

**Proposal from the EU and its Member States for a draft Decision of the Working Group
of the Parties at its seventh meeting on
Development of the Protocol**

Article 6.2 of the Protocol sets up a process to enable the Meeting of the Parties to review the Protocol's reporting requirements and consider its further development regarding the possible revision of activities covered by annex I, the pollutants covered by annex II, the thresholds in annexes I and II, and inclusion of other relevant aspects; having assessed the experience gained from the development of national pollutant release and transfer registers and the implementation of this Protocol, and taking into account relevant international processes.

The EU and its Member States welcome the progress made since the 6th meeting of the Working Group of the Parties and thanks the Bureau for its work in producing the meeting documents for the 7th meeting of the Working Group of the Parties.

We believe that an exchange of information between Parties to share experience pursuant to Article 6.2 of the Protocol would be helpful in supporting further considerations and options for the development of the Protocol.

We therefore propose the preparation by the Working Group of the Protocol, of a report synthesising such exchange of information among Parties and information provided in the meeting documents of the 6th meeting of the Working Group of the Parties, for consideration and possible adoption by the Meeting of the Parties. This report would provide concrete information on areas for potential development of the Protocol and cover options for Parties to envisage more extensive requirements than contained in the Protocol.

Furthermore, interested Parties wishing to propose formal amendments of the Protocol pursuant to its Article 20 may take this report into account.

The EU and its Member States are willing to actively contribute to this information exchange.

Against that background, the EU and its Member States have prepared the draft WGP7 decision as follows.

Draft Decision of the 7th meeting of the Working Group of the Parties on Development of the Protocol

The Working Group,

Taking note of the Report on the development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2019/6), including the possible approach for revising Annexes I, II and III (ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2019/6/Add.1); and the Comparative analysis of different international reporting obligations related to Annexes I, II and III of the Protocol on PRTRs (PRTR/WG.1/2019/Inf.2),

Aware that some Parties are interested in information on possible approaches for Parties to develop PRTRs, going beyond the current requirements of the Protocol,

Recalling that pursuant to Article 6.2 of the Protocol, having assessed the experience gained from the development of national pollutant release and transfer registers and the implementation of this Protocol, and taking into account relevant international processes, the Meeting of the Parties shall review the reporting requirements under this Protocol and shall consider specified issues in its further development,

Also recalling that pursuant to Article 20 of the Protocol, Parties may propose amendments to the Protocol and that such proposals are to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties,

- i) Decides to intensify analytical work on the development of the Protocol, including the review referred to in article 6(2) of the Protocol, and sets up an information exchange among Parties to further share experience gained in the Protocol implementation, including implementation challenges and possible approaches for Parties to develop PRTRs going beyond the current requirements of the Protocol. This information exchange, to be organised through submissions, should cover:
 - experience gained in the implementation of the activities specified in annex I of the Protocol and their possible revision;
 - experience gained in the implementation of the pollutants specified in annex II of the Protocol and their possible revision;
 - experience gained in the implementation of the thresholds in annexes I and II; and their possible revision; and
 - a possible inclusion of other relevant aspects, such as information on on-site transfers, storage, the specification of reporting requirements for diffuse sources or the development of criteria for including pollutants under this Protocol.
- ii) In the light of the information shared, and based on inputs by Parties and observers, will draw up a comprehensive report with the assistance of the Bureau;
- iii) Will consider this report at its eighth meeting, as a basis for recommending to the Meeting of the Parties the adoption of the report as a reference document for Parties.