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Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Thirty-second session

Geneva, 9–13 December 2013

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-second session

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 3 p.m.
on Monday, 9 December 2013***

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report of the Executive Body on its thirty-first session.
3. Report on credentials.
4. Matters arising from meetings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and other related meetings.

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the Convention website (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=33605>), and to transmit it to the secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting. On the day of the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge from the Pass and Identification Unit at the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section at the Pregny gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). A map is available on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) website (http://www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf). For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of the documents mentioned in this provisional agenda to the meeting. There will be no official documentation available in the meeting room. Before the meeting, documents may be obtained directly from the web page for the meeting on the ECE Environment Division website (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=33605>) or from the public United Nations Official Document System (ODS) website (<http://documents.un.org/>). During the meeting, hard copies of the official documents may also be obtained from the United Nations Office at Geneva Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

5. Review of implementation of the 2012–2013 workplan:
 - (a) Strategies and policies;
 - (b) Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe;
 - (c) Effects of major air pollutants on human health and the environment.
6. Draft 2014–2015 workplan for the implementation of the Convention.
7. Compliance with protocol obligations.
8. Action Plan for the Implementation of the Long-term Strategy for the Convention.
9. Action plan for the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and capacity-building activities in countries with economies in transition.
10. Review and revision of protocols:
 - (a) Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants;
 - (b) Guidance document to the amended Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;
 - (c) Proposals for adjustments to annex II to the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;
 - (d) Protocol on Heavy Metals;
 - (e) 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions.
11. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention and amendment to the annex to the Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe.
12. Activities of bodies of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and international organizations relevant to the Convention.
13. Election of officers.
14. Other business.
15. Adoption of decisions taken at the thirty-second session.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Monday, 9 December, afternoon

Documentation: annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-second session (ECE/EB.AIR/121)

The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution is expected to adopt the agenda for its thirty-second session as set out in the present document.

2. Adoption of the report of the Executive Body on its thirty-first session

Tentative timing: Monday, 9 December, afternoon

Documentation: report of the Executive Body on its thirty-first session (ECE/EB.AIR/113 and Add.1)

The Executive Body is expected to adopt the report of its thirty-first session.

3. Report on credentials

Tentative timing: Monday, 9 December, afternoon

Delegations will be invited to submit their credentials to the secretariat at the latest within 24 hours after the opening of the session. The officers of the session will examine the credentials and report on them to the Executive Body. The Executive Body is expected to adopt the report on credentials.

4. Matters arising from meetings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and other related meetings

Tentative timing: Monday, 9 December, afternoon

The secretariat will inform the Executive Body about the main outcomes of the sixty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) (Geneva, 9–11 April 2013).

The Executive Body may wish to consider, as appropriate, the information provided.

5. Review of implementation of the 2012–2013 workplan

Tentative timing: Monday, 9 December, afternoon

Documentation: 2012–2013 workplan for the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/109/Add.2); report of the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe on its thirty-seventh session (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2013/2, forthcoming); report of the Working Group on Effects on its thirty-second session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/2, forthcoming); Draft Revised Guidelines for Reporting Emission Data under the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/7); heavy metals and nitrogen in mosses: spatial patterns in 2010/11 and long-term temporal trends (1990–2010) in Europe (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/13); benefits of air pollution control for biodiversity and ecosystem services (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/14)

The Executive Body is expected to review and assess the implementation of the 2012–2013 workplan with respect to deliverables, timelines and priority or relevance of the outcomes, as necessary. It may wish to take this review into account in the discussion under item 10 on of the draft 2014–2015 workplan.

(a) Strategies and policies (item 1 of the workplan)

The Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review will report on the implementation of item 1 of the workplan. He will draw attention to the exchange of information, experiences and good practices initiated to promote the implementation of the protocols and facilitate accession and ratification, in particular by the countries in Eastern

Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Item 1.5 of the workplan (exchange of information and technology) will be considered in further detail under agenda item 9.

(b) Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (item 2 of the workplan)

The Chair of the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) will present a summary of the main issues discussed at and the results of the thirty-seventh session of the EMEP Steering Body (Geneva, 9–11 September) and highlight conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the Executive Body. She will present the Draft Revised Guidelines for Reporting Emission Data under the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/7) recommended for adoption by the Executive Body and will report on the implementation of item 2 of the workplan, focusing on aspects of particular relevance to the Long-term Strategy for the Convention.

