its continuing non-compliance with the emission-reduction obligations under article 2.2 (a) of the Protocol since 1999;

4. *Once again strongly urges* 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;

5. *Reiterates* its requests to Spain, as articulated in paragraphs 6 and 8 of decision 2006/7, to continue to report annually on its progress towards achieving compliance, and *in addition reiterates* its requests to Spain to complement the progress report with information as articulated in paragraph 5 of decision 2009/8;

6. *Reiterates* its request to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to bring this serious matter of continuing and long-lasting non-compliance to the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Environment of Spain;

8. *Also reiterates* its requests to the Executive Secretary to present details of the non-compliance of Spain in its annual report to the Committee on Environmental Policy, to prepare an information note detailing the non-compliance of Spain, to send copies of the note to each of the Parties to the Protocol and to publish the note on the home page of the Convention and in the newsletter of the Commission;

9. *Calls on* Spain to make a presentation to the next annual session of the Executive Body specifically concerning the additional information requested in paragraph 5, and in particular to present its progress on the revision of the Spanish national emission inventory and its work on identifying activities or sectors where there is still potential to further reduce emissions;

10. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Spain, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/6 Compliance by Denmark with the 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 2006/2);

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2006/8, 2007/6, 2008/6 and 2009/9;

2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2009/9 on Denmark's compliance with its obligation under article 3.5 (a) of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants, based on the information provided by Denmark in March and August 2010 (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 20–25), and in particular its conclusion that Denmark had failed to comply with the emission-reduction obligation with regard to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons;

3. *Remains concerned* that, in spite of the efforts made, Denmark still fails to fulfil its obligation to reduce the emissions of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons listed in annex III of the Protocol from their level in 1990 by taking effective measures, as required by article 3.5 (a) of the Protocol;

4. *Urges* Denmark once again to speed up the implementation of envisaged measures, and to consider whether there are any further additional measures that could be taken in order to shorten the period of expected non-compliance with its obligation under the Protocol;

5. *Requests* Denmark to provide the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2011 with a report describing the further measures and plans under preparation for consideration of whether article 3.7 of the Protocol is applicable for Denmark;

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Denmark, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/7

Compliance by Cyprus with the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides (ref. 1/08)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2008/7 and 2009/10;

2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 26–27) concerning the compliance of Cyprus with the requirements of article 2.1 of the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides, 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 the failure of Cyprus to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;

3. *Expresses disappointment* at the failure by Cyprus 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 article 2.1 of the Protocol;

4. *Notes with concern* that Cyprus does not expect to achieve compliance until 2014, which is one year later than it had predicted in 2009;

5. *Urges* Cyprus to fulfil its obligation under the Protocol as soon as possible;

6. *Requests* Cyprus to provide to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2011 a report describing the progress towards compliance by setting out an updated timetable that specifies the year by which Cyprus expects to be in compliance, updating the listing of the specific measures taken or scheduled to fulfil its emission-reduction obligations under the Protocol, and setting out the projected effects of each of these measures on its nitrogen oxide emissions on an annual basis up to and including the year of compliance;

7. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Cyprus, and report to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/ 8
Compliance by Cyprus with the Protocol on Heavy Metals (cadmium)
(ref. 1/10)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras 30–33) concerning the compliance of Cyprus with the requirements of article 3.1 of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, 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 the failure of Cyprus to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;

2. *Expresses its concern* at the failure by Cyprus 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 1990, as required by article 3.1 of the Protocol;

3. *Notes with concern* that Cyprus does not expect to achieve compliance until 2014;

4. *Urges* Cyprus to fulfil its obligation under the Protocol as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* Cyprus to provide to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2011 a report describing the progress towards compliance by setting out an updated timetable that specifies the year by which Cyprus expects to be in compliance, updating the listing of the specific measures taken or scheduled to fulfil its emission-reduction obligations under the Protocol, and setting out the projected effects of each of these measures on its cadmium emissions on an annual basis up to and including the year of compliance;

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Cyprus, and to report to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/9
Compliance by Cyprus with the Protocol on Heavy Metals (mercury)
(ref. 8/10)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras 45–47) concerning the compliance of Cyprus with the requirements of article 3.1 of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, 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 the failure of Cyprus to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;

2. *Expresses its concern* at the failure by Cyprus 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 1990, as required by article 3.1 of the Protocol;

3. *Notes with concern* that Cyprus does not expect to achieve compliance until 2011;
4. *Requests* Cyprus to provide to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2011 a report on its progress towards achieving compliance by 2011;
5. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress of Cyprus, and report to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/10
Compliance by Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Italy and Latvia with the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (refs. 7/10, 2/10, 5/10, 10/10, 3/10, 11/10)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras 34–44) concerning the compliance of Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Italy, and Latvia with the requirements of article 3.5 (a) of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), following the referrals by the secretariat pursuant to paragraph 5 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee;
2. *Expresses its concern* at the potential non-compliance by these Parties with their emissions obligations;
3. *Also expresses its concern* at the uncertainty regarding emissions factors appropriate for reporting of emissions of POPs, especially, but not exclusively, in the sector of residential combustion;
4. *Requests* Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Italy, and Latvia to provide to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2011 detailed information setting forth the emissions factors used in their reporting of POPs emissions as reflected in the secretariat's referrals, the basis for deriving such emissions factors and the status and details of any work to develop new emissions factors;
5. *Also requests* Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Italy, and Latvia to update their emissions reporting, as necessary, upon the development of new emissions factors;
6. *Requests* the secretariat to invite the other Parties to the Protocol on POPs to provide information on the development and use of emission factors for hexachlorobenzene, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and dioxins/furans in residential combustion to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2011;
7. *Instructs* the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP), consistent with paragraph 3 (c) of decision 2006/2, to provide assistance to the Implementation Committee upon its request in its review of the reporting of POPs data and the information received from Parties;
8. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review these cases of potential non-compliance in the light of the information provided, and to report to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/11
Compliance by Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Spain and Switzerland with their obligations to report on strategies and policies

