**Fortieth session of the Executive Body**

**18 December 2020**

**Draft decisions and conclusions**

The Executive Body, at its fortieth session:

I. Adoption of the agenda

1. Adopted its agenda

II. Adoption of the report of the Executive Body on its thirty-eighth session

1. Adopted the report on its thirty-ninth session (9-13 December 2019);

**III. Report on credentials**

1. Took note of the report on credentials;

**IV. Review of the implementation of the 2020-2021 workplan**

**A. Science**

1. Took note of the reports of the Chair of the EMEP Steering Body and the Chair of the Working Group on Effects;

**B. Policy**

1. Took note of the report of the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review;
2. Pending recommendation by the Working Group on Strategies and Review:

Adopted decision 2020/1 on adoption of the guidance document on integrated sustainable nitrogen management;

Decision 2020/1 Adoption of the Guidance document
on integrated sustainable nitrogen management

*The Executive Body,*

*Recalling* the long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for 2020–2030 and beyond (ECE/EB.AIR/142/Add.2, decision 2018/5),

*Recalling also* item 2.2.3 of the workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/144/Add.2),

1. *Decides* to adopt the Guidance document on integrated sustainable nitrogen management contained in document ECE/EB.AIR/2020/6–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2020/5;

2. *Encourages* Parties to mobilize efforts to control pollution from agricultural sources in the context of the wider nitrogen cycle.

1. Adopted the revised list of official documents for the sessions of the Executive Body and the main subsidiary bodies in 2021;
2. Requested the secretariat to issue as publications the report for policymakers on the cost of control versus the cost of inaction and the guidance document on reduction of emissions from agricultural residue burning to be submitted for adoption at the forty-first session;

**C. Compliance**

1. Took note of the report of the Chair of the Implementation Committee on the implementation of the workplan item 3 (compliance);
2. Elected members of the Implementation Committee;
3. Elected the Chair of the Implementation Committee;

**D. Capacity-building to promote ratification and implementation in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia**

1. Took note of the report of the Chair of the Coordinating Group for EECCA;
2. Took note of the report of the secretariat on the implementation of the capacity-building programme;
3. Requested Parties to continue to support financially the capacity building and awareness raising activities managed by the secretariat;

**E. Communication** **and outreach**

1. Took note of the report by the secretariat on communication and outreach activities;

V. Review of sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

1. Pending recommendation by the Working Group on Strategies and Review:

**Decision 2020/2 Preparations for undertaking the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012, pursuant to its article 10**

**VI. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention**

With regard to the EMEP Protocol:

1. Decided on the detailed use of resources in 2021 as set out in table 2 of document ECE/EB.AIR/2020/1;
2. Agreed on the schedule of mandatory contributions from Parties for 2021 and provisionally agreed on those for 2022 as set out in table 3 of document ECE/EB.AIR/2020/1;
3. Supported the Steering Body’s call on the Parties to the EMEP Protocol to consider making additional voluntary contributions (in kind or in cash through the trust fund) to ensure that the work in 2021 can be accomplished as foreseen in the 2020–2021 workplan for the implementation of the Convention;
4. Requested the Steering Body, with the assistance of its Bureau, to present the details of the 2022 budget for approval by the Executive Body at its forty-first session;
5. Urged Parties that have not yet done so to pay their 2020 contributions in cash to the trust fund and, in 2021, to pay their contributions so that they reach the trust fund in the first half of the year;
6. Urged Parties with arrears to pay them in full to the trust fund;

With regard to the core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol:

1. Took note of the contributions made to the trust fund for effects-oriented activities for 2020, and welcomed the payments made, but also expressed disappointment at the lack of response by many Parties;
2. Urged all Parties that have not yet done so to consider providing the recommended contributions to the trust fund for financing core activities without undue delay;
3. Decided that the essential international coordination costs for financing the core activities of the Convention and its protocols, other than those covered by the EMEP Protocol, shall be $2,358,700 in 2021, and shall provisionally be $2,358,700 in 2022 and $2,358,700 in 2023;
4. Agreed on the recommended schedule of contributions from Parties in 2021, and provisionally agreed on those for 2022, as set out in table 12 of document ECE/EB.AIR/2020/1;
5. Requested the secretariat to inform Parties of the recommended contributions made to trust fund to meet the 2021 budget, inviting them to make these contributions as agreed in revised decision 2002/1;
6. Encouraged Parties to make the recommended contributions to the trust fund before 30 November 2020 each year;
7. Noted with appreciation the essential support provided to the Convention and its bodies by lead countries, countries hosting centres and those organizing meetings, as well as countries that fund activities of their national focal centres/ points and the active participation of national experts;
8. Invited the secretariat to provide information on the amount of contributions made to the trust fund for effects oriented activities as of 30 November 2021 at the forty-first session of the Executive Body, and to use the amount as a basis to co-fund the effects-oriented activities in 2022;
9. Decided that, in the event that the amount of contributions is lower than the agreed costs of $2,358,700, unearmarked contributions should be divided equally between the centres.

With regard to promotion and implementation of the Convention:

1. Reiterated its support for this element of the work programme, the successful enlarged implementation of the Convention in countries in transition of Eastern Europe,
South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, being crucial for the future of the Convention;
2. Invited all Parties, but especially those that lead task forces and expert groups, to promote activities such as special workshops in countries of Eastern Europe,
South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and to collaborate with the secretariat in developing and carrying out such projects;
3. Welcomed the contributions to the trust fund and thanked those countries that have contributed;

With regard to secretariat support

1. Invited Parties to make voluntary contributions to strengthen the Convention secretariat;

**VII. Election of officers**

1. Elected a Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Executive Body.
2. Elected a Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.

XIV. Adoption of decisions taken at the fortieth session

1. Adopted its decisions and agreed on the conclusions of its fortieth session.