

Annex IV

**DECISION 2002/3 CONCERNING COMPLIANCE BY FINLAND WITH ITS
OBLIGATIONS UNDER 1991 VOC PROTOCOL**

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 decision 2001/2, in which it inter alia: welcomed the submission by Finland to the Implementation Committee concerning its compliance with the 1991 Geneva Protocol on the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes; noted the Implementation Committee's report and its conclusion regarding Finland's non-compliance with the emission reduction obligation of the Protocol (EB.AIR/2001/3, paras.11-18); expressed its concern at Finland's failure to fulfil its obligation; noted that Finland expected that the measures adopted would bring it into compliance not later than 2004 or 2005; noted with concern that Finland might be in non-compliance for six years; urged Finland to fulfil its obligation under the VOC Protocol as soon as possible; invited it to report to the Implementation Committee by 30 April 2002 on the progress made; and requested the Implementation Committee to review the progress and report to it thereon at its twentieth session;
2. Notes the report provided by the Implementation Committee on Finland's progress, based on the information that it received from Finland on 30 April and 30 August 2002 (EB.AIR/2002/2, paras. 9-11), and in particular its conclusion that Finland remained in non-compliance with the emission reduction obligation of the VOC Protocol;
3. Remains concerned about the continuing failure by Finland to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to reduce its national annual emissions by at least 30% using 1988 as its base year, as required by paragraph 2 (a) of article 2 of the VOC Protocol;
4. Welcomes Finland's announcement that it expects to shorten the period of its non-compliance previously anticipated and thus to achieve compliance by no later than 2002;
5. Urges Finland to fulfil its obligations under the VOC Protocol as soon as possible;
6. Calls on Finland to provide to the Implementation Committee through the secretariat by 31 March 2003 a report describing the progress made towards

compliance and setting out a timetable that specifies the year by which Finland expects to be in compliance, lists the specific measures taken or scheduled to fulfil its emission reduction obligations under the VOC Protocol and sets out the projected effects of each of these measures on its VOC emissions up to and including the year of compliance;

7. Requests the Implementation Committee to review Finland's progress and timetable, and report to it thereon at its twenty-first session.