

To: Parties

From: Secretariat and Chairs of Task Forces and Expert Groups having prepared Guidance Documents to the Protocol on Heavy Metals and Gothenburg Protocol

Information on changes to guidance documents
introduced by the Chairs of Task Forces and Expert Groups
following the 50th session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review

Introduction

At its 50th session, the Working Group on Strategies and Review reviewed the draft versions of the guidance documents presented as informal documents to the session. It requested the ad hoc group of legal experts, in cooperation with the secretariat, to prepare the draft formal decisions necessary to allow the consideration and adoption of the guidance documents forwarded by the Working Group to the Executive Body with a recommendation that it be adopted at its thirty-first session.

Following the session, the secretariat formatted the documents and prepared them for submission. The draft documents were shared once again with the experts who had prepared them, to ensure that the version presented to the Executive Body was the final one, and with a view to clarifying numerous issues which the secretariat noted when preparing the documents for submission.

Based on the recommendation by the ad hoc group of legal experts, the secretariat, on the basis of the information provided by the Chairs of the Task Forces and Expert Groups responsible for the preparation of the guidance documents, outlined the substantive changes made by the experts to the guidance document in this informal document no.5.

Other editorial changes, such as the spelling out of abbreviations and efforts to ensure consistency of terminology made by the secretariat in the process of preparing the documents as well as changes to the formatting and respective numbering in line with the guidelines of the UN to ensure submission as a formal document to the EB session, are not recorded in this note.

The final guidance documents are contained in the draft decision documents on their adoption, ECE/EB.AIR/2012/L.5, L.6, L.7, L.8 and L.9.

Protocol on Heavy Metals

Guidance document on best available techniques for controlling emissions of heavy metals and their compounds from the source categories listed in annex II (Annex to draft decision on its adoption contained in ECE/EB.AIR/2012/L.5)

Following the Working Group's fiftieth meeting, the Chair of the Task Force on Heavy Metals reviewed the document again and introduced the following technical clarifications and modifications:

- Paragraph 3: Change of “2010 Global Mercury Assessment” to “2008 Global Mercury Assessment,” as this reference is the correct one. In 2010, there had been an update, the so-called “para 29 study”, which is referred to in footnote 9: UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/INC.2/4, Study on mercury sources and emissions and analysis of the costs and effectiveness of control measures, November 2010
- Table 3: Deletion of the first column “all fuels,” since evident from the table’s title. Addition of footnote c: The international pound equals 0,45359237 kilogramme.

Gothenburg Protocol

Guidance document on control techniques for emissions of sulphur, NO_x, VOC, dust (including PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and black carbon) from stationary sources (Annex to draft decision on its adoption contained in ECE/EB.AIR/2012/L.6)

Please see informal documents no. 7 and no. 8.:

- Informal document no. 7 contains the guidance document, showing in tracked changes updates to the version presented at WGSR-50 made by EGTEI, on the basis of the review of comments by experts of the United States, as agreed during the session. Please note that this document still retains the formatting of the document as presented to WGSR-50. The headings of document L.6 and respective cross-references have been updated to reflect the formal UN style
- Informal document no.8 contains an excel file which contains the comments and proposals provided by the United States of America and responses to these comments by EGTEI experts and the Co-Chairs of EGTEI, explaining the treatment of the comments in the final version of the document.

Guidance document on economic instruments to reduce emissions of regional air pollutants to the Gothenburg Protocol (Annex to draft decision on its adoption contained in ECE/EB.AIR/2012/L.7)

The Chair of the Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments reviewed the document and introduced several editorial improvements, with a view to improving legibility and correct translation:

- Paragraph 1:
 - o Deletion of “sustain” in front of “behavioural change” in the following sentence: “The instruments can provide a lasting incentive to behavioural change or to develop technological innovations and more cost-effective emission control measures.”
 - o Addition of the clarification of the objectives by stating them again in parentheses in the following sentence: “An effective and efficient system, however, may require a clear decision about its intention as although incentive based taxes will raise revenue, the two

objectives (environmental improvement and revenue raising) are not fully compatible.”