(c) Effects of major air pollutants on human health and the environment (item 3 of the workplan)

The Chair of the Working Group on Effects will present a summary of the main issues discussed at and the results of the thirty-second session of the Working Group on Effects (Geneva, 12–13 September 2013), and highlight conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the Executive Body. He will report on progress under item 3 of the workplan.

The Working Group Chair will highlight any new insights and the relevant contributions of activities under this workplan item to either the development, implementation or assessment of the effectiveness of the Convention's protocols and policies. He will present a number of reports, including: heavy metals and nitrogen in mosses: spatial patterns in 2010/11 and long-term temporal trends (1990–2010) in Europe; benefits of air pollution control for biodiversity and ecosystem services; and a report on the assessment of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol), which will be made available as an informal document for the session. He will also draw attention to the main findings of the review of evidence on health aspects of air pollution (REVIHAAP) project, carried out by the World Health Organization in support of the current revision of European Union air quality policies, and which are also relevant for the whole ECE region.

The Executive Body may wish to discuss the implications of the results presented for further action under the Convention.

6. Draft 2014–2015 workplan for the implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 10 December, morning and afternoon

Documentation: draft 2014–2015 workplan for the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/6)

At its thirty-first session (Geneva, 11–13 December 2012), the Executive Body proposed that a draft 2014–2015 workplan be prepared by the Bureau of the Executive Body with the secretariat (ECE/EB.AIR/113, para. 47).

The Executive Body is expected to discuss and agree on the workplan for the implementation of the Convention in 2014–2015, ensuring that it targets the Convention's priorities and appropriate outputs. It is also expected to discuss the calendar of meetings for

2015 to ensure a smooth flow of information and results between the scientific and policy bodies to better enable informed policy discussions based on scientific outputs.

7. Compliance with protocol obligations

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 10 December, afternoon

Documentation: report of the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/3); report of the Implementation Committee - compliance with emission reduction obligations (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/4); draft recommendations for the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/5)

The Chair of the Implementation Committee will present the two reports by the Committee on compliance by individual Parties with their protocol obligations. The Executive Body is expected to consider the Committee's reports and recommendations.

Latvia is expected to make a presentation with respect to its case under review as requested by the Executive Body at its thirty-first session.

At its twenty eighth-session (Geneva, 13–17 December 2010), the Executive Body re-elected two Implementation Committee members for a second and third consecutive term of two years, respectively. At its twenty-ninth session (Geneva, 12–16 December 2011), the Executive Body elected two new members for a term of two years and re-elected two members for a second consecutive term of office, one member for a third consecutive term of office and one member for a fifth consecutive term of office. At its thirty-first session in December 2012, the Executive Body elected one new member to the Implementation Committee for a term of two years. Due to the withdrawal of one candidate and the rejection of another, the Executive Body prolonged the term of office of those members that had been re-elected at its twenty-eighth session (Geneva, 13–17 December 2010) by one year. Those elected or re-elected at the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth session have completed their terms of office. The members whose mandate has been prolonged by the Executive Body at its thirty-first session have also completed their term of office. The Executive Body is therefore expected to elect eight members to the Committee.

8. Action Plan for the Implementation of the Long-term Strategy for the Convention

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 11 December, morning and afternoon

Documentation: report of the ad hoc group of experts on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Long-term Strategy (ECE/EB.AIR/2012/15); report of the Working Group on Strategies and Review on its fifty-first session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/110, forthcoming); report of the ad hoc group of experts on the review of the International Cooperative Programmes (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/2)

In its decision 2010/18 the Executive Body adopted a Long-term Strategy for the Convention (see ECE/EB.AIR/106/Add.1), and requested the Bureau to prepare an action plan for its implementation. By its decision 2011/14, the Executive Body adopted the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Long-term Strategy for the Convention (see ECE/EB.AIR/109/Add.1), and established a time-limited ad hoc group of experts to carry out tasks identified for it in the Action Plan. The ad hoc group of experts on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Long-term Strategy submitted a report for consideration by the Executive Body at its thirty-first session in 2012 (ECE/EB.AIR/2012/15). At that session the Executive Body decided to defer the in-depth discussion on the Action Plan to

the fifty-first session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (Geneva, 30 April–3 May 2013) and proposed that the Working Group session be devoted in part to considering the proposals set out in the report of the ad hoc group of experts. It also decided to establish a time-limited ad hoc expert group to exclusively review the International Cooperative Programmes (ICPs) with a view to making recommendations, as outlined in paragraph 23 of the report of the ad hoc group of experts on the Action Plan.