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their obligations to report on strategies and policies for air pollution abatement (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 102–111 and table 8 in informal document No. 2);

2. *Notes* that Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Spain and Switzerland provided replies to the 2010 questionnaire, but that these replies were not complete, and thus these Parties have not yet fully complied with their obligations to report on strategies and policies;

3. *Urges:*

(a) Bulgaria to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x), the Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), the 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(b) Croatia to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Gothenburg Protocol without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(c) Estonia to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the 1988 Protocol on NO_x without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(d) Hungary to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Gothenburg Protocol without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(f) Iceland to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Protocol on POPs without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(e) Romania to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Protocol on POPs, the Protocol on Heavy Metals and the Gothenburg Protocol without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(f) The Russian Federation to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Protocol on NO_x without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

(g) Spain to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Gothenburg Protocol without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations; and

(h) Switzerland to complete its responses to the 2010 questionnaire relating to the Gothenburg Protocol without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with its reporting obligations;

4. *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;

5. *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 to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/12
Compliance by Albania, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Monaco and the European Union with their obligations to report on strategies and policies

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their obligations to report on strategies and policies for air pollution abatement (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 102–111 and table 8 in informal document No. 2)

2. *Notes with regret* that Albania, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Monaco and the European Union did not reply to the 2010 questionnaire and thus are not in compliance with their strategies and policies reporting obligations for 2010;

3. *Urges* Albania, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Monaco and the European Union to provide responses to the 2010 questionnaire without delay and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with their reporting obligations;

4. *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;

5. *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 to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/13
Compliance by Greece and Latvia with their obligations to report on strategies and policies

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* decision 2008/13;

2. *Takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their obligations to report on strategies and policies

for air pollution abatement (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 102–111 and table 8 in informal document No. 2);

3. *Expresses its concern* that Greece and Latvia have failed on three consecutive reporting rounds to provide responses to the strategies and policies questionnaire;

4. *Strongly urges* Greece and Latvia to provide responses to the 2010 questionnaire without delay, and not later than 28 February 2011, in order to comply with their reporting obligations;

5. *Reminds* both 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;

6. *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 to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/14 Compliance by the Republic of Moldova with its reporting obligations

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2008/11, 2008/15 and 2009/12;

2. *Takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their emission data reporting obligations under the Protocols, identified on the basis of information provided by the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 75–101 and tables 1–7 in informal document No. 2);

3. *Also takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their obligations to report on strategies and policies (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 102–111 and table 8 in informal document No. 2);

4. *Reiterates its regret* that the Republic of Moldova has still not reported its annual emission data for 2007 and gridded data for 2005 under the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the Protocol on Heavy Metals;

5. *Also regrets* that the Republic of Moldova did not respond to the request in decision 2009/12 to provide responses to the 2010 questionnaire on strategies and policies and is thus in non-compliance with its obligation to report on strategies and policies for a second consecutive reporting round;

6. *Urges* the Republic of Moldova to provide its missing annual data for 2007 and the gridded data for 2005 under the Protocol on POPs and the Protocol on Heavy Metals without delay;

7. *Also strongly urges* the Republic of Moldova to provide responses to the 2010 questionnaire on strategies and policies without delay and not later than 28 February 2011;

8. *Reminds* the Republic of Moldova of the importance of not only complying fully with its reporting obligations under the Protocols, but also of submitting its final and complete data and reports on time;

9. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress made by the Republic of Moldova with regard to its reporting obligations, and to report to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/15

Compliance by Iceland with its obligations to report on emissions

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2008/11 and 2009/11;
2. *Takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their emission data reporting obligations under the Convention's Protocols, identified on the basis of information provided by the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 75–101 and tables 1–7 in informal document No. 2);
3. *Reiterates its regret* that Iceland has still not reported gridded data for 2005 for dioxins/furans and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons under the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs);
4. *Urges* Iceland to provide its missing gridded data for 2005 under the Protocol on POPs without delay;
5. *Reminds* Iceland of the importance of not only complying fully with its emission reporting obligations under the Protocol on POPs, but also of submitting its final and complete data on time;
6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress made by Iceland with regard to its emission reporting obligations, and to report to it thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/16

Compliance by Luxembourg with its reporting obligations

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2);

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2008/9, 2008/12 and 2009/13;
2. *Takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their emission data reporting obligations under the Convention's Protocols, identified on the basis of information provided by the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 75–101 and tables 1–7 in informal document No. 2);
3. *Also takes note* of the thirteenth report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their obligations to report on strategies and policies (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 102–111 and table 8 in informal document No. 2);

4. *Reiterates its regret* that Luxembourg has still not reported its missing gridded data for 2000 and 2005 under the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur, and its missing data for 2005 under the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the Protocol on Heavy Metals and the Gothenburg Protocol;
5. *Regrets* that Luxembourg has also not reported annual emission data for 2008 under all the Protocols to which it is a Party;
6. *Expresses strong concern* that Luxembourg did not provide responses to the 2010 questionnaire on strategies and policies and is thus in non-compliance with its obligation to report on strategies and policies for the fourth consecutive reporting round;
7. *Urges* Luxembourg to provide, as a matter of urgency:
 - (a) Its missing gridded data for 2000 and 2005 under the 1994 Protocol on Sulphur and its missing data for 2005 under the Protocol on POPs, the Protocol on Heavy Metals and the Gothenburg Protocol; and
 - (b) Annual data for 2008 under all the Protocols to which it is a Party;
8. *Also urges* Luxembourg to provide responses to the 2010 questionnaire on strategies and policies without delay and not later than 28 February 2011;
9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to bring this serious matter of long-lasting non-compliance with its obligation to report on strategies and policies to the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Environment of Luxembourg;
10. *Reminds* Luxembourg of the importance of not only complying fully with its reporting obligations under the Protocols, but also of submitting its final and complete data and reports on time;
11. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress made by Luxembourg with regard to its reporting obligations, and to report thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.

