

Decision 2006/4

Compliance by Norway with its obligations under the 1991 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or Their Transboundary Fluxes (ref. 1/01)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 1997/2, annex, as amended in 2001, ECE/EB.AIR/75, annex V),

1. *Recalls* its decisions 2001/1, 2002/2, 2003/1, 2004/6 and 2005/2;
2. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the progress made by Norway, based on the information provided by Norway on 30 March and 22 June 2006 (ECE/EB.AIR/2006/3, paras. 10–12), and in particular its conclusion that Norway remained in non-compliance with the emission reduction obligation of the 1991 Protocol Concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) or Their Transboundary Fluxes;
3. *Welcomes* the significant national measures that have been taken by Norway to reduce its VOC emissions;
4. Also *welcomes* the fact that Norway's final data for 2003 and 2004 confirm a downward trend in its total national emissions and its tropospheric ozone management area (TOMA) emissions, and that, according to preliminary data for 2005, Norway appears to be in compliance with its obligation to ensure that its total national annual emissions do not exceed its 1988 levels, as required by article 2.2(b) of the Protocol;
5. *Remains concerned*, however, by Norway's continuing failure to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to reduce its annual emissions within the TOMA specified under annex I by at least 30 per cent by the year 1999, using 1989 as its base year, as required by article 2.2(b) of the Protocol;
6. *Expresses its disappointment* that, notwithstanding Executive Body decision 2005/2, Norway has not endeavoured to shorten the seven years it had anticipated remaining in non-compliance;
7. *Strongly urges* Norway to ensure that it lives up to its expectation to achieve compliance with its obligation to reduce its annual emissions within the TOMA as from 2006;
8. *Calls on* Norway to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2007, with information on the progress that it has made towards achieving compliance with these two obligations; and
9. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review Norway's progress and timetable, and to report to it thereon at its twenty-fifth session.