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## Economic Commission for Europe

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

#### Thirty-third session

Geneva, 8–11 December 2014

## Report of the Executive Body on its thirty-third session

### Addendum

### Decisions adopted at the thirty-third session

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**Decision 2014/1**  
**Improving the guidance for adjustments under the 1999**  
**Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and**  
**Ground-level Ozone to emission reduction commitments**  
**or to inventories for the purposes of comparing total**  
**national emissions with them**

*The Executive Body,*

*Recalling* its decision 2012/3 on adjustments under the Gothenburg Protocol to emission reduction commitments or to inventories for the purposes of comparing total national emissions with them,

*Recalling further* its decision 2012/4 on the Provisional Application of Amendment to the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, pending the entry into force of the amendments,

*Underlining* the need for Parties to continuously improve their emissions inventories based on the best available science,

*Recalling* its decision 2012/12 on guidance for adjustments under the 1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone to emission reduction commitments or to inventories for the purposes of comparing total national emissions with them, in particular paragraph 6 of the annex to that decision, which requests the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) to, if needed, develop additional guidance for consideration by the Executive Body, taking into account reviewed adjustment applications,

*Noting* the recommendations on potential improvements to the review of adjustment applications, including with regard to its transparency and consistency, included in the report of the EMEP Steering Body on its thirty-eighth session (ECE/EB/AIR/GE.1/2014/2), as presented to the Executive Body at its thirty-third session,<sup>1</sup>

*Noting also* that the report of the EMEP Steering Body on its thirty-eighth session recommended that additional guidance was needed,

*Aware* of the need for timely, specific and practical guidance to Parties to further facilitate the use of the adjustment procedure in decision 2012/3,

1. *Requests* the EMEP Steering Body to further develop for consideration by the Executive Body at its next session the preliminary additional guidance prepared on adjustment applications by the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections (informal document No. 6 to the thirty-third session of the Executive Body) in accordance with decision 2012/12, as amended;

2. *Decides* that, except as otherwise provided by decision 2012/12, as amended, Parties making adjustment applications and expert reviewers should, on a provisional basis, use the revised version of the preliminary additional guidance referred to in paragraph 1 above;

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<sup>1</sup> *Editor's note:* this report was presented to the Executive Body in an advance, unedited version, but is available on the website. The edited report will be forthcoming shortly.

3. *Requests* the secretariat to assist the EMEP Steering Body in preparing the adjustment review reports to facilitate the proper and clear formulation of the text to promote the correct understanding and use of the reports;
4. *Decides* to amend its decision 2012/12 as set out in the annex to this decision.

#### **Annex**

#### **Amendments to decision 2012/12, annex (Guidance for the application of adjustments to emission inventories and to emission reduction commitments)**

1. In paragraph 1, the following sentence is inserted after the first sentence:  
It shall indicate in its notification for which categories and pollutants it plans an adjustment application.
2. A new paragraph 1 ter is inserted as follows:  
1 ter. A Party may resubmit an adjustment application previously assessed as not fulfilling the criteria as described in paragraph 4 only once, and only when new and relevant information can be provided that would justify a resubmission. Such information must include further clarification or substantiation of the information provided in the original application or additional information not provided or previously available. A Party must clearly highlight the justification for the resubmission in the notification mentioned in paragraph 1. The Implementation Committee may suspend action on any referrals related to a Party's compliance with its emissions reduction commitments when a Party resubmits an adjustment application.
3. A new paragraph 2 bis is inserted as follows:  
2 bis. For the purpose of demonstrating that the proposed adjustment falls within one of the three categories ((i)–(iii)) set out in paragraph 2 (d) above, the following guidelines apply:
  - (a) An emission source category can qualify as new for one or more pollutants in the subparagraphs below:
    - (i) For a Party within the geographic scope of EMEP, an emission source category for a specific pollutant will only qualify as a new emission source category if emission estimates for that source category were introduced to the national emission inventory after the emission reduction commitment for that pollutant was set and where no methodology was provided in the *EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook*<sup>2</sup> for determining emissions from that source category at the time that the emission reduction commitment was set;
    - (ii) For a Party outside the geographic scope of EMEP, an emission source category shall only qualify as a new emission source category if emissions estimates for the source category were introduced to the national air pollutant emissions inventory after the emission reduction commitment for that pollutant was set, and where no methodology was available to that Party in determining emissions from that source category at the time that the emission reduction commitment was set;
    - (iii) With respect to the 2010 ceilings, a source category for which emission estimates were introduced to the national emission inventory after

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<sup>2</sup> Previously named the EMEP/CORINAIR atmospheric emission inventory Guidebook.

the emission reduction commitment was set may also qualify as a new source category where a methodology was available in the *EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook* at the time that the emission reduction commitment was set only if a Party can demonstrate that it was unable to apply this methodology due to a lack of relevant national statistical data or can provide another justification why it could not make use of this methodology;

(b) An emission factor or methodology for determining emissions from a specific emission source category will only be assessed as significantly different from the emission factor or methodology used for determining emissions from this source category at the time that the emission reduction commitment was set if the change in the emission factor or methodology is the result of improved scientific understanding of the source since the emission reduction commitment was set and has resulted in a revision of the *EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook* or the applied country-specific emission factor or methodology.