Decision 2010/17

Establishment of a coordinating group on the promotion of actions towards implementation of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

The Executive Body

Recognizing the low level of ratifications of the Convention Protocols, inter alia, the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, by countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and the insufficient level of participation by those countries in Convention-related activities,

Noting that countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia occupy extensive territories and substantially contribute to the overall atmospheric air pollution of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region,

Noting also that a large group of countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia have a common heritage and are similar in terms of the current level of social and economic development and related environmental problems,

Considering the relevant provisions of the Revised Action Plan for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2007/17) on raising the political profile of

Convention activities in the region, and encouraging ratification of the above-mentioned Protocols,

Underlining the separate capacity-building and awareness-raising efforts by subsidiary bodies and programmes of the Convention for countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and related positive outcomes of these actions,

Highlighting the recently increased participation of certain countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the work within the Convention,

Considering the importance of the initiative proposed by Belarus and supported by the Russian Federation on the establishment of a separate body within the Convention using Russian as the main working language to focus on the Convention-related problems of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with larger involvement of the Russian-speaking experts from the region;

1. *Establishes* a Coordinating Group on promotion of actions towards implementation of the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, under the leadership of the Russian Federation, in accordance with a respective mandate to:

(a) Review the current work on implementation of the Convention's separate mechanisms and approaches in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and to assess the lessons learned;

(b) Promote the implementation of the Convention and its mechanism on the air quality management in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia through information exchange and capacity-building;

(c) Assess, jointly with other relevant bodies of the Convention, the costs and benefits of prospective accession to the latest Protocols by countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia;

(d) Develop and maintain the information databases on scientific, technical and policy documentation related to the Convention in the Russian language;

(e) Develop and implement joint projects aiming at accession of the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia to the latest protocols of the Convention;

(f) Elaborate joint recommendations on strategic issues of the Convention.

(g) Facilitate relevant actions aimed at alleviation of uncertainty in emission estimation of acidifying, eutrophying and persistent organic pollutants, as well as heavy metals, by means of instrumental measurements;

2. *Decides* that the lead country will assume the principal responsibility for coordinating the work of this Coordinating Group, for organizing its meetings, for designating its chair(s), for communications with participating experts, and for other organizational arrangements in accordance with the workplan;

3. *Also decides* that the Coordinating Group will carry out the tasks specified for it in the workplan adopted annually by the Executive Body and will report thereon to the Executive Body;

4. *Accepts* Russian as the main working language of the Coordinating Group, albeit, reserves English as the second working language;

5. *Requests* other subsidiary bodies and programme centres under the Convention that are interested in cooperation to participate actively in the work of the Coordinating Group;

6. *Urges* Parties to the Convention to nominate experts for the Coordinating Group and to inform the secretariat and the lead country of their names as soon as possible.

Decision 2010/18

Long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and Action Plan for Its Implementation

The Executive Body

1. *Adopts* the long-term strategy for the Convention as contained in the annex to this decision.

2. *Decides* that the strategy will be implemented through actions and decisions by the Executive Body.

3. *Requests* the Bureau of the Executive Body to develop an action plan for the implementation of the strategy, and to submit it for approval to the twenty-ninth session of the Executive Body in 2011.

4. *Also decides* that the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) and the Working Group on Effects should review their existing strategies and adjust them, as appropriate, to implement the long-term strategy and report in writing to the Executive Body;

5. *Further Decides* to assess progress on the implementation of the long-term strategy at annual meetings of the Executive Body.

Annex

Long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

I. Introduction

1. The Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution has delivered demonstrable improvements in reducing acidification of the environment, in reducing the highest peak levels of ozone and photochemical smog, and has begun to make improvements in atmospheric levels and deposition of nitrogen — one of the most important global environmental problems in addition to climate change. The Convention has also shown itself to be flexible and dynamic in responding to new challenges and problems in the area of transboundary air pollution. The Convention has given a prominent role to science not just in providing underpinning information, but also in sustaining the policy process itself.

2. Despite progress under the Convention, air pollution in the region still causes important environmental and health problems and new problems are emerging. The Parties to the Convention must respond to these challenges, build on its strengths, and demonstrate that it can continue to be successful in solving the air pollution problems of the twenty-first century.

3. The long-term strategy contained in this document sets out a vision for the Convention over the next 10 years. In doing so, it also considers possible developments over a longer time frame, up to 2050.

4. There have been important scientific and policy developments regionally and globally over the past 10 years relating to air pollution issues of interest to the Convention, and the major issues of climate change and biodiversity have also grown in importance. The

Parties to the Convention need to assess how they position themselves in relation to these wider developments — to examine critically its work, to formulate priorities and to confront potentially difficult decisions on its future work programme and organizational structure.

5. Moreover, the Convention has now developed several protocols with specific obligations designed to reduce emissions of key air pollutants. This imposes a cumulative demand for resources on the Parties and on the secretariat, and calls for a critical appraisal of the workload of the Convention. It is therefore an opportune time to examine the existing protocols in the light of strategic priorities for the Convention, and to identify ways to free up resources to address outstanding issues and to pursue important new areas of activity.

6. The Parties to the Convention need to plan strategically to adapt to the changing world, while building its future on its established strengths. The strategy will therefore:

(a) Set a vision for the next 10 years and beyond to address the priorities and to meet emerging challenges, aiming for a sustainable optimal long-term balance between the effects of air pollution, climate change and biodiversity;

(b) Base the vision on the unique strengths and successes of the Convention — the close links between science and policy and the ability to deal with multiple effects and pollutants,

(c) Respond swiftly to emerging challenges where there is clear benefit to doing so on a regional basis, mindful of existing and future related environmental agreements;

(d) Set clear priorities for the Convention on the strategic and operational level to ensure the best use is made of scarce resources in the Parties and in the secretariat.

II. Strengths and successes of the Convention

7. The Convention has achieved considerable success in solving environmental and health problems. In particular, it has led the way in delivering a single international agreement dealing with multiple pollutants with multiple effects in the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol). The Convention has also been successful in bringing scientists and policymakers together, creating a powerful collective driving force to improve the environment and human health.

