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

Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for
Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range
Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

Working Group on Effects

Sixth joint session

Geneva, 14–18 September 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixth joint session

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 3 p.m.
on Monday, 14 September 2020***

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers:
 - (a) Working Group on Effects;
 - (b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe.
3. Progress in activities in 2020 and further development of effects-oriented activities.
4. Draft updated strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention.
5. Long-term ecosystems monitoring.
6. Financial and budgetary matters:

* 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 14 August 2020 through the web page for the meeting: www.unece.org/index.php?id=52860. 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/UN_Map.pdf). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat at +41 22 917 3570.

- (a) Working Group on Effects;
 - (b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe.
7. Adoption of the report of the fifth joint session.
8. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies and activities of the Bureaux of the Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects.
9. Joint thematic session:
- (a) Contribution of scientific bodies to the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;
 - (b) Ozone pollution.
10. Outreach activities, information-sharing and cooperation with other organizations and programmes.
11. Information-sharing by Parties.
12. Progress in activities of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe in 2020 and future work:
- (a) Improvement and reporting of emission data and adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone:
 - (i) Adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;
 - (ii) Improvement and reporting of emission data;
 - (b) Measurements and modelling;
 - (c) Integrated assessment modelling;
 - (d) Condensables in emission inventories and modelling;
 - (e) Hemispheric transport of air pollution.
13. Other business.
14. Closing of the sixth joint session.

II. Introduction

1. The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution agreed that, as of 2015, the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) should meet jointly to achieve enhanced integration and cooperation between the Convention's two scientific subsidiary bodies (ECE/EB.AIR/122, para. 47 (b)). The two bodies will hold their sixth joint session from 14 to 18 September 2020 in Geneva.

III. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. The Steering Body to EMEP and the Working Group on Effects will be invited to adopt the agenda for their sixth joint session as set out in the present document.¹ The

¹ Documentation for the session and other information materials will be made available on the web page for the session (www.unece.org/index.php?id=52860).

provisional time schedule is presented in informal document *Organization of work during the sixth joint session*.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixth joint session
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/1– ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/1)

Organization of work during the sixth joint session (informal document)

2. Election of officers

(a) Working Group on Effects

3. At the fourth joint session (Geneva, 10–14 September 2018), Ms. Isaura Rábago (Spain) was re-elected as Chair of the Working Group on Effects. Ms. Alessandra De Marco (Italy) and Ms. Sonja Vidič (Croatia) were elected as new Vice-Chairs, and Ms. Sabine Augustin (Switzerland), Mr. Jesper Bak (Denmark), Mr. Thomas Dirnböck (Austria) and Ms. Gudrun Schütze (Germany) were re-elected as Vice-Chairs. All Bureau members were elected for a two-year term (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2018/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2018/2, para. 8).

4. The Working Group is expected to elect its chair and three or more vice-chairs following the rules of procedure adopted by the Executive Body for the Convention at its twenty-eighth session, which also apply to the Working Group (ECE/EB.AIR/106/Add.1, decision 2010/19, annex, rule 21, para. 1). In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, 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. The Working Group may also wish to decide on continuing to allow representation of the European Commission at Bureau meetings.

(b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

5. At the fourth joint session in 2018, Ms. Laurence Rouil (France) was re-elected as Chair of the EMEP Steering Body. Mr. Xavier Querol (Spain), Ms. Vidič (Croatia) and Mr. Rudolf Weber (Switzerland) were re-elected as Vice-Chairs. All Bureau members were elected for a two-year term (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2018/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2018/2, para. 7).

6. The Steering Body is expected to elect its chair and three or more vice-chairs following the rules of procedure adopted by the Executive Body for the Convention at its twenty-eighth session, which also apply to the Steering Body. The Steering Body may also wish to decide on continuing to allow representation of the European Commission at Bureau meetings.

3. Progress in activities in 2020 and further development of effects-oriented activities

7. Participants will discuss the 2020 joint progress report on policy-relevant scientific findings, which will highlight the main outcomes of the work under EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects. They will also consider technical documents from the international cooperative programmes on the effects-oriented activities in the 2020–2021 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR.144/Add.2), as well as other documents and publications made available by the international cooperative programmes. Lead countries will draw attention to recent activities on ecosystems monitoring, modelling and mapping, publications and task force meetings.

