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Economic Commission for Europe

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

Thirty-seventh session

Geneva, 11-14 December 2017

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Monday, 11 December 2017*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report of the Executive Body on its thirty-sixth session.
3. Report on credentials.
4. Matters arising from meetings of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and other related meetings.
5. Status of ratification of the Convention and its protocols
6. Review of implementation of the 2016-2017 workplan:

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates attending the meeting are therefore requested to register online by **20 November 2017** using the link available on the meeting webpage: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=43519>. The registration code for the meeting is 14009. This will be a paperless meeting. All the documentation for the session and related information will be posted on the meeting web page. Delegates should bring copies of any documentation they will require. 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 website (<http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat at +41 22 917 3570.

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Please recycle The recycling symbol, consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.



- (a) Science;
 - (b) Policy;
 - (c) Compliance;
 - (d) Capacity-building to promote ratification and implementation in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia;
 - (e) Communication and outreach.
7. Draft 2018-2019 workplan for the implementation of the Convention.
 8. Policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention.
 9. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention.
 10. Activities of international organizations relevant to the Convention.
 11. Other business.
 12. Adoption of decisions taken at the thirty-seventh session.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 December, morning

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

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-seventh session (ECE/EB.AIR/139)

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

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 December, morning

The Executive Body is expected to adopt the report of its thirty-sixth session (Geneva, 15-16 December 2016).

Documentation

Report of the Executive Body on its thirty-sixth session (ECE/EB.AIR/137)

3. Report on credentials

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 December, morning

Delegations will be invited to submit their credentials to the secretariat during 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, 11 December, morning

The secretariat will report on the outcomes of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Ostrava, Czechia, 13-15 June 2017) and the twenty-third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee for Environmental Policy (Geneva, 14-17 November 2017), among others.

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

5. Status of ratification of the Convention and its protocols

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 December, morning

At its thirty-sixth session, the Executive Body considered the status of ratification, acceptance and approval of or accession to the three latest, amended protocols to the Convention — namely, the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol), the Protocol on Heavy Metals and the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants — including short informal reports submitted by Parties on their progress towards the ratification of these protocols. The Executive Body encouraged Parties that had not yet reported to send short informal reports to the secretariat after the session, and invited Parties to report again on their progress with regard to the ratification of the three protocols at the Executive Body's thirty-seventh session (ECE/EB.AIR/137, para. 33).

Delegations will be invited to provide updated reports on their progress towards ratification.

6. Review of implementation of the 2016-2017 workplan

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 December, morning and afternoon

The Executive Body will be invited to review the implementation of the 2016-2017 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/133/Add.1).

(a) Science

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) and the Chair of the Working Group on Effects will report on the implementation of workplan item 1 (science) and present a summary of the main issues discussed at and the results of the third joint session of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects (Geneva, 11-15 September 2017), together with conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the Executive Body.

Documentation

Report of the third joint session of the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe and the Working Group on Effects (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2017/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2017/2 forthcoming)

(b) Policy

The Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review will report on the implementation of workplan item 2 (policy) and on the outcomes of the fifty-fifth session of the Working Group (Geneva, 31 May-2 June 2017). She will particularly draw attention to the dedicated thematic session on agriculture and air pollution, organized in accordance with decision 2016/3 of the Executive Body under the leadership of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen in cooperation with the secretariat and the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Natural Vegetation and Crops. The Chair of the Working Group will highlight the conclusions and recommendations made by the Working Group at its fifty-fifth session for consideration by the Executive Body, including those related to the recommendations of the ad hoc policy review group of experts on the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention¹ (policy review group). The Chair will also provide an update on the submission of new commitments and the implementation of existing ones under the Batumi Action for Cleaner Air initiative, as presented by delegations at the Working Group's fifty-fifth session. Parties will be invited to provide further information on their actions under the initiative.

Documentation

Report of the fifty-fifth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/118)

(c) Compliance

The Chair of the Implementation Committee will report on the implementation of workplan item 3 (compliance). He will present the twentieth report on the Committee's work and a review of compliance by Parties with their reporting obligations in 2017, prepared based on the outcomes of the Committee's thirty-ninth session (Geneva, 5-7 September 2017). The Executive Body will be invited to consider the Committee's report and recommendations.

Documentation

Twentieth report of the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2017/3)

Review of compliance by Parties with their reporting obligations in 2017 (ECE/EB.AIR/2017/5)

Compliance with reporting obligations (informal document No. 1)

(d) Capacity-building to promote ratification and implementation in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

The Chair of the coordinating group on the promotion of actions towards the implementation of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, members of other bodies under the Convention and the secretariat will report on the implementation of workplan item 4 (capacity-building to promote ratification and implementation in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia). They will give an overview of the actions taken to strengthen the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols and also to increase cooperation and exchange of information between the countries of the subregion and to support their

¹ See Rob Maas and Peringe Grennfelt, eds., *Towards Cleaner Air: Scientific Assessment Report 2016* (Oslo, 2016) and United States Environmental Protection Agency and Environment and Climate Change Canada, *Towards Cleaner Air: Scientific Assessment Report 2016 — North America* (2016, online report).

participation in the work of the Convention. 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 is expected to take note of the information provided.

