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

Working Group on Effects

Thirty-second session

Geneva, 12 and 13 September 2013

Report of the Working Group on Effects on its thirty-second session

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I. Introduction

1. The thirty-second session of the Working Group on Effects was held on 12 and 13 September 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland.

A. Attendance

2. The session was attended by representatives of the following Parties to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Denmark, European Union (EU), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. A representative of Japan also participated.

3. Representatives of the Coordination Centre for Effects, the Convention's International Cooperative Programmes (ICPs) and their Programme Centres, the Joint Expert Group on Dynamic Modelling and the Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution (Task Force on Health), as well as 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), also attended.

4. In addition, the meeting was attended by representatives the IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute, the oil companies' European association for environment, health and safety in refining and distribution, the World Health Organization's European Centre for Environment and Health Bonn Office and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat.

B. Organizational matters

5. Mr. Peringe Grennfelt (Sweden) chaired the meeting.

6. The agenda (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/1 and Corr.1) was adopted, as amended.

7. The Working Group adopted the report of its thirty-first session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2012/2), as amended.

II. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies

8. The Chair of the EMEP Steering Body provided information on the Steering Body's thirty-seventh session (Geneva, 9–11 September 2013). The discussions had focused on the draft workplan 2014–2015 for the implementation of the Convention (Science part only), the EMEP budget for 2014 (co-financing of the EMEP Centres), the draft revised Guidelines for reporting emissions under the Convention and additional technical guidance on the adjustment procedure to national emission inventories and to national emission reduction commitments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol). The outcome of the Steering Body's work on the draft workplan 2014–2015 had been forwarded to the Working Group on Effects for further consideration, as the Science part of the draft workplan was to be developed jointly by the two scientific bodies under the Convention. Once approved by the Working Group,

the draft workplan would be forwarded to the Executive Body for its consideration and approval at its thirty-second session in December 2013.

9. The secretariat presented the main results of the thirty-first session of the Executive Body for the Convention in December 2012, including the decision on the revision of the Protocol on Heavy Metals. The amended Protocol included flexibilities (transitional arrangements) for existing emission sources applicable for countries in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The Executive Body had also adopted four guidance documents for the recently amended Gothenburg Protocol. The only pending Gothenburg Protocol guidance, on health and environmental improvements, would be presented to the Working Group at its present session for consideration.

10. The secretariat also presented the highlights of the fifty-first session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (Geneva, 30 April–3 May 2013). The main issues discussed included a review of the structure and operation of the Convention and the draft workplan 2014–2015. Parties' needs for and obstacles to ratifying the three most recent protocols to the Convention had also been discussed in a dedicated session prepared by Belarus, with a focus on countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. In addition, nine Parties to the Gothenburg Protocol had provided information on successful measures and policies they had implemented to reduce air pollutant emissions in selected sectors.

11. The Chair presented a brief summary of the work of the Working Group's Bureau since the Working Group's last session, highlighting the continuous cooperation with EMEP and the need for further integration.

12. The Working Group:

(a) Took note of the decisions made by the Executive Body, as well as the deliberations of the other subsidiary bodies under the Convention;

(b) Recommended seeking further guidance from the Executive Body on information required so that effects-based indicators could be of greater use in the future development of effects-based scenarios and related policy support, in accordance with the Long-term Strategy for the Convention (Executive Body decision 2010/18, annex).

III. Recent results and updating of scientific and technical knowledge

13. The Chairs or representatives from the lead countries or coordination centres of each of the ICPs presented their recent and planned activities, information on events, including task force meetings, key achievements and recent publications.

14. A representative of the ICP on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests) Programme Centre summarized the results presented at the twenty-ninth meeting of the ICP Forests Task Force (Belgrade, 29–31 May 2013), including the results of the work on database development, evaluations carried out by expert panels, nitrogen effects on epiphytic lichens, nitrogen concentrations in mosses, the work on fungi, soil water, litterfall and solid soil. It was highlighted that the carbon-to-nitrogen ratio in the forest floor was considered as an indicator of nitrate leaching in response to high atmospheric nitrogen deposition, and also that the usefulness of mosses as bio-indicators had been confirmed by recent findings.

15. The Working Group took note of the results of work of ICP Forests and its recent publications, and requested ICP Forests to provide their critical load and background data to National Focal Centres of the ICP on Modelling and Mapping of Critical Loads and

Levels and Air Pollution Effects, Risks and Trends (ICP Modelling and Mapping) for assessment and potential inclusion in the European critical load database.

16. A representative of the ICP on Assessment and Monitoring of the Effects of Air Pollution on Rivers and Lakes (ICP Waters) Programme Centre informed the Working Group about the results presented at the twenty-eighth meeting of the ICP Waters Task Force (Pallanza, Italy, 8–10 October 2012), in particular regarding the economic evaluation of damage to freshwater ecosystems and their services. Fish stock losses of brown trout and salmon were some of the key ecosystem services of freshwaters threatened by air pollution, with direct economic impacts but also impacts on tourism, culture, biodiversity and aesthetics. The damage to freshwater ecosystems was difficult to express in monetary terms, and a thorough analysis of costs and benefits of reducing acid deposition in terms of ecosystem services had not been done yet.

17. The Working Group:

(a) Took note of the results of ICP Waters on the economic evaluation of damage to freshwater ecosystems and to their services, and on air pollution effects on aquatic biodiversity;

(b) Noted that biodiversity in rivers and lakes in five countries in Europe was increasing and was likely associated with chemical recovery of freshwater quality in acid-sensitive ecosystems, which, in turn, demonstrated that measures to reduce air pollution were effective.

18. The Chair of the ICP on Effects of Air Pollution on Materials, including Historic and Cultural Monuments (ICP Materials) outlined the results presented at the twenty-ninth meeting of the ICP Materials Task Force (Bern, 17–19 April 2013), including a recent exposure for trend analysis 2011–2012 that had showed small improvements in corrosion and soiling compared to 2008–2009. For zinc, the number of sites exceeding the 2050 target of 0.9 micrometres a year had decreased from 11 in 2008–2009 to 8 in 2011–2012. The environmental characterization had been extended to include measurements of formic and acetic acid. Preliminary results, however, indicated that the concentrations were low outdoors and did not contribute significantly to corrosion. Black carbon contributed to soiling of materials and its effects to non-transparent and transparent materials had been reviewed in 2012.

19. The Working Group:

(a) Noted the results of ICP Materials on soiling of modern glass 2008–2012 and newly developed soiling dose-response functions based on haze including sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter (PM₁₀) as pollution parameters validated with the new data and indicating that haze could be predicted to within a factor of 2;

(b) Encouraged ICP Materials to continue its plan for issuing a call for data on inventory and condition of stock materials at United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) cultural heritage sites.

20. The Chair of the ICP on Effects of Air Pollution on Natural Vegetation and Crops (ICP Vegetation) informed the Working Group about the results presented at the twenty-sixth meeting of the ICP Vegetation Task Force (Halmstad, Sweden, 28–30 January 2013) with regard to the work on ozone impacts on ecosystem services and biodiversity, the 2010/11 European moss survey on heavy metals and nitrogen and the benefits of air pollution control for biodiversity and ecosystem services. He also informed about a pilot study on mosses as biomonitors of persistent organic pollutants, and the ICP Vegetation contribution to the Guidance document to the Gothenburg Protocol on health and environmental improvements.

21. The Working Group:

(a) Noted the pilot study on mosses as biomonitors of persistent organic pollutants, and ICP Vegetation's contribution to the Guidance document;

(b) Took note with appreciation of the efforts of the ICP Vegetation Programme Coordination Centre to enhance participation of countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and the transfer of the coordination of future moss surveys to the Russian Federation;

(c) Approved the report on 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);

(d) Approved the report on benefits of air pollution control for biodiversity and ecosystem services (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/14) prepared jointly by the ICPs and coordinated by ICP Vegetation;

(e) Decided to forward the reports mentioned in subparagraphs (c) and (d) above as official documents to the Executive Body for its consideration at its thirty-second session.

22. The Chair of the ICP on Integrated Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Ecosystems (ICP Integrated Monitoring) reported on the results presented at the twenty-first meeting of ICP Integrated Monitoring Task Force (Moscow, 20–24 May 2013), in particular with reference to recent work on sulphur and nitrogen input-output budgets, which indicated the release of previously accumulated sulphur in catchment soils. Results of the work on heavy metal budgets had indicated a continued accumulation and exceedance of critical loads, particularly for mercury, and a statistical relationship between empirical impact indicators (changes in abundance of understory species cover, nitrogen leaching) and nitrogen critical load exceedances, as well as emission scenario analysis indicating continued exceedance of site-specific nitrogen critical loads.

23. The Working Group:

(a) Took note of the results presented at the twentieth session of the ICP Integrated Monitoring Task Force, in particular the recent results of its work on priority work items (biodiversity indicators and issues related to critical loads and modelling, heavy metals baselines, budgets and critical loads and sulphur and nitrogen input-output budgets);

(b) Noted the identified increasing risk of heavy metals for biological systems and the negative impacts of nitrogen on biodiversity.

24. The Chair of the ICP Modelling and Mapping Task Force and a representative of the Coordination Centre for Effects (CCE) informed the Working Group about the outcomes of the joint twenty-ninth meeting of the ICP Modelling and Mapping Task Force and the twenty-third CCE workshop (Copenhagen, 8–11 April 2013), the decisions taken by the Task Force and the results of recent work for the Convention and the European Commission. The Chair of the Task Force elaborated on the results of CCE work on indicators and modelling of nitrogen impact on biodiversity. Efforts had been taken to broadly disseminate the results obtained, including their presentation at policy-relevant meetings, and several policy-relevant documents had been elaborated. The CCE representative acknowledged the efficient working relationships of CCE/ICP Modelling and Mapping with other ICPs and EMEP, and with other groups under the Convention producing policy-relevant input to the Convention and the European Commission.

25. The Working Group on Effects recognized that its formal decision on the call for data by CCE and the ICP Modelling and Mapping (see ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2012/2, annex) had helped Parties to organize their contributions. Moreover, following the decisions taken by the Task Force, the Working Group:

(a) Invited ICP Modelling and Mapping to update the critical load manual to reflect present knowledge and make it available on the ICP Modelling and Mapping website, as well as on the Convention website;

(b) Requested that the European Background Database be used by CCE for effects-based assessments, after CCE checked with National Focal Centres (NFCs) that national data were not available, unless countries requested CCE not to carry out calculations for a given parameter on their national territory;

(c) Requested ICP Forests to provide their critical loads and background data to ICP Modelling and Mapping NFCs for assessment and potential inclusion in the European critical loads database;

(d) Requested CCE to elaborate its next status report in 2014;

(e) Encouraged NFCs to provide relevant information so that their contact details could be updated by CCE on the ICP Modelling and Mapping website.

26. The Chair of the Task Force on Health reported on the sixteenth Task Force meeting (Bonn, Germany, 11–12 June 2013), where the results of two recent projects carried out in support of the review of EU air quality legislation in 2013 — Evidence of health aspects of air pollution to review EU policies (REVIHAAP) and Health risks of air pollution in Europe (HRAPIE) — had been presented.¹ The REVIHAAP project had reviewed the scientific literature and concluded that there was strengthened evidence of adverse health effects from air pollution, and also that such effects could occur at air pollution concentrations lower than those that had served to establish the 2005 World Health Organization (WHO) Air Quality Guidelines. She also elaborated on monitoring and modelling of air pollution and its health effects, particularly in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The Task Force Chair underscored a need for improved monitoring for particulate matter to accurately represent population exposure in the region and informed the Working Group about specific capacity-building activities on monitoring and applied health impact assessment in the subregion.

27. The Working Group:

(a) Took note of the progress in recent research on the health impacts of air pollution, noted the information about the work for the revision of the EU air quality legislation, and encouraged the wide dissemination of the REVIHAAP findings and availability of the material in other languages, including Russian;

(b) Welcomed the capacity-building activities and continued collaboration with countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia;

(c) Encouraged Parties to strengthen scientific and technical cooperation with countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia aiming at improving the monitoring of particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and the assessment of population exposure.

28. The Chair of the Joint Expert Group on Dynamic Modelling summarized the progress in the work of the Joint Expert Group presented at its thirteenth meeting (Sitges, Spain, 24–28 October 2012), in particular the dynamic modelling with respect to nutrient nitrogen, ozone and interactions between climate change and air pollution. Other highlights included the novel work on modelling acidification, eutrophication and biodiversity in

¹ See <http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/environment-and-health/air-quality/activities/evidence-on-health-aspects-of-air-pollution-to-review-eu-policies-the-revihaap-project>.

Ukraine, progress in modelling toxicity of heavy metals, and progress in modelling biodiversity.

29. The Working Group took note of the significant progress in model development and that the models should be used in assessment of time scales of damage and recovery, and requested the Joint Expert Group on Dynamic Modelling to report on further progress made at the next session of the Working Group.

IV. Further development of the effects-oriented activities

A. Impact assessment in the context of hemispheric transport of air pollution

30. In a guest presentation, the co-Chairs of the EMEP Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution reported on progress in implementing the Task Force's multi-year workplan, including the development of new 2008 and 2010 global emissions estimates, emission scenarios and global and regional model source-receptor calculations. They also presented the objectives, expected outcomes and opportunities resulting from a proposed joint Working Group-Task Force workshop to be held in Asia in 2014.

31. The Working Group:

(a) Took note of the progress in developing 2008 and 2010 global emissions mosaics and 2010–2030 emissions scenarios, and the efforts to coordinate global and regional modelling experiments for 2008–2010;

(b) Acknowledged the opportunities for greater cooperation with the Working Group to perform joint analysis of impacts on human health, vegetation and climate and the mandate from the Executive Body to engage with experts from countries outside the Convention;

(c) Supported the proposal for a joint workshop that would engage experts from Asia and appointed a contact group of representatives of the Working Group to work with the co-Chairs of the Task Force to further develop the scope of and plans for the workshop.

B. Joint session with the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

32. The purpose of the joint session of the Steering Body to EMEP and the Working Group on Effects, held during the thirty-seventh session of the Steering Body, had been to allow for an in-depth presentation and discussion of activities relevant to both the Steering Body and the Working Group. Seven presentations (see annex) had been made by representatives of the two subsidiary bodies and an invited guest, covering issues of common interest:

(a) Key outcomes of the "Saltsjöbaden V" workshop;

(b) Recent progress in the Greenhouse Gas and Air Pollution Interactions and Synergies (GAINS) model and integrated assessment modelling;

(c) The draft guidance document on health and environmental improvements, using new knowledge, methods and data;

(d) Information from heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants modelling relevant for the effects community;

- (e) The main pollutant, ozone and particulate matter modelling, supporting the mapping and modelling work at CCE;
- (f) The benefits of air pollution control for biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- (g) Past and planned joint assessment reports by EMEP and the Working Group on Effects.

33. The presentations had been followed by a discussion with a focus on common issues relevant to both the Working Group and EMEP, bearing in mind the relevance of effects-based research for the implementation of the Long-term Strategy for the Convention.

34. Following a discussion on the topics presented, the Working Group had found that both bodies should continue to organize joint workshops and produce joint reports on issues of common interest, including country reports. The joint reports should be developed in cooperation with the Parties and be aimed at national and international policymakers.

V. Information on the review of the International Cooperative Programmes

35. The Chair of the ad hoc group of experts on the review of the ICPs (ICP Review Group) presented the highlights of the group's draft report (informal documents Nos. 6 and 6 bis) and requested comments on it. The group would consider the comments when preparing its final report and would be attached to the final report as an annex. The group was expected to submit its report to the Executive Body for consideration at its thirty-second session.

36. The Working Group welcomed the information presented by the Chair of the ICP Review Group and the comments made by representatives of Denmark, Finland the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom in that regard. The Working Group had the following comments and recommendations with regard to the review of the ICPs:

(a) There should be a greater focus on substantial integration in the form of joint activities and reporting (professional, more elaborated approach for publication would be recommended), and primary importance should be attached to thematic and integrated reports;

(b) The risks associated with the impact of potential changes in the organization and structure of the ICPs on maintaining long-term national funding needed to be assessed;

(c) It was necessary to support further monitoring and modelling activities, as both were necessary and highly policy relevant;

(d) It was important to strive to increase the contributions from Parties to the effects-oriented activities trust fund rather than to attempt to further differentiate and manage the existing very limited financial resources available in the trust fund;

(e) The examples of effective and successful cooperation of ICPs, e.g., with respect to the *Manual on methodologies and criteria for modelling and mapping critical loads and levels and air pollution effects, risks and trends*² and recent thematic reports, should be emphasized.

² Federal Environmental Agency, Berlin, 2004. Available from http://icpmapping.org/Mapping_Manual.

VI. Information sharing from Parties on their national effects-oriented activities

37. A representative of Germany reported on national activities under the Working Group on Effects, highlighting the close cooperation between all those involved in effects-oriented activities in Germany. An annual meeting of the representatives of all ICPs and the Task Force on Health had been held, and data and expertise from those groups and other partners on the subnational, national and international levels flowed into several research projects related to the work of the Convention. A brochure on the success of air pollution control in Germany in terms of effects has been edited as a common effort.

38. A representative of France presented information about the implementation of the Working Group on Effects monitoring strategy in France and national activities contributing to the work of ICP Forests, ICP Vegetation, ICP Materials, ICP Modelling and Mapping and the Task Force on Health. Modelling and measurements were both part of the monitoring strategy that France implemented in response to its Convention and EU obligations.

39. A representative of Norway informed the Working Group about recent changes in effects-oriented activities in Norway. He also presented details on a project initiated by the Norwegian NFC of ICP Modelling and Mapping connected to the call for data on country specific biodiversity indicators. The project aimed at establishing the relationship between pH,³ nitrogen level and different biodiversity indicators.

40. A representative of Switzerland presented results from the inter-cantonal long-term forest observation programme that had started in 1984 and currently comprised 179 observation plots. The tree growth survey at 51 plots (*Fagus sylvatica*, *Picea abies*) showed a stagnation and decrease of growth since the late 1990s. The in-depth analysis had revealed that, despite high nitrogen deposition, nitrogen was no longer the driving factor for growth. Since about 2000, it had been replaced by phosphorous. The foliage analyses also showed that the nitrogen-to-phosphorous ratio had increased continuously and that phosphorous concentration had become deficient in absolute terms. The stagnation and decrease of growth had important consequences for the assessment of carbon sequestration. In addition, there had been an increase in cooperation between air pollution and biodiversity experts at the national level. On the basis of data from the gridded biodiversity monitoring and from nitrogen deposition data at high spatial resolution, it could be shown that increasing nitrogen deposition was negatively related to species richness and community uniqueness of vascular plants and bryophytes in species-rich mountain grassland. The negative relationship had been found, in particular, between the number of oligotrophic species and nitrogen deposition. Since oligotrophic species belonged to the group of rare species, their disappearance led to a more similar species composition at higher levels of nitrogen deposition and thus to a decrease in community uniqueness.

41. The Working Group welcomed the information presented by France, Germany, Norway and Switzerland on their national work and invited other Parties to provide information on their national effects work at next sessions of the Working Group, so that an exchange of information on national work would become a regular agenda item for the Working Group.

³ In chemistry pH is a measure of the acidity or basicity of an aqueous solution.

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

42. The Working Group considered the Science part of the draft workplan 2014–2015 for the implementation of the Convention, as described in informal documents 2, 2 bis, 5 and 5 bis and further elaborated and approved by the Steering Body to EMEP at its thirty-seventh session. A small drafting group selected by the Working Group had made further changes to the document based on the information and recommendations received from participants during the thirty-second session of the Working Group. The Working Group considered the outcome of the drafting group work and approved the resulting document as amended.