8. One of the great strengths of the Convention is its science base and the unique way in which science informs policy development. In line with article 2 of the Convention, a goal-oriented structure of the Convention was established, including a strong scientific and monitoring part, to ensure that Parties are able to produce sufficient insight into the facts and problems which guide their policy action. The Working Group on Effects and the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) have been extremely effective in this task. It is worth noting, too, that the scientific tools, including integrated assessment modelling, were also used by the European Union (EU) for the development of their Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution and for the National Emission Ceilings (NEC) Directive. As the Convention moves forward to build on past successes and to address the emerging problems related to air pollution, climate change and biodiversity, the close links between science and policy will continue to be crucial.

9. Another major strength of the Convention is its geographical coverage. In the atmospheric pollution area, the Convention is unique in that it covers most of the northern hemisphere from the West Coast of North America to the Pacific Coast of the Russian

Federation — from Vancouver to Vladivostok. This broad cooperation is an important feature of the Convention and needs to be strengthened. One way of achieving this is to extend the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, and participation in its scientific activities, over the whole region.

10. Breaking new ground, the Convention has shown leadership over the past decade by establishing Protocols on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and on Heavy Metals. In doing so, it has led the way for a wider global approach to these problems.

11. The work of the Convention has traditionally been carried out in a flexible, consensual process. The procedures and activities are less rigid than in many multilateral environmental agreements, particularly in the way the science and policy work interact, and the way in which decisions are taken. While there is value in flexibility and informality, these can at times hinder the Convention's transparency, fairness, and effectiveness. It is important to ensure that the way the work of the Convention is carried out retains sufficient flexibility and relative informality, while also strengthening the Convention's transparency, fairness and effectiveness.

12. One further strength resulting from this flexibility in processes and structures is the ability of the Parties to the Convention to respond quickly to new developments and problems, as illustrated by the swift response to scientific developments in hemispheric air pollution and reactive nitrogen in the environment.

III. Environmental and health effects: remaining challenges

13. While the Convention has achieved significant success in reducing the impacts of air pollution on health and the environment, significant problems remain. These can potentially be addressed in the context of the multi-pollutant/multi-effects approach of the Gothenburg Protocol, according to which the environmental and health effects of acidifying and eutrophying air pollutants, as well as of ground-level ozone and particulate matter (PM), have to be assessed, including their potential interaction with climate change and biodiversity. On the basis of the current effects assessments, problems still exist in all of the areas mentioned, with the least additional action needed in the case of acidification. Among the challenges facing the region are:

(a) High PM concentrations, including the contributions from long-range transport of air pollutants, which have significant health effects in terms of morbidity and mortality. Health-related air quality standards for PM are substantially exceeded in many areas of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region. In particular, the reduction of black carbon, as part of PM, is important owing to its toxicological effects and its contribution to climate change;

(b) Continuing exceedances in acidifying pollutants. Reductions in emissions of acidifying pollutants in the past, particularly of sulphur, have significantly reduced the threat of acidification for sensitive terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. However, biological recovery shows a substantial delay compared with recovery of critical chemical parameters. Even with full implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol, exceedances of critical loads will remain in some areas of the UNECE region, and nitrogen compounds contribute substantially to the problem;

(c) The threat of eutrophication of sensitive ecosystems continues in large areas of the UNECE region in spite of the reductions in emissions of nitrogen-containing air pollutants. The current and future exceedances of critical loads of nitrogen over large areas are dominated by ammonia emissions from agriculture. These predictions are supported by current observations of nutrient imbalances and a high degree of nitrogen saturation in

terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Eutrophication and the acidifying effects of nitrogen deposition and changes in biodiversity in sensitive ecosystems are interlinked. Common interests with the Convention on Biological Diversity are evident, as well as the link with climate change due to the coupled carbon and nitrogen cycles;

(d) Although peak ozone concentrations have been reduced, a large-scale problem with elevated ozone concentrations will remain even with full implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol. There is evidence of widespread ozone pollution damage in the UNECE region, and new effects-related exposure indices based on ozone flux predict damage risks reaching further into northern latitudes than with the concentration-based assessment used in the past. Ozone fluxes will have to be reduced substantially across large areas of Europe to avoid significant damage. Non-exceedance of the health-related ozone indicator will not be sufficient to protect vegetation in all of Europe. Since tropospheric ozone is a greenhouse gas, the reduction of elevated concentrations also contributes to the mitigation of climate change;

(e) Corrosion and soiling of materials and cultural monuments above tolerable levels are linked with elevated concentrations of all of the above-mentioned pollutants. The achievement of tolerable levels to preserve these will require even more reductions of sulphur emissions than needed for the protection of ecosystems and health.

IV. The changing world

14. Since the last protocol to the Convention was agreed in 1999 in Gothenburg, many significant policy developments have occurred at regional and global levels of which the Convention needs to take account. The more important developments and issues include:

(a) Climate change is now seen politically as one of the most important environmental problems. This could pose challenges to the Convention, given that in most countries climate change issues now attract more political attention and resources. Moreover, the important links of climate change and air pollution have received little attention in international climate negotiations. However, as the links between pollutants, sources and effects of air pollution and climate change are more clearly demonstrated, opportunities will open up for the Convention to play a significant role in addressing the most important environmental problem facing society today. There is growing interest in the so-called short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs) as a potential means of mitigating short-term climate change before the effects of the longer-lived greenhouse gases are seen. Most of the SLCFs are also harmful air pollutants such as black carbon and ozone. International governance of these substances is lacking and this represents a potential opportunity for the Parties to the Convention;

(b) There is now a growing recognition of the importance of the transport of air pollutants over much longer distances than hitherto had been recognized. Hemispheric and intercontinental transport of air pollutants, especially ozone and PM, has been established as an important factor in air quality management. The emergence of this issue further strengthens the links between the management of air pollution problems and those of climate change. Addressing these issues will potentially involve further outreach activities and cooperation with other organizations around the world;

(c) Other organizations and conventions, such as the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Stockholm Convention) and the Convention on Biological Diversity, are now addressing air pollution issues directly or are addressing issues of importance for

air quality, many of which are of direct relevance to the Convention. It will be important for the Parties to the Convention to formulate ways of working with these bodies, as appropriate, as there are activities under the Convention related to air pollution which may complement and augment those of these conventions;