The Executive Body is expected to consider the recommendations of the Working Group on Strategies and Review and the recommendations of the ad hoc expert group on the review of the ICPs. In the context of possible alterations for the calendar of meetings for 2015, the Executive Body is expected to discuss options to ensure better coordination and delivery of scientific results and corresponding policy messages.

Furthermore, the Executive Body is invited to review the recommendations on communication by the ad hoc group of experts on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Long-term Strategy (ECE/EB.AIR/2012/15, paras. 57–59).

9. Action plan for the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and capacity-building activities in countries with economies in transition

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 11 December, afternoon; Thursday, 12 December, morning

The Chair of the Coordinating Group on the promotion of actions towards implementation of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Coordinating Group) will present progress in the work of the Coordinating Group and activities aimed at implementation of the revised action plan for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2007/17) in 2013.

The secretariat will provide information on the actions taken to strengthen the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its Protocols in the countries of the subregion.

Delegations will be invited to provide information on their efforts to implement and ratify the most recent protocols under the Convention and any needs for capacity-building and assistance.

The Executive Body Bureau may wish to report on the follow-up to decision 2012/26 on a High-level Meeting on Actions to Promote Improved Air Quality in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

The Executive Body is expected to note the information provided.

10. Review and revision of protocols

Tentative timing: Thursday, 12 December, afternoon

Documentation: report of the Working Group on Effects on its thirty-second session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/2, forthcoming); guidance document on health and environmental improvements associated with attaining emission reduction commitments under the amended Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/8); report of the Executive Body on its twenty-ninth session (ECE/EB.AIR/109); report of the Working Group on Strategies and Review on its forty-seventh session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/102); report of the Task Force on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/8)

(a) Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants

At its twenty-eighth session in December 2010, the Executive Body took note of the recommendations of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (see ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/102) on the five substances reviewed by the Task Force on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/8). It invited the Working Group to take into account any new scientific information with regard to trifluralin and pentachlorophenol (PCP)/pentachloroanisole (PCA), as well as information on international developments on all five substances and to revise its recommendations as necessary. At its forty-ninth session (Geneva, 12–16 September 2011), the Working Group took note of additional scientific information on trifluralin presented by Canada and decided to forward it to the Executive Body for consideration in further deliberations and decisions on possible additional amendments to the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Protocol on POPs). At its twenty-ninth session in December 2011, the Executive Body requested the Working Group on Strategies and Review to defer any work on the Protocol on POPs in 2012, and decided to address the issue further at the meeting of the Executive Body in December 2012, taking into account ongoing activities under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ECE/EB.AIR/109, para. 29). Subsequently, the Executive Body deferred the discussion to its thirty-second session in 2013, following the conclusion of the discussion on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Long-term Strategy for the Convention, which had been deferred to the fifty-first session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review in May 2013. The Executive Body may wish to further discuss this matter and decide on the way forward with regard to the five substances.

The secretariat will provide information on the status of ratification of the amendments to the Protocol on POPs adopted in 2009.

(b) Guidance document to the amended Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

At its thirtieth session the Executive Body adopted amendments to the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) and its annexes (see ECE/EB.AIR/111). The amended Protocol makes reference to a guidance document on projected health and environmental improvements associated with implementation of the amended Protocol in its article 5, paragraph 1 (e). The Executive Body is expected to adopt this guidance document as recommended by the Working Group on Effects and contained in document ECE/EB.AIR/2013/8.