- Paragraph 5b: Replacement of “in practice almost always” with “typically” for the sentence to read as follows: “Although pollution taxes or tradable permits are often presented as alternatives to direct regulation, they will typically be embedded in a mix of instruments, in which also standards, voluntary agreements and/or other instruments may be involved. When introducing an economic instrument it should be checked that the various instruments will be mutually reinforcing and not counteracting.”
- Table 1:
 - o Seventh row “Distributional aspects and economic impact,” second column “Emission and process taxes/charges:” change of “revenue destination” to “allocation of revenues”
 - o Seventh row “Distributional aspects and economic impact,” third column “Product taxes and tax differentiation”: addition to phrase in parentheses to the part “distributional impact may be regressive (having most impact on those with low incomes)”
 - o Last row “Important issues in instrument design”, first column “Tradable permits and quotas”: replaced “market thinness” with “limited participation in the market”
- Table 2: Addition to footnote * below the table: “✓ indicates general suitability.”

Guidance document on national nitrogen budgets (Annex to draft decision on its adoption contained in ECE/EB.AIR/2012/L.8)

Following the Working Group’s review and the changes introduced to the guidance document in session, the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen again reviewed the guidance document and introduced modifications in areas relating to the “exclusion” of inactive nitrogen and the land surface linked to “settlements” to include definitions for this pool. In addition, following exchange with the secretariat, more information to the direct references to the reporting guidelines and guidance under UNFCCC was included. This review resulted in:

- Addition to Section III “Terminology”:
 - o Paragraph (d) “Stocks:” addition of a sentence at the end: “For NB, only stocks and stock changes of reactive nitrogen are relevant” to improve consistency with the statement further below that “Flows of N₂ between different pools do not need to be quantified in a nitrogen budget” in the section on “Inactive nitrogen” which was reformulated.
 - o Paragraph (f): The sentence in the previous version was changed to read “Nitrogen can occur in various forms, some of which are reactive, and some of which are inactive.”
 - o Paragraph (h) “Inactive nitrogen”: The sentence in the previous version was changed to read “Flows of N₂ between different pools

do not need to be quantified in an NB. It requires considerable amount of energy to become bio-available.”

- In Section V. Description of the pools:
 - o A. Energy and fuels: Change of “UNFCCC/IPCC reporting” to “reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).”
 - o D. para 19: Addition of reference to reporting under the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution in addition to reporting under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as footnote 1, stating the links to the reporting guidelines and guidance under both CLRTAP and UNFCCC. Footnote 2 was added to subparagraph a, to link the categories indicated to these references.

Guidance document on preventing and abating ammonia emissions from agricultural sources (Annex to draft decision on its adoption contained in ECE/EB.AIR/2012/L.9)

Following the Working Group’s review and the changes introduced to the guidance document in session, the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen again reviewed the guidance document and introduced the following changes, with a view to avoiding repetition and improving clarity:

- Paragraph 3: Replacement of “ammonia control” with “ammonia emission abatement” measures
- Paragraph 7: Addition of clarification that “techniques for cattle housing are still in development” to the sentence “The economic costs vary because of different techniques/variants and farms sizes.”
- Table S3: Deletion of text in the table, keeping numerical values
- Table S6: For fertilizer types “urea” and “ammonia-based fertilizers”, deletion of application technique “band spreading”. Addition to “incorporation” of “following surface application.”
- Paragraph 56, addition of (g) Air scrubbing, i.e., removing NH₃ from the air through forced ventilation in combination with air scrubbers.
- Paragraph 79, deletion of “those being reducing emitting area and rapid manure removal” After the sentence “The various systems for reducing emissions reported in paragraphs 80-90 are all based on the principles noted in paragraph 69”, as redundant.
- Paragraph 109, addition at the end of para of “(in case of addition of aluminium sulphate)”.
- Table 11: Deletion of footnote “*”
- Table 12: Deletion of footnote “e”, as redundant information.