4. A new paragraph 4 bis is inserted as follows:

4 bis. The designated experts carrying out the review may, during their deliberations on an adjustment application, submit requests for further clarification or supplementary information to the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections (CEIP), which will forward these requests to, and manage the communications with, the Party concerned. CEIP will send the draft reports to the relevant Parties for final review of the facts presented. All information submitted concerning the adjustment application, including the supplementary information submitted by Parties during the review of the adjustment application, shall be made publicly available through the CEIP website.

## **Decision 2014/2 Establishment of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues**

*The Executive Body,*

*Taking into account* the strategic priorities set out in the Long-term Strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/106/Add.1, decision 2010/18, annex),

*Recalling* its request to the Working Group on Strategies and Review in paragraph 1 of its decision 2013/22 to propose an update to the mandate of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues to establish a task force to address emission abatement technologies for stationary and mobile sources in relation to atmospheric emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulate matter (PM), including black carbon, heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs),

*Also recalling* its decision in paragraph 3 of decision 2013/22 to discontinue the Task Force on Persistent Organic Pollutants, while recognizing that any further work should be organized under ad hoc groups when the need arises or under the new Task Force on Techno-economic Issues,

*Further recalling* its decision in paragraph 4 of its decision 2013/22 concerning future work on heavy metals, and in particular the recommendation of the Working Group on Strategies and Review that future work as of 2015 on abatement technologies for reducing emissions of heavy metals be addressed under the new Task Force on Techno-economic Issues,

*Acknowledging* that the two lead countries, France and Italy, will continue to provide the co-chairs for the work on techno-economic issues and to support the technical secretariat functions carried out by the Interprofessional Technical Centre for Studies on Air Pollution and the French-German Institute for Environmental Research,

*Decides* to upgrade the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues to the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues with the mandate as set out in the annex to this decision.

## **Annex**

### **Mandate for the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues**

The new Task Force on Techno-economic Issues, drawing on the expertise of the former Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues and other expertise as appropriate, shall perform the following tasks in addressing emission abatement technologies for stationary and mobile sources and other tasks requested by the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution or by the Working Group on Strategies and Review, assuming that adequate financial and human resources are available:

(a) Update and assess on a regular basis the information on emission abatement technologies for the reduction of the atmospheric emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, VOCs, dust (including coarse PM (PM<sub>10</sub>), fine PM (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and black carbon), heavy metals and POPs from stationary and mobile sources, including on the costs of these technologies;

(b) Create and maintain a regional clearing house of control technology information for emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, VOCs, dust (including PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and black carbon), heavy metals and POPs with the aim of being a reference place for dissemination of information to the experts of the Parties;

(c) Cooperate with the other technical bodies of the Convention — in particular the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections and the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling — to create synergies, maximize results and optimize resources when performing its tasks;

(d) Cooperate with technical bodies outside the Convention as needed;

(e) Cooperate with the Coordinating Group on the promotion of actions towards implementation of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with the purpose of providing techno-scientific assistance to those countries;

(f) Organize seminars and workshops for the dissemination and promotion of information on abatement technologies, like the guidance documents on best available techniques and technical annexes to the protocols to the Convention;

(g) Provide assistance to the Implementation Committee if it so requests;

(h) Report on the progress in its work to the Working Group on Strategies and Review.

## **Decision 2014/3**

### **Leadership of the Task Force of Reactive Nitrogen**

#### *The Executive Body*

*Recalling* its decision 2007/1 establishing a Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen under the leadership of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Netherlands,

*Taking note* of the concern of Denmark that it will need to be assisted by other Parties in the task of leading the Task Force if its work is to continue at the same level,

1. *Decides* to amend paragraph 1 of decision 2007/1 to replace the words “the United Kingdom and the Netherlands” by “Denmark”;
2. *Urges* Parties to come forward with support for the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen and the task of co-chairing the Task Force.