8. The review of recent results will cover the following pollution-specific topics: (a) cross-cutting items; (b) acidification and nutrient nitrogen; (c) ozone; and (d) particulate matter, heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants. Under each topic, representatives of international cooperative programmes will report on the implementation of the relevant

workplan items and the other work carried out. The presentations will also include issues from the technical reports of the international cooperative programmes and workshops.

9. Representatives of the Bureau of the Working Group on Effects and international cooperative programmes will report on progress in implementing the recommendations from the review of the cooperative programmes, including progress in setting up a common web page for the Working Group.

10. Participants are expected to take note of the technical reports and the completion of the respective 2020–2021 workplan items. They may wish to provide guidance for future work.

Documentation

2020 joint progress report on policy-relevant scientific findings
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/3–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/3)

Effects of air pollution on forests
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/11–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/4)

Effects of air pollution on rivers and lakes
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/12–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/5)

Effects of air pollution on materials
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/13–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/6)

Effects of air pollution on natural vegetation and crops
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/14–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/7)

Integrated monitoring on air pollution effects on ecosystems
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/15–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/8)

Modelling and mapping
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/16–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/9)

Effects of air pollution on health
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/17–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/10)

4. Draft updated strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention

11. At the fifth joint session in 2019, the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects decided to prepare updates to the EMEP and Working Group strategies to be elaborated in 2020, for consideration and endorsement at their sixth joint session – to be forwarded to the Executive Body for its consideration and approval at its fortieth session (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2019/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2019/2, para. 72 (b)). At their meeting on 24–26 March 2020, the Extended Bureaux of the Working Group on Effects and of the Steering Body to EMEP, recalled the key achievements in implementing the Revised long-term strategy of the effects-oriented activities² and the Revised strategy for EMEP for 2010–2019³ over the past ten years, and discussed proposed elements relevant for the update of the strategies (new priorities, future scientific work and a road map). The Extended Bureaux agreed that the updated strategies should be combined into a single document.

12. Participants are invited to discuss the elements of the draft update strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention, prepared by the Chairs of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects with inputs from centres and task forces. Participants may consider elaborating an advance draft of the common strategy that will be forwarded to the Executive Body for its consideration at its fortieth session (Geneva, 17 and 18 December 2020).

² Available at www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/lrtap/WorkingGroups/wgs/ece_eb_air_2009_17.Rev.1.e_01.pdf.

³ Available at www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/air/emep/Informal_document_no_20_Revised_Strategy_for_EMEP_for_2010-2019_clean_text.pdf.

Documentation

Strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/18–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/11)

5. Long-term ecosystems monitoring

13. The Chair of the Working Group on Effects will provide information on possible further cooperation between the international cooperative programmes and the European Union on long-term ecosystems monitoring. She will also present an update on cooperation with LifeWatch European Research Infrastructure Consortium and a proposal for collaboration with the Integrated European Long-term Ecosystem, Critical Zone and Socioecological Research Infrastructure.

6. Financial and budgetary matters

14. The secretariat will introduce the note on financial and budgetary matters and will report on any updates regarding the payment of mandatory, voluntary and in-kind contributions to EMEP and to co-fund effects-oriented activities in 2019 and 2020. The secretariat will also update participants on the contracts for the Convention centres in 2020 and the information provided by the centres on the total costs of their operation.

(a) Working Group on Effects

15. Participants are expected to discuss the budget for the centres under the Working Group in 2021.

(b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

16. Participants are expected to discuss and adopt the detailed budget for the EMEP centres in 2021, and to submit the budget proposal to the Executive Body for its approval.

Documentation

Financial and budgetary matters
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/19–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/12)

7. Adoption of the report of the fifth joint session

17. Participants will be invited to adopt the report of the fifth joint session of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects (Geneva, 9–13 September 2019).

Documentation

Report of the fifth 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.1/2019/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2019/2)

8. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies and activities of the Bureaux of the Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects

18. The Chair of the Executive Body for the Convention and the secretariat will inform participants about matters arising from the thirty-ninth session of the Executive Body (Geneva, 9–13 December 2019) (see ECE/EB.AIR/144).

19. The Chairs of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group will present a summary of the work of their Bureaux since the fifth joint session. Participants are expected

to discuss and provide guidance for further work on cooperation with other bodies under the Convention and the future activities of the two Bureaux.