(d) Since the signing of the Gothenburg Protocol, it has become clear that cooperation on air pollution problems can extend even beyond the UNECE region. The Convention has a worldwide reputation as one of the most successful environmental instruments and is seen as an exemplar across the world. Building on this reputation, the Convention has extended its outreach activities across the world, building on and cooperating in the work of UNEP and the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum, among other activities. While such cooperation has been very effective in the scientific field, it should gain momentum in moving into the policy arena in the future. These outreach activities are likely to assume even greater importance for the Convention in the coming years. The Convention will identify appropriate ways and means to best build on this work and to develop it, and to continue to build on the reputation of the Convention as a global leader in regional air pollution management;

(e) Global action has begun to address POPs and heavy metals. The Stockholm Convention — largely inspired by the work at the regional level under the 1998 Aarhus Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants — has now established itself as a global instrument dealing with POPs. Moreover, within UNEP negotiations have begun to deal with mercury. There is a need therefore for the Parties to the Convention to reassess, after the current amendments to the two Protocols, what added value the Convention can provide on these issues compared with the global instruments.

V. Strategic priorities for the Convention

15. It will be by building on its strengths and critically evaluating its future role in addressing environmental problems that the Convention will continue to improve air quality and provide other environmental benefits. The wider strategic goals for the Convention and the strategic priorities for its action are set out below. They are presented in order to guide the direction of future work and to provide a means of prioritizing this work and the effective use of resources in managing the workload of the Parties and the secretariat.

16. In line with article 2 of the Convention, the strategic priorities and goals for the Convention are:

(a) Increased ratification of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on POPs and the Gothenburg Protocol is a high priority. A viable future for the Convention depends upon positive and vigorous participation by the Parties in all parts of the region, and on ensuring its extensive geographical coverage. Increased ratification and related implementation is particularly important for countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe, and this priority will be emphasized in the revision of, or amendments to, the three Protocols referred to above. This priority will also be taken into account in the annual work programmes of the subsidiary bodies. Measures and action to facilitate wider ratification and implementation in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe, including financial support, will be pursued vigorously;

(b) Full compliance by all Parties with their obligations under the Protocols is a very high priority. The work of the Implementation Committee will be given a very high priority and the compliance mechanism will be improved;

(c) The Executive Body of the Convention and its subsidiary bodies will further give priority to the core strengths and expertise of the Convention, namely, dealing with the atmospheric pollutants affecting human health, acidification, eutrophication, cultural heritage and other environmental effects which lead to adverse impacts on environmental services. It will concentrate on pollutants best controlled at a regional level and address the remaining and emerging air pollution issues. This means in particular a focus on PM, tropospheric ozone, eutrophying pollution and, where still needed, on acidifying pollution. The list might need to be extended and the Convention will address other pollutants if the scientific evidence is sufficiently strong and Parties agree they are appropriate to address;

(d) In addressing issues related to its core air quality expertise, the Parties to the Convention recognize that the priorities for work and action will need to be regularly reviewed in the light of new priorities and progress already achieved, as well as wider policy developments on the regional and global scale. This will require a change in the balance of the activities of the Convention; it may be necessary to scale down or even stop work where it can no longer add value, while opening up opportunities for other newly relevant issues;

(e) Building further on its core expertise, the Parties to the Convention will regularly reassess the Gothenburg Protocol in terms of its correspondence with the updated scientific effects assessment and the degree to which it has achieved its long-term effects-oriented goals. Stepwise improvements and revisions of the multi-pollutant/multi-effects Protocol will reduce the gap between the impacts on the environment and on human health and critical loads, critical levels and health-oriented air quality targets. Such revisions will take account of new and emerging findings of relevance to this Protocol, including intercontinental transport of air pollution, reactive nitrogen and the interlinkages between air pollution and climate change. Parties to the Convention aim at these long-term objectives and at achieving ecosystem recovery as far as possible in 2050.

(f) While the Convention has successfully established international action on POPs, and shown leadership resulting in creating a global instrument, now the main focus of global action on this issue will be taken through the Stockholm Convention under UNEP. The balance of work within the Convention will therefore change in the future. Options to better complement the measures and actions taken at the global level and to secure the added value of the Protocol on POPs will be explored. Policy work directed at a new or revised Protocol will therefore scale down, by shifting its focus to unintentionally released POPs and to areas and substances where the implementation of stricter measures in the UNECE region is still recommended. The Parties to the Convention will give high priority to increasing the number of countries ratifying and implementing the existing Protocol. This means that the scientific and technical work will continue, as will the work on implementation. If new substances arise where action is needed, the first priority for Parties should be to nominate them in the Stockholm Convention, but incorporation into the Protocol on POPs would be an option should the former route fail. It will also be necessary to strengthen the links with the Stockholm Convention;

(g) The Convention has also successfully established international action on heavy metals. Currently, preparations for a global instrument on mercury are under way within UNEP. However, while action on mercury can be most appropriately taken at the global level, it will be some years before a global instrument is agreed and enters into force. In the meantime, therefore, the current revision of the Protocol on Heavy Metals will proceed, but thereafter the Parties to the Convention will review this position. It is possible that in due course a position will be reached similar to that which currently prevails for POPs, where the science and implementation work continue, but the policy work is scaled down or changed towards the development of stricter measures in UNECE region. It is noted that it is likely that emission reductions and abatement techniques developed to

control PM will deliver acceptable reductions in emissions of metals other than mercury. Accordingly, after the current revision of the Protocol, the key priority will be to increase the number of countries ratifying and implementing the revised Protocol;