(c) **Proposals for adjustments to annex II to the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone**

In accordance with article 13 of the Gothenburg Protocol, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro submitted proposals to the Executive Body at its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions, respectively, to adjust annex II to the Protocol by adding to it their names, together with emission levels and emission ceilings. The proposals had been circulated to Parties to the Protocol at least 90 days in advance of the session at which they were considered in accordance with article 13, paragraph 2. At the thirtieth session of the Executive Body, Parties to the Gothenburg Protocol decided to defer a decision on a proposed adjustment by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia until the Executive Body's thirty-first session. At the thirty-first session in December 2012, Parties to the Protocol considered the proposals and requested both countries to submit revised proposals to the EMEP Steering Body. They requested the EMEP Steering Body to review the proposals and make recommendations to the Parties meeting within the Executive Body at its thirty-second session in 2013. Parties to the Gothenburg Protocol agreed that the adjusted proposal would be considered as an amendment of the existing proposal that had been circulated at least 90 days in advance of the session, in accordance with article 13, paragraph 2, of the Protocol. Parties to the Protocol may wish to further consider the revised proposals and the respective recommendations of the EMEP Steering Body.

The secretariat will provide information on the submission of the amendments to the Protocol adopted at the thirtieth session of the Executive Body in May 2012 to the Treaty Section of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and their circulation, and on the preparation of other documents to facilitate ratification by Parties. Delegations will be invited to share information on the steps they are taking to prepare for ratification of the amended Gothenburg Protocol.

(d) **Protocol on Heavy Metals**

The secretariat will provide further information on the submission of the amendments to the Protocol on Heavy Metals adopted at the thirty-first session of the Executive Body in December 2012 to the Treaty Section of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and their circulation, and on the preparation of other documents to facilitate ratification by Parties. Delegations will be invited to share information on the steps they are taking to prepare for ratification of the amended Protocol on Heavy Metals.

(e) **1994 Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions**

In accordance with article 11 of the 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has submitted a proposal to adjust annex II to the Protocol by adding to it its name, together with emission levels, sulphur emission ceilings and percentage emission reductions. The proposal was circulated to Parties to the Protocol at least 90 days in advance of the session at which they were considered in accordance with the Protocol's article 11, paragraph 2.

11. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention and amendment to the annex to the Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

Tentative timing: Friday, 13 December, morning

Documentation: Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/1)

The secretariat will inform the Executive Body about the status of Parties' contributions to the trust funds for financing the implementation of the Convention and the expenditures in 2013. It will present a draft revised annex to the EMEP Protocol, containing a revised EMEP scale of contributions based on the United Nations scale of assessments for the period 2013–2015, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, and taking into account the accession of Georgia to the EMEP Protocol in February 2013. The Executive Body is expected to amend the EMEP Protocol by adopting a revised annex in accordance with article 4, paragraph 3, of the Protocol.

The Executive Body is also expected to decide on the detailed use of resources for EMEP in 2014 following the recommendation of the EMEP Steering Body at its thirty-seventh session (Geneva, 9–11 September 2013) (see ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2013/2, forthcoming).

The Executive Body is also expected to revise its decision 2002/1 on financing of core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol by adopting the 2013 United Nations scale of assessments for use in calculating the recommended contributions as set out in document ECE/EB.AIR/2013/1.

12. Activities of bodies of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and international organizations relevant to the Convention

Tentative timing: Friday, 13 December, morning

The secretariat will report on relevant activities of ECE bodies. It will also report on the potential for cooperation with the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Representatives of international organizations (e.g., the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and the World Meteorological Organization) will be invited to provide information on their activities of particular relevance to the Convention. Representatives of organizations and networks from outside the region will also be invited to give information on existing and potential areas of collaboration with the Convention. The European Union will be invited to provide additional relevant information, in particular on the review process of its air quality policy. The Executive Body is expected to take note of this information.

13. Election of officers

Tentative timing: Friday, 13 December, morning

At its twenty-eighth session in December 2010, the Executive Body elected three Vice-Chairs for a term of three years. At its thirty-first session in December 2012, it elected a Chair for a term of two years. In accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure, it also elected a Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review for a term of two years. In accordance with rule 17 of its rules of procedure (ECE/EB.AIR/106/Add.1, decision

2010/19), at its present session the Executive Body is expected to elect three vice-chairs for a term of two years.

14. Other business

Tentative timing: Friday, 13 December, morning

The delegation of Sweden may wish report on the “Saltsjobaden V” workshop held in Gothenburg (24–26 June 2013) and present its relevant conclusions.

15. Adoption of decisions taken at the thirty-second session

Tentative timing: Friday, 13 December, afternoon

The Executive Body may wish to adopt its decisions taken during the session. The draft report of the session, reflecting the adopted decisions, will be finalized by the secretariat following the session. The report will be presented for adoption at the Executive Body’s thirty-third session.