Documentation

Activities of the Bureaux 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.1/2020/9–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/20).

9. Joint thematic session

20. A joint thematic session will be held to discuss two issues: (a) the contribution of scientific bodies to the review of the Gothenburg Protocol; and (b) ozone pollution. The session will give EMEP centres, task forces and international cooperative programmes under the Working Group on Effects the opportunity to present a number of results and conclusions from their work relevant to the questions to be considered.

(a) Contribution of scientific bodies to the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;

21. At its thirty-ninth session, the Executive Body adopted decision 2019/4 whereby it initiated the review of the Gothenburg Protocol as amended in 2012 and also requested the subsidiary bodies of the Convention to prioritize work that supports the review. The annex to decision 2019/4 contains a list of potential elements that could inform the scope and content of the review. Further to the scientific and technical inputs listed in section D of the above-mentioned annex, participants may wish to discuss some new potential elements proposed by the Extended Bureaux of the Working Group on Effects and of the Steering Body to EMEP, including:

- (a) Protection of marine ecosystems;
- (b) Chemicals of emerging concern – substances introduced by industry replacing those banned, such as new persistent organic pollutants, pesticides or microplastics;
- (c) Biogenic emissions, natural sources and biomass burning in atmospheric and integrated modelling;
- (d) Effect of air pollutant emission changes outside the ECE region on concentrations and depositions within the ECE region.

The EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects are expected to discuss and agree on the timeline for providing the scientific input to the process of the protocol review.

(b) Ozone pollution

22. During a segment on ozone pollution, the focus will be on the extent, trends and sources of ground-level ozone in the ECE region. Participants will address the following questions:

- (a) What is the current scientific knowledge and understanding about ozone pollution and its sources?
- (b) What are the scientific needs with respect to ozone pollution from the short- and long-term perspectives?
- (c) From the perspective of the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, which indicators should be promoted to assess impacts of ozone on ecosystems?

10. Outreach activities, information-sharing and cooperation with other organizations and programmes

23. Representatives of partner organizations and programmes (for example, the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme, the Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service, the European Commission Joint Research Centre, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and the World Meteorological Organization) will be invited to briefly present their work and their cooperation with the two scientific bodies under the Convention.

24. Participants are expected to take note of the information provided and to offer guidance on further information-sharing and cooperation

11. Information-sharing by Parties

25. Representatives of Parties are invited to prepare and present their national experiences in implementing monitoring and modelling activities under EMEP and/or their national effects-oriented activities. Parties are requested to present both successes in implementation and also obstacles thereto.

26. Participants are expected to consider the national experiences presented at the session and to recommend that similar exchanges of information be continued at future sessions.

12. Progress in activities of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe in 2020 and future work

27. Participants are expected to consider progress in the activities of EMEP in 2020 and in relation to the 2020–2021 workplan for the implementation of the Convention. Representatives of centres and task forces will present the main achievements and difficulties in the implementation of the 2020–2021 workplan items, and their relevance in connection with the goals of the long-term strategy for the Convention for 2020–2030 and beyond (Executive Body decision 2018/5).

Documentation

2020 joint progress report on policy-relevant scientific findings
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/3– ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/3)

(a) Improvement and reporting of emission data and adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

(i) Adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

28. The representatives of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections and the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections will inform the Steering Body about the outcome of the analyses of requests by ten Parties (Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) to apply the adjustment procedure. One Party (Czechia) submitted new adjustment applications while the other Parties submitted data for adjustments approved in previous years.

29. The Steering Body is expected to consider the outcome of the analyses and make recommendations to the Executive Body at its fortieth session.

Documentation

Review of adjustment applications
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/10–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/21)

(ii) Improvement and reporting of emission data

30. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections will report on progress made, including the results of the annual joint meeting of the Task Force with the European Environment Agency European Environment Information and Observation Network (online, 11–14 May 2020).

31. A representative of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections will inform the Steering Body about the status of emissions data reporting, the work of the Centre and the work on data quality. She will report on progress in the inventory improvement programme, in particular as regards the stage 3 in-depth reviews of the emission inventories and the experiences gained in the 2020 review.

32. Participants will discuss and review quality assurance issues regarding national emission inventories. Some national experts from Parties may be invited to present their views on emissions reported to the Convention, especially when significant changes in emission estimates are reported from one year to another.

33. The EMEP Steering Body is expected to provide some guidance on future emission and modelling work on this issue.

Documentation

Emission inventories and projections
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/6– ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/17)

Present state of emission data, review process and data for modellers
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/7– ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/18)

(b) Measurements and modelling

34. The EMEP status and technical reports relevant for the evaluation of progress made in 2020 (see documentation list below) will be made available on the EMEP website.⁴ Under this subitem, representatives of the EMEP task forces and centres will report on progress in measurements and modelling activities as follows:

(a) The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling will report on progress, including the results of the twenty-first meeting of the Task Force (online, 11–13 May 2020);

(b) A representative of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West will give an overview of the activities on monitoring and modelling of acidification, eutrophication and photo-oxidants, including progress made by the Chemical Coordinating Centre and the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling, the work of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West, discussions within the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling and plans for future work until the end of 2020;

(c) A representative of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East will present an overview of the activities on monitoring and modelling of heavy metals, progress by the Chemical Coordinating Centre, the work of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East, discussions within the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling and plans for future work until the end of 2020;

(d) A representative of the Chemical Coordinating Centre will present an overview of activities on atmospheric monitoring and modelling of particulate matter, including with respect to work at the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West and the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling, the work of the Chemical Coordinating Centre, the results of the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling and plans for future work until the end of 2020;

(e) A representative of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East will present an overview of activities on monitoring and modelling of persistent organic pollutants, including with respect to work at the Chemical Coordinating Centre, the work of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East, the results of the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling and plans for future work until the end of 2020.

35. Participants are expected to:

(a) Approve the executive summaries of the 2020 status reports and to decide to present them to the Executive Body;

⁴ See http://emep.int/emep_publications.html.

- (b) Discuss the status of implementation of the monitoring strategy;
- (c) Discuss progress made with respect to cooperation with national experts, and provide guidance on means for its improvement;
- (d) Discuss progress made in modelling and monitoring activities in 2020 in all the areas of work mentioned above and provide guidance on the further development of that work;
- (e) Provide guidance on the further development of the measurement and modelling work.

Documentation

Measurements and modelling (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/4–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/15)

EMEP Status Report 1/20, *Transboundary particulate matter, photo-oxidants, acidifying and eutrophying components* (forthcoming)⁵

EMEP Status Report 2/20, *Assessment of transboundary pollution by toxic substances: Heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants* (forthcoming)

(c) Integrated assessment modelling

33. The Chair of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling will report on Task Force activities, including the results of its forty-ninth meeting (online, 20–22 April 2020). A representative of the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling will also report on activities. The participants are expected to discuss progress made and to provide further guidance on the integrated assessment modelling work.

Documentation

Integrated assessment modelling
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/5–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/16)

(d) Condensables in emission inventories and modelling

34. A representative of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West will present the outcomes of the workshop on the best approaches in treatment of condensables in emission inventories and modelling (online, 17–19 March 2020), organized as part of a research project funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. An advanced draft of the report will be available as an informal document at the sixth joint session.

35. Participants are expected to:

- (a) Discuss available options on how to improve the treatment (completeness and consistency) of condensables in EMEP modelling and reporting of national emission inventories;
- (b) Provide guidance and recommendations for further actions and activities, including providing support to Parties;
- (c) Forward the guidance and recommendations to the Executive Body for consideration at its fortieth session.

Documentation

Measurements and modelling (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/4–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/15)

EMEP Status Report 1/20, *Transboundary particulate matter, photo-oxidants, acidifying and eutrophying components* (forthcoming)

EMEP Status Report 2/20, *Assessment of transboundary pollution by toxic substances: Heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants* (forthcoming)

⁵ EMEP status reports for 2020 will be published in the summer or autumn. At present, the names of the final authors and other publishing details are not available.

(e) Hemispheric transport of air pollution

36. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution will report on the results of recent activities and meetings that the Task Force co-organized or to which it contributed.

37. Participants are expected to discuss and approve the main findings of the Task Force and to provide guidance for its further work.

Documentation

Hemispheric transport of air pollution
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2020/8–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2020/19)

13. Other business

38. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item. Delegations wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

14. Closing of the sixth joint session

39. The secretariat will present an outline of the report with the main decisions. Participants are expected to adopt the decisions taken during the joint session and give directions to the secretariat for finalizing the report.