(h) Science-based decision making and the effects-oriented approach will remain an essential component and strength of the Convention. The close links between science and policy development are important. These links will be retained and, where possible, strengthened. There is also a role for science and monitoring to play in the evaluation and assessment of the effectiveness of policies and Protocols. User-friendly effect indicators and cost-benefit assessments (in quality and in monetary terms) are important to policy, politicians and the general public, and will be further developed in the coming years. The content and balance of the scientific programme of the Convention will need to reflect the overall priorities of the Convention, so that, as policy priorities change, the scientific activities of the Convention will be adjusted. However, new scientific developments may also affect the policy priorities. The relation between science and policy is a two-way street. The strategy documents of EMEP and the Working Group on Effects set out the science programme for the Convention. These scientific activities will need to involve the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe more strongly than hitherto, inter alia, with a view to obtaining reliable emission data and to developing monitoring and modelling networks throughout the region. Scientific cooperation beyond the UNECE region was begun in the work of the several working groups under the Convention and this wider geographical scientific cooperation will be strongly encouraged in future;

(i) The Parties to the Convention recognize the importance of identifying the co-benefits in combating air pollution and climate change. It will give high priority now and in the longer term to establishing work on the links between climate change and air quality, including mercury and POPs. In the short term, attention will be focused on SLCFs where there is a strong argument that optimal control policies for these pollutants should be regional in nature. There is, however, no international governance of this issue and this represents an important opportunity and challenge for the Convention. The Parties to the Convention will consider incorporating SLCFs into instruments such as a revised Gothenburg Protocol, for instance, with regard to black carbon, as part of PM, and could assess the feasibility of incorporating additional precursors of ozone. Links between UNEP and the technical centres under the Convention were already established on scientific issues. Links with the UNFCCC and UNEP more broadly will be strengthened by the secretariats in order to establish longer-term cooperation on a more strategic level;

(j) The Parties to the Convention also recognize the importance of identifying the co-benefits in combating air pollution and other environmental issues like biodiversity loss and reactive nitrogen in the environment. Links with UNEP (Stockholm Convention, Convention on Biological Diversity and a future legally binding instrument on mercury) more broadly will be strengthened by the secretariat in order to establish longer-term cooperation on a more strategic level. The Parties to the Convention further recognize that emissions from ships in international traffic contribute significantly to air pollution loads in the UNECE region. In order to develop effective strategies to improve air quality in the region, the Parties to the Convention will strengthen cooperation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO);

(k) The Parties to the Convention, in collaboration with many national, international and non-governmental organizations, including the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum, have undertaken a considerable amount of scientific and political outreach activities over the past few years. This activity will become increasingly important, particularly to foster cooperation between regional agreements around the world, and also as a bridge between regional and global action. Enlarged cooperation at strategic/policy

level with other regions and the global community on intercontinental air pollution issues will be actively pursued. The bodies under the Convention should also actively contribute to an extensive and user-friendly communication strategy and system that highlights the work and benefits of the Convention. This communication strategy will in particular help to increase the visibility of the Convention and raise political awareness of pollution issues in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe;

(l) The Parties to the Convention will critically assess the current structure of its subsidiary bodies, groups and task forces, and the number and frequency of meetings, with a view to realigning the use of time and resources in the Parties and the secretariat consistent with the overall priorities of the Convention, ensuring its needs are met in the most efficient way. The Parties to the Convention will seek possible ways and means to streamline and rationalize operations and to make them more transparent. The aim will be to prioritize the work by the bodies; to find ways for more effective use of resources by the Executive Body and the subsidiary bodies and technical bodies/expert groups; to reduce the bulk of official documents; and to increase the operational efficiency of main subsidiary body meetings. Temporary ad hoc technical or expert groups can be set up as necessary to deal with specific newly emerging problems;

(m) The Parties to the Convention will strive to seek a solution to the issue of multiple protocols which address the same pollutant(s) with different targets and different requirements — and which create a series of overburdensome obligations for Parties — remaining all simultaneously in force.

(n) The Parties to the Convention will strive to ensure more active involvement of a greater number of Parties in the work of the Executive Body and the subsidiary bodies, including in the work of their bureaux, as well as in the technical and scientific groups. Participation of delegations of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe in the bureaux should be ensured, as well as related appropriate funding. The Parties to the Convention will also explore the establishment of a robust mechanism for supporting core activities not covered by the EMEP budget;

(o) The Parties to the Convention recognize that successful implementation of its Protocols and sustainable development of its activities will require sufficient and stable funding and adequate secretariat resources.

VI. Conclusion

17. In conclusion, the long-term strategy for the Parties to the Convention will:

(a) Strengthen the relevance of the Convention as a leading regional agreement in addressing the remaining and emerging transboundary air pollution challenges in the twenty-first century. A key factor to this effect will be to achieve increased ratification and implementation of, and compliance with the three Protocols referred to in paragraph 16 (a);

(b) Take the initiative in addressing the synergies and trade-offs between policies to address air pollution, climate change and biodiversity;

(c) Maintain visibility on the international scene through unique and relevant work which can serve as an inspiring model for other regions in the world; and

(d) Continue to convince donors that the Parties to the Convention are determined to take action to protect public health and the environment against air pollution.

Decision 2010/19

Rules of procedure

The Executive Body,

Recognizing the need to develop specific rules of procedure to aid the effective operation of the Convention and its Protocols

Recalling its request at its twenty-seventh session to the group of legal experts to draft rules of procedure for the Convention and its Protocols and submit them for consideration at the twenty-eighth session in 2010,

1. *Decides* to adopt the rules of procedure set out in the annex to this decision;
2. *Also decides* that the rules of procedure shall henceforth apply to sessions of the Executive Body and to meetings of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP);
3. *Further decides* to continue the practice of inviting a representative of the European Union (EU) to attend Executive Body Bureau meetings as an observer in order to ensure effective coordination with EU activities on air pollution and to provide advice, as requested;
4. *Additionally decides* to continue the practice whereby recommendations from the Working Group on Strategies and Review to the Executive Body are made by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Rules of procedure for sessions of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

I. Purpose

Rule 1

These rules of procedure shall apply to any session of the Executive Body to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution convened in accordance with article 10, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

II. Definitions

Rule 2

For the purpose of these rules:

1. “Convention” means the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, adopted in Geneva, Switzerland, on 13 November 1979.
2. “Parties” means Parties to the Convention.
3. “Session” means the session of the Executive Body established in accordance with article 10, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

4. "Regional economic integration organization" means a regional economic integration organization referred to in article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention.
5. "Chair" means the chair elected in accordance with rule 17 of these rules of procedure.
6. "Bureau" means the Bureau referred to in rule 20 of these rules of procedure.
7. "Subsidiary body(-ies)" means the Working Group on Strategies and Review, the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP).
8. "Secretariat" means, in accordance with article 11 of the Convention, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

III. Place and date of meetings

Rule 3

The sessions of the Executive Body shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, unless the Parties decide otherwise, on dates fixed by the Executive Body at previous meetings and after consultation with the secretariat.

