

Decision 2012/18 Concerning compliance by Iceland with the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ref. 6/10)

The Executive Body,

Acting under paragraph 11 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/89/Add.1, decision 2006/2),

1. *Notes* the report provided by the Implementation Committee concerning the compliance of Iceland with the requirements of article 3, paragraph 5 (a), of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Protocol on POPs) (ECE/EB.AIR/2012/16, paras. 49–56), following the referral by the secretariat pursuant to paragraph 5 of the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee, and in particular the Committee's conclusion regarding the failure of Iceland to demonstrate that it continues to benefit from the exemption under article 3, paragraph 7, of the Protocol granted by virtue of its decision 2006/9, and its failure to fulfil its obligations under article 3, paragraph 5 (a), as demonstrated by the emission data for 2007, 2008 and 2009;

2. *Expresses its concern* at the failure of Iceland to fulfil its obligation to take effective measures to control and/or reduce its national annual emissions of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) so that these do not exceed emissions in 1990, as required by article 3, paragraph 5 (a), of the Protocol or to demonstrate that the exemption granted under article 3, paragraph 7, is still valid;

3. *Urges* Iceland to fulfil its obligation under the Protocol as soon as possible;

4. *Requests* Iceland to provide to the Implementation Committee, through the secretariat, by 31 March 2013, information on:

(a) The observed PAH emission levels that are achieved for the aluminium production plant and the ferrosilicon plant, including comparisons with emission levels that can be achieved through the implementation of best available techniques (BAT) measures for those plants, taking into consideration the guidance adopted pursuant to decision 2009/4 or other relevant guidance documents on BAT;

