Swiss proposals on Art. 3 paragraphs 8a) and 8b) and on Art. 10 paragraph 4 (new paragraph) of a revised Gothenburg Protocol

With the informal document from 27 February 2012 (see informal document nr. 2) dealing with ECE/EB.AIR/2012/11, Switzerland concluded that, at this stage, it is more appropriate to make no changes in Annex IX to the Gothenburg Protocol, and, as a consequence, to keep the texts in Article 3 paragraphs 8a) and 8b) unchanged, with the only addition in paragraph 8b) indicating the importance to address ammonia abatement measures for cattle farms when applying best available techniques according to the guidance document adopted by the Executive Body.

Based on these conclusions Switzerland proposes the following wording for Article 3 paragraphs 8a) and 8b):

8. Each Party shall, subject to paragraph 10:

   (a) Apply, as a minimum, the ammonia control measures specified in annex IX; and

   (b) Apply, where it considers it appropriate, best available techniques for preventing and reducing ammonia emissions, as listed in the guidance document adopted by the Executive Body. Special attention should be given to reductions of ammonia emissions from cattle farms due to their high share of emissions in the ECE region within the geographical scope of EMEP.

Since with this proposal we would, at this stage, not go beyond the already existing mandatory measures, and since we know that substantially more should be done to solve the nitrogen problem, Switzerland indicated in its informal document from 27 February 2012 (see informal document nr. 2) that it supports the idea brought up in an in-room paper at the last EB session in December 2011 to introduce under article 10 an expedited procedure to review the Annex IX on ammonia control measures. The best solution to introduce this expedited procedure would be in an additional paragraph 4 under Article 10. Switzerland proposes the following wording for a paragraph 4 under Article 10:

4. The Parties shall, no later than at the first session of the Executive Body after entry into force of this amendment, evaluate ammonia control measures with a view to revise Annex IX.