IV. Notification, agenda and documentation

Rule 4

1. The secretariat shall notify all Parties in the working languages of the UNECE of the date and venue of a session at least six weeks before the session is to take place.
2. The secretariat shall also provide notification in the working languages of the UNECE of any session, including information on the date and venue, at least six weeks before the session is due to take place to:
 - (a) States and regional economic integration organizations that are signatories to the Convention, but have yet to become Parties;
 - (b) Any State or regional economic integration organization which is entitled under article 15, paragraph 2, of the Convention to accede to it and has requested to be so notified.

Rule 5

The secretariat shall, in cooperation with the bureau, prepare the provisional agenda for each session.

Rule 6

1. The provisional agenda for each session shall include:
 - (a) The items whose inclusion was decided at a previous session;
 - (b) Any item proposed by the Bureau;

- (c) Any item proposed by a Party before the provisional agenda is circulated;
 - (d) Any item proposed by a subsidiary body;
 - (e) Any item arising from the articles of the Convention or its Protocols;
 - (f) The proposed budget as well as all questions pertaining to the accounts and financial arrangements;
 - (g) Election of officers.
2. The first item on the provisional agenda for each session shall be the consideration and adoption of the agenda.

Rule 7

The provisional agenda, together with any official documents for the session, shall be distributed by the secretariat to the Parties and to the other States and organizations referred to in rule 4 at least six weeks before the opening of the session.

Rule 8

The secretariat shall, at the request of a Party or the Bureau, and with the agreement of the Chair, include in an addendum to the provisional agenda any issue suitable for the agenda which may arise between the dispatch of the provisional agenda and the opening of the session. The Executive Body shall examine the addendum together with the provisional agenda.

Rule 9

The Executive Body, when adopting the agenda, may add, delete, defer or amend items. Once a session has begun, only items that the Executive Body considers to be urgent and important may be added to the agenda.

Rule 10

1. All notifications and official meeting documentation prepared in connection with sessions of the Executive Body or of subsidiary bodies shall be distributed by electronic means, unless there are specific reasons requiring the use of other communication methods.
2. All such notifications and documentation shall be placed on the UNECE website when distributed to the Parties.
3. The Secretariat shall distribute the draft report of each session of the Executive Body or of subsidiary bodies to the Parties and organizations referred to in rule 4 no later than six weeks after the closure of the session to which the report relates.

V. Representation and credentials

Rule 11

Each Party participating in the session shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other accredited representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Rule 12

An alternate representative or an adviser may act as a representative upon designation by the head of delegation.

Rule 13

The credentials of all representatives shall be submitted to the secretariat at the latest 24 hours after the opening of the session. Notification of any subsequent change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat. Where new protocols or amendments to the Convention or to one of its protocols are to be adopted, the credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.

Rule 14

Pending a decision on their credentials, delegates may participate provisionally in the meeting but not vote. The right to participate in the meeting shall not extend to persons whose credentials the Executive Body has decided are unacceptable.

Rule 15

The officers of any session shall examine the credentials and report on them to the Executive Body.

VI. Observers

Rule 16

1. Representatives of the States and organizations identified in rule 4, paragraph 2 (a), shall be entitled to participate in the proceedings of any session governed by these rules. Representatives of any State or regional economic integration organization that is entitled under article 15, paragraph 2, of the Convention to accede to it shall also be entitled to participate in such sessions, regardless of whether it has requested to be notified of such sessions.

2. Any body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Convention and which has informed the secretariat of its wish to be represented at a session as an observer, may be so admitted, unless at least one third of the Parties present at the session object.

3. Such observers may, upon the invitation of the Chair, participate in the proceedings of any session in matters of direct concern to the body or agency they represent, unless at least one third of the Parties present at the session object.
4. Observers entitled to participate in sessions pursuant to this rule do not have the right to vote at such sessions.

VII. Officers

Rule 17

1. The Executive Body shall have a chair and three vice-chairs elected by the representatives of the Parties present at a session. The term of office for a chair or vice-chair shall be two years, commencing at the end of the session at which the officer is elected, except that the first term of office for the first vice-chairs elected under these rules shall be three years. Officers shall be eligible for re-election, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms unless the Executive Body decides otherwise.
2. The Chair shall participate in the session in that capacity and shall not at the same time exercise the rights of a representative of a Party. The Chair or the Party concerned may designate another representative who shall be entitled to represent the Party in the session and to exercise the Party's right to vote.

Rule 18

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the Chair shall:
 - (a) Declare the opening and closing of the session;
 - (b) Preside over the session;
 - (c) Ensure the observance of these rules;
 - (d) Accord the right to speak;
 - (e) Put questions to the vote and announce decisions;
 - (f) Rule on points of order;
 - (g) Subject to these rules, have complete control over the proceedings and maintain order.
2. The Chair may, moreover, propose:
 - (a) The closure of the list of speakers;
 - (b) A limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times each representative may speak on a question;
 - (c) The adjournment or closure of debate;
 - (d) The suspension or adjournment of the session.
3. The Chair, in the exercise of his or her functions, remains under the authority of the Executive Body.

Rule 19

If the Chair is temporarily absent from a session or any part thereof or is unable to complete his or her term of office or to perform his or her functions, a Vice-Chair shall act as Chair.