43. The Working Group requested the secretariat, supported by the Chair of the Working Group, to combine the amended draft workplan 2014–2015 (Science part) with the other parts of the workplan prepared by the Bureau of the Executive Body with support from the secretariat and other bodies and groups under the Convention, taking also into consideration comments made by members of the Working Group on the other parts, and to forward the consolidated workplan to the Executive Body for consideration and approval at its thirty-second session.

VIII. Financing of the effects-oriented activities

44. In line with revised decision 2002/1 of the Executive Body, the secretariat introduced the key elements of the note on the financing of effects-oriented activities prepared by the secretariat (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2013/4). The secretariat presented updated information on cash contributions to the trust fund in 2012 and 2013, and noted the decreasing trend.

45. The secretariat also presented information on the implementation (including payments) of contracts (Memorandums of Understanding) for 2013, and preparation of contracts for 2014.

46. The Working Group:

(a) Approved the key elements of the note on the financing of the effects-oriented activities, and decided to submit the information to the Executive Body;

(b) Approved the 2014 international coordination costs of \$2,152,700 for different elements of effects-oriented activities and the provisional estimate of \$2,152,700 for 2015 and 2016 costs, for submission to the Executive Body;

(c) Invited the secretariat to provide information on the status of contributions to the trust fund for the effects-oriented activities as of 30 November 2013, and to make it available to the Executive Body at its thirty-second session;

(d) Recommended that the status of contributions be used as a basis for the budget to co-fund the effects-oriented activities in 2014;

(e) Requested the Executive Body to encourage Parties to make contributions to the trust fund before 30 November each year;

(f) Noted with appreciation the essential support provided to the Working Group on Effects and its effects-oriented activities by lead countries, countries and organizations hosting coordinating centres, organizing meetings and funding activities of their national focal centres, as well as the active participation of national experts in the work under the Convention;

(g) Noted with appreciation the amount of voluntary cash contributions available in 2012 and 2013, but reiterated its invitation to all Parties that had not yet done so to provide to the trust fund for financing of the effects-oriented activities, without undue delay, the contributions decided by the Executive Body in its revised decision 2002/1.

IX. Election of officers

47. The Working Group re-elected Mr. Peringe Grennfelt (Sweden) as Chair.⁴ Following a request from the Chair, his second term of office was limited to one year.

X. Other business

48. The Chair informed the Working Group that its thirty-third session was tentatively scheduled to be held from 18 to 19 September 2014 in Geneva, starting on Thursday, 18 September at 10 a.m., pending the decision of the thirty-second session of the Executive Body. The meeting would be preceded by a joint meeting with the EMEP Steering Body, starting on Wednesday 17 September at 3 p.m. The meeting of the Extended Bureau of the Working Group was tentatively scheduled to be held from 27 to 28 March 2014, preceded by a joint meeting with the EMEP Steering Body Bureau on the afternoon of 26 March.

XI. Adoption of the decisions of the Working Group

49. The Working Group on Effects adopted the decisions taken during the session.

⁴ Following the rules of procedure adopted by the Executive Body for the Convention at its twenty-eighth session (decision 2010/19), which apply also to the Working Group on Effects (para. 2), chairs and vice-chairs are elected for a two-year term of office and are eligible for re-election, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms unless the Executive Body decides otherwise.

Annex

List of presentations made during the joint session

1. “Taking international air pollution policies into the future — outcome of the Saltsjöbaden V workshop, Gothenburg, 24–26 June 2014” by Mr. John Munthe.
 2. “Recent progress in the GAINS impact assessment” by Mr. Markus Amann.
 3. “Guidance document on health and environmental improvements, using new knowledge, methods and data” by Mr. Jean-Paul Hettelingh.
 4. “Information for the effects community” by Mr. Victor Shatalov.
 5. “Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West work in support of Coordination Centre for Effects/Working Group on Effects activities” by Ms. Hilde Hagerli.
 6. “Benefits of air pollution control for biodiversity and ecosystem services” by Mr. Harry Harmens.
 7. “Assessment reports” by Mr. Rob Maas.
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