(e) **Communication and outreach**

The secretariat will present a progress report on outreach activities in accordance with the 2016-2017 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (item 5.3.5). The Executive Body will be invited to consider the information provided.

Documentation

Progress report on outreach activities (informal document No. 2)

7. Draft 2018-2019 workplan for the implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 12 December, morning and afternoon

At its thirty-sixth session, the Executive Body requested the Bureau, in collaboration with the subsidiary bodies and supported by the secretariat, to elaborate a draft 2018-2019 workplan for the implementation of the Convention for consideration and adoption by the Executive Body at its thirty-seventh session. The Executive Body is expected to discuss and agree on the 2018-2019 workplan, ensuring that it targets the Convention's priorities and appropriate outputs. The Executive Body is expected to take into account the recommendations of the Working Group on Strategies and Review with regard to the short-term recommendations of the policy review group, as contained in the report of the Working Group on its fifty-fifth session. Other subsidiary bodies have also considered the short-term recommendations of the policy review group when preparing their input to the draft workplan.

The Executive Body is expected to discuss the calendar of meetings and a list of official documents for 2018-2019 with a view to ensuring a smooth flow of information and results between the scientific and policy bodies in order to facilitate informed policy discussions based on scientific outputs.

Moreover, the Executive Body is expected to discuss updated mandates of the task forces and centres under the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects on the basis of an informal document. Following the recommendation of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects, draft updated mandates were prepared to reflect the respective broad areas of research work and long-term objectives, taking into consideration the recommendations of the policy review group.

Documentation

Draft 2018-2019 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2017/1)

Report of the fifty-fifth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/118, forthcoming)

Report of the third joint session of the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body to EMEP (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2017/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2017/2)

Updated mandates of task forces and centres under the Steering Body to EMEP and the Working Group on Effects (informal document No. 3)

8. Policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 13 December, morning and afternoon

At its thirty-fifth session (Geneva, 2–4 May 2016), by decision 2016/1 the Executive Body established a policy review group to make proposals for a policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention and recommendations as to whether and how the Convention should take action in the short and long term based on the findings in that report. At its thirty-sixth session, the Executive Body also tasked the group with reviewing the priorities for work and action in the long-term strategy for the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/106/Add.1) and to highlight issues requiring further discussion with regard to the long-term strategy in advance of the thirty-seventh session of the Executive Body. In line with decision 2016/1, the policy review group presented its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its fifty-fifth session in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2017/3. The Working Group discussed the document, focusing on the short-term recommendations (for 2018-2019) and giving some general direction for the longer term (beyond 2018-2019). The Working Group's recommendations to the Executive Body, based on the report of the policy review group, are set out in the meeting report on its fifty-fifth session.

The Chair of the policy review group will present the group's report to the Executive Body highlighting issues for further discussion with regard to revision of the long-term strategy of the Convention.

The Executive Body is expected to task the policy review group with proposing updates and revisions to the long-term strategy in collaboration with the Executive Body Bureau and to provide guidance on the scope and direction of the updates to the long-term strategy. The Executive Body is also expected to take account of the policy review group's longer-term recommendations to inform the scope and guidance referred to above and its consideration of any future review of the Gothenburg Protocol. To support the discussion, an informal note containing a list of key questions and suggestions has been drawn up by the Chair.

Furthermore, the Executive Body is expected to consider the recommendations of the Working Group on Strategies and Review with regard to the short-term recommendations of the policy review group when discussing and agreeing on the 2018-2019 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (item 7 of the provisional agenda).

Documentation

Highlights of proposed updates to the long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/2017/4)

Report of the Working Group on Strategies and Review on its fifty-fifth session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/118, forthcoming)

Key issues for discussion in relation to the long-term strategy (informal document No. 4)

9. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 14 December, morning

The secretariat will inform the Executive Body about the status of Parties' contributions to the trust funds for financing the implementation of the Convention in 2016-2017 and the expenditures in 2016. It will also present the different funding flows and mechanisms for the science and policymaking bodies under the Convention, including task forces.

Based on the recommendation of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects, the Executive Body is expected, inter alia, to approve: (a) the detailed use of resources for EMEP in 2018; (b) the essential international coordination costs for financing the core activities of the Convention and its protocols, other than those covered by the EMEP Protocol; and (c) the respective scales of mandatory and recommended contributions.

Documentation

Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2017/2)

Funding flows and mechanisms under the Convention (informal document No. 5)

10. Activities of international organizations relevant to the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 14 December, morning

Representatives of international organizations (e.g., the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, 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 inform the Executive Body about existing and potential areas of collaboration with the Convention. The Executive Body is expected to take note of this information.

11. Other business

Tentative timing: Thursday, 14 December, morning

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item. Parties wishing to propose any other business are invited to contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

12. Adoption of decisions taken at the thirty-seventh session

Tentative timing: Thursday, 14 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-eighth session.