Rule 20

1. The Bureau consists of the Chair of the Executive Body and the three Vice-Chairs, along with the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies and the Implementation Committee.
2. The Bureau shall be chaired by the Chair of the Executive Body or, in his or her absence, by a Vice-Chair.
3. If a Vice-Chair of the Executive Body resigns or is otherwise unable to complete the assigned term of office or to perform the functions of the office, a representative of the same Party shall be named by the Party concerned to replace the said member until the next session of the Executive Body, at which session a replacement shall be elected for the remainder of that member's mandate.

VIII. Subsidiary bodies

Rule 21

1. These rules of procedure shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the proceedings of subsidiary bodies, save as otherwise specified in paragraphs 2 to 7 below or decided by the Executive Body.
2. The Executive Body shall determine the matters to be considered by the subsidiary bodies and shall establish their terms of reference and programmes of work.
3. The Executive Body may decide the periodicity of meetings for any subsidiary body in the period between sessions.
4. Unless the Executive Body decides otherwise, each subsidiary body shall elect its own chair and vice-chair(s), with the exception of the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, who shall be elected by the Executive Body.
5. Notwithstanding rule 17.1, a subsidiary body may decide on the number of vice-chairs required to conduct its business. If a subsidiary body decides to elect more than three vice-chairs it shall consider staggering their terms of office.
6. Rules 11 to 15, 29 and 30 shall not apply to the proceedings of subsidiary bodies.
7. These rules shall not apply to bodies established by subsidiary bodies.

IX. Secretariat

Rule 22

The Executive Secretary of the UNECE shall act as secretariat for all sessions of the Executive Body and for all sessions of the subsidiary bodies. He or she may delegate his or her functions to a member of his or her staff.

Rule 23

For all sessions of the Executive Body, and for all sessions of the subsidiary bodies, and in accordance with article 11 of the Convention, the secretariat shall, inter alia:

- (a) Prepare, in consultation with the Bureau, the documentation for the session;
- (b) Arrange for the translation, reproduction and distribution of the documents;
- (c) Make the necessary arrangements for meetings;
- (d) Discharge any other functions assigned to it by the Executive Body.

X. Conduct of business

Rule 24

1. No one may speak at a meeting without having previously obtained the permission of the Chair. The representatives of the States and organizations entitled to participate under rule 4 shall be entitled to seek to address the Executive Body under each agenda item and, having made such a request, shall be included on the list of speakers. The Chair may call a speaker to order if the latter's remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

2. The Executive Body may, on a proposal from the Chair or from any Party, limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on a question. When it has been decided to so limit the time for debate and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the Chair shall call him or her to order without delay.

3. The Executive Secretary of the UNECE, or his or her representative, may at any session make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 25

An officer of a subsidiary body may be invited to present and explain the conclusions and recommendations arrived at by that subsidiary body.

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a Party may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the Chair in accordance with these rules. A representative of a Party may appeal against the ruling of the Chair. The Chair may then, following consultation if he or she so desires, deem that the appeal should be put to the vote immediately, whereupon the ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the Parties present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 27

Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Executive Body to discuss any matter or to adopt a proposal or an amendment to a proposal submitted to it shall be decided on before the matter itself is discussed or a decision is taken on the proposal or amendment in question.

Rule 28

1. Without prejudice to paragraph 2 of this rule, proposals and amendments to proposals shall normally be presented in writing and handed to the secretariat, which shall circulate copies to the Parties. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any session unless copies of it have been circulated to delegations not later than 24 hours in advance. The Executive Body may, however, on a proposal from the Chair, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments to proposals or of procedural motions even though those amendments or motions have not been circulated or have been circulated only the same day.
2. Proposals for amending the Convention or its Protocols shall be submitted to the secretariat at least four months before the session at which they are proposed for adoption, so that the secretariat can communicate them to the Parties in the official languages of the UNECE at least ninety days before the session, in accordance with article 12 of the Convention and the relevant articles of its Protocols.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, proposals for amending the Convention or its Protocols that are accompanied by an unofficial translation into the other two working languages of the UNECE may be submitted to the secretariat after the four-month deadline provided that the secretariat can communicate them to the Parties at least ninety days before the session, in accordance with article 12 of the Convention or the relevant article of the appropriate protocol.

XI. Decision-making

Rule 29

1. The Executive Body shall make every effort to reach its decisions by consensus, being the absence of a formal objection by a Party to the Convention or to one of its Protocols, as appropriate.
2. For the purpose of decision-making, a majority of the Parties to the Convention or to one of its Protocols, as appropriate, shall constitute a quorum.
3. If all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted and no agreement reached, decisions on substantive matters shall, as a last resort, be taken by a three-fourths majority vote of the Parties present and voting, except where the Convention, applicable Protocol or these rules provide otherwise.
4. When decisions of the Executive Body on procedural matters cannot be reached by consensus, their adoption shall require a simple majority vote of the Parties present and voting at the session.
5. If the question arises whether a matter is one of a procedural or substantive nature, the Chair shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall immediately be put to the vote, and the Chair's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a three-fourths majority of the Parties present and voting.
6. For the purposes of this rule, "Parties present and voting" means Parties present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Parties abstaining from voting shall be considered as not voting.
7. Except as provided for in paragraph 8 of this rule, each Party shall have one vote.

8. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States which are Parties to the Convention or to the Protocol in question, as appropriate. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs, and vice versa.

Rule 30

The vote of each Party participating in a vote shall be recorded in the report of the meeting.

XII. Languages

Rule 31

1. Statements made in a working language of the UNECE shall be interpreted into the other working languages.

2. A representative may speak in a language other than a working language of the UNECE, if he or she provides for interpretation into one of the working languages.

Rule 32

Official documents of the sessions shall be drawn up in one of the working languages and translated into the other working languages.

XIII. Amendments to rules of procedure

Rule 33

Amendments to these rules of procedure shall be adopted by consensus of the Executive Body.

XIV. Overriding authority of the Convention and its Protocols

Rule 34

In the event of a conflict between any provision of these rules and any provision of the Convention or one of its Protocols, the provision of the Convention or the Protocol, as appropriate, shall prevail.
