Decision 2010/5
Compliance by Spain with the Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds (ref. 6/02)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (Executive Body decision 2006/2),


2. Notes the report provided by the Implementation Committee on the follow-up to decision 2009/8 on compliance by Spain with its obligations under the Protocol on Volatile Organic Compounds, based on the information provided by Spain in March and July 2010 (ECE/EB.AIR/2010/2, paras. 14–19), and in particular the Committee’s conclusion regarding the failure of Spain to comply with the emission-reduction obligation of the Protocol;

3. Reiterates its increasing disappointment at the continuing failure of Spain to fulfil its obligation to adopt and implement effective measures to reduce its national annual emissions by at least 30 per cent by the year 1999, using 1988 as its base year, and its continuing non-compliance with the emission-reduction obligations under article 2.2 (a) of the Protocol since 1999;

4. Once again strongly urges Spain to fulfil its obligation under article 2.2 (a) of the Protocol as soon as possible, and to adopt and effectively implement the measures necessary to achieve compliance with its obligation;

5. Reiterates its requests to Spain, as articulated in paragraphs 6 and 8 of decision 2006/7, to continue to report annually on its progress towards achieving compliance, and in addition reiterates its requests to Spain to complement the progress report with information as articulated in paragraph 5 of decision 2009/8;

6. Reiterates its request to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to bring this serious matter of continuing and long-lasting non-compliance to the attention of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Environment of Spain;

8. Also reiterates its requests to the Executive Secretary to present details of the non-compliance of Spain in its annual report to the Committee on Environmental Policy, to prepare an information note detailing the non-compliance of Spain, to send copies of the note to each of the Parties to the Protocol and to publish the note on the home page of the Convention and in the newsletter of the Commission;

9. Calls on Spain to make a presentation to the next annual session of the Executive Body specifically concerning the additional information requested in paragraph 5, and in particular to present its progress on the revision of the Spanish national emission inventory and its work on identifying activities or sectors where there is still potential to further reduce emissions;

10. Requests the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Spain, and to report to the Executive Body thereon at its twenty-ninth session in 2011.