DECISION 2004/8 CONCERNING COMPLIANCE BY IRELAND WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE 1988 NOx PROTOCOL (ref. 3/02)

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 2002/7 and 2003/6;
2. Notes the report provided by the Implementation Committee on Ireland’s progress, based on the information it received from Ireland on 31 March and 22 July 2004 (EB.AIR/2004/6, paras. 24-25), and in particular its conclusion that Ireland remains in non-compliance with its emission reduction obligation under the 1988 NOx Protocol;
3. Remains concerned about the continuing failure by Ireland to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to control and/or reduce its national annual emissions so that these do not exceed its emissions in 1987, as required by paragraph 1 of article 2 of the NOx Protocol;
4. Notes the Implementation Committee’s continuing concern that Ireland has not provided all the information that the Executive Body, in its decisions 2002/7 and 2003/6, requested it to present;
5. Expresses disappointment that Ireland has not demonstrated that it will be able to shorten the period of nine years that it previously anticipated it would remain in non-compliance;
6. Continues to urge Ireland to fulfil its obligation under paragraph 1 of article 2 of the NOx Protocol as soon as possible;
7. Repeats its request to Ireland to provide the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, as soon as possible, but no later than 31 March 2005, with a report describing the progress it has made towards compliance and setting out a timetable that specifies the year by which it expects to be in compliance, listing the specific measures taken or scheduled to fulfil its emission reduction obligations under the NOx Protocol and setting out the projected effects of each of these measures on its NOx emissions up to and including the year of compliance and to provide clear explanations on the emission data adjustments submitted in its letter of 31 March 2004 to the secretariat, as elaborated in its letter of 22 July 2004; and
8. Requests the Implementation Committee to review Ireland’s progress and timetable, and report to it thereon at its twenty-third session.