## **Decision 2014/4 Compliance by Cyprus with the Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes (ref. 1/08)**

*The Executive Body,*

*Acting* under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedures for review (ECE/EB.AIR/113/Add.1, decision 2012/25, annex),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2008/7, 2009/10, 2010/7 and 2013/5;
2. *Notes* the seventeenth report of the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2013/5 concerning the compliance of Cyprus with the requirements of article 2, paragraph 1, of the Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes (Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>), and in particular the Committee’s conclusion regarding the failure of Cyprus to comply with its emission reduction obligation under the Protocol (ECE/EB.AIR/2014/2, paras. 3–11);
3. *Welcomes with appreciation* the participation of Cyprus in the thirty-fourth session of the Implementation Committee;
4. *Reiterates its concern* at the failure by Cyprus to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to control and/or reduce its national annual emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) so that these do not exceed emissions in 1987, as required by article 2, paragraph 1, of the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>;
5. *Urges* Cyprus to fulfil its obligation under the Protocol as soon as possible;
6. *Requests* Cyprus to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2015, with a report describing its progress towards compliance, by:
  - (a) Setting out a timetable of projected NO<sub>x</sub> emissions that also specifies the year by which Cyprus expects to be in compliance;
  - (b) Updating the list of specific measures taken or scheduled to fulfil its emission reduction obligations under the Protocol;
  - (c) Indicating the quantitative and projected effects of these measures to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions up to and including the year of predicted compliance;
7. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress of Cyprus towards and the timetable for achieving compliance with its obligations under the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>, and to report to it thereon at its thirty-fifth session in 2016.

## **Decision 2014/5**

### **Compliance by Liechtenstein with the Protocol on Heavy Metals (ref. 23/13 (Cd); ref. 24/13 (Hg))**

*The Executive Body,*

*Acting* under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedure for review (ECE/EB.AIR/113/Add.1, decision 2012/25, annex),

1. *Notes* the information and recommendations contained in the seventeenth report of the Implementation Committee concerning the compliance by Liechtenstein with its obligation under article 3, paragraph 1, of the Protocol on Heavy Metals with respect to mercury (Hg) and cadmium (Cd) emissions (ECE/EB.AIR/2014/2, paras. 77–80), following the referral by the secretariat pursuant to paragraph 5 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedure for review;

2. *Notes with concern* that Liechtenstein has failed to fulfil its obligation to reduce the emissions of mercury and cadmium listed in annex I to the Protocol on Heavy Metals from their level in 1990 by taking effective measures, as required by article 3, paragraph 1, of the Protocol;

3. *Notes with regret* that Liechtenstein did not provide the additional information requested by the Implementation Committee, as communicated in the letters of the secretariat to the Party concerned;

4. *Urges* Liechtenstein to fulfil its obligation under the Protocol on Heavy Metals as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* Liechtenstein to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2015, with the following information:

(a) The results of the analysis that had been planned for 18 September 2013, in particular focusing on whether the analysis provides additional information on the anticipated results of any improvement of the emission model for mercury and cadmium, and whether these revised models would result in the Party expecting to be in compliance with its emission reduction obligations under the Protocol on Heavy Metals;

(b) Measures taken or planned to be taken to reduce mercury emissions below the 1990 base year of 0.15 kilograms;

(c) Measures taken or planned to be taken to reduce cadmium emissions below the 1990 base year of 2.2 kilograms;

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress of Liechtenstein towards achieving compliance with its obligations under the Protocol on Heavy Metals, and to report to it thereon at its thirty-fifth session in 2016.

## **Decision 2014/6 Compliance by Estonia with the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ref. 2/10 (HCB))**

*The Executive Body,*

*Acting* under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedure for review (ECE/EB.AIR/113/Add.1, decision 2012/25, annex),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2011/6 and 2012/17;
2. *Notes* the information and recommendations contained in seventeenth report of the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2012/17 on Estonia's compliance with its obligations under article 3, paragraph 5 (a), of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Protocol on POPs) (ECE/EB.AIR/2014/2, paras. 18–25);
3. *Notes with concern* Estonia's continuing failure to fulfil its obligation to reduce emissions of hexachlorobenzene (HCB) listed in annex III of the Protocol on POPs from their level in 1995;
4. *Notes with regret* that Estonia did not provide the information requested by the Implementation Committee in its sixteenth report (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/4, para. 22);
5. *Urges* Estonia to fulfil its obligations under the Protocol on POPs as soon as possible;
6. *Reiterates* its request to Estonia to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2015, with further information on the status of its work to update the national emission factors for persistent organic pollutants (POPs);
7. *Decides* to invite Estonia to participate in the Committee's session in 2015 to elaborate on the information provided pursuant to paragraph 6 above;
8. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to continue to review the progress of Estonia towards compliance with its obligations under the Protocol on POPs, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its thirty-fifth session in 2016.

## **Decision 2014/7 Compliance by Latvia with the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ref. 3/10 (HCB); ref. 11/10 (diox./furan))**

*The Executive Body,*

*Acting* under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedure for review (ECE/EB.AIR/113/Add.1, decision 2012/25, annex),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2011/6 and 2012/17;
2. *Notes* the information and recommendations contained in the seventeenth report of the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2012/17 on Latvia's compliance with its obligations under article 3, paragraph 5 (a), of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Protocol on POPs) (ECE/EB.AIR/2014/2, paras. 18–25);

3. *Notes with concern* Latvia's continuing failure to fulfil its obligation to reduce emissions of hexachlorobenzene (HCB) and dioxins/furan listed in annex III of the Protocol from their levels in 1990;
4. *Notes with regret* that Latvia did not provide the information requested by the Implementation Committee in its sixteenth report (ECE/EB.AIR/2013/4, para. 22);
5. *Urges* Latvia to fulfil its obligations under the Protocol on POPs as soon as possible;
6. *Reiterates* its request to Latvia to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2015, with further information on the status of its work to update the national emission factors for persistent organic pollutants (POPs);
7. *Decides* to invite Latvia to participate in the Committee's session in 2015 to elaborate on the information provided pursuant to paragraph 6 above;
8. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to continue to review the progress of Latvia towards compliance with its obligations under the Protocol on POPs, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its thirty-fifth session in 2016.

### **Decision 2014/8**

#### **Compliance by Albania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro and Sweden with their reporting obligations**

*The Executive Body,*

*Acting* under paragraph 11 of structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and the procedure for review (ECE/EB.AIR/113/Add.1, decision 2012/25, annex),

1. *Recalls its decisions* 2013/18, 2013/19 and 2013/21;
2. *Takes note* of the information contained in the report of the Implementation Committee with respect to compliance by Parties with their reporting obligations under the protocols to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, identified on the basis of information provided by the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections (ECE/EB.AIR/2014/3, paras. 7–43, and informal document No. 1, tables 1–7);
3. *Notes with regret* that:
  - (a) Under the 1985 Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or their Transboundary Fluxes by at least 30 per cent (1985 Sulphur Protocol), Albania has not reported annual emission data for the base year;
  - (b) Under the 1985 Sulphur Protocol, Albania has not reported annual emission data for 2010, 2011 and 2012;
  - (c) Under the Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes (Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>), Albania has not reported annual emission data for the base year;
  - (d) Under the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>, Albania has not reported its annual emission data for 2010, 2011 and 2012;
  - (e) Under the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Protocol on POPs), Liechtenstein has not reported annual emission data for the base year for hexachlorobenzene (HCB);

(f) Under the Protocol on POPs, Liechtenstein has not provided annual emission data for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 for HCB, Luxembourg and Montenegro have not reported annual emission data for dioxin/furans, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) and HCB for 2012 and Luxembourg has also not reported annual emission data for 2011;

(g) Under the Protocol on POPs, Luxembourg has not reported its gridded data for 2005 and 2010 for HCB, PAH and dioxins/furans and Sweden has not reported its 2005 gridded data for HCB;

(h) Under the Protocol on Heavy Metals, Luxembourg and Montenegro have not reported annual emission data for mercury, lead and cadmium for 2012 and Luxembourg has also not reported annual emission data for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011;

(i) Under the Protocol on Heavy Metals, Luxembourg has not reported its gridded data for 2005 and 2010 for cadmium, mercury and lead;

(j) Under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol), Luxembourg has not reported projections data for all four pollutants for the years 2015 and 2020;

4. *Urges:*

(a) Albania to provide its missing annual emission data for 2010, 2011, 2012 and the base years under the 1985 Protocol on Sulphur and the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>;

(b) Liechtenstein to provide its missing annual emission data for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and the base year for HCB under the Protocol on POPs;

(c) Luxembourg to provide its missing:

(i) Annual emission data for 2011 and 2012 under the Protocol on POPs and for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 under the Protocol on Heavy Metals;

(ii) Gridded data for 2005 and 2010 under the Protocols on POPs and Heavy Metals;

(iii) Projections data for 2015 and 2020 under the Gothenburg Protocol;

(d) Montenegro to provide its missing annual emission data for 2012 under the Protocols on POPs and Heavy Metals;

(e) Sweden to provide its missing gridded data for HCB for 2005 under the Protocol on POPs;

5. *Reminds:*

(a) Albania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro and Sweden of the importance of not only complying fully with their emission reporting obligations under the Protocols, but also of submitting the final and complete data on time;

(b) Albania that in accordance with the article 2 of the 1985 Protocol on Sulphur the applicable base year for Albania is 1980 and that in accordance with article 2 of the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub> the applicable base year is 1987;

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress made by Albania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro and Sweden with regard to their reporting obligations under these Protocols and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its thirty-fifth session in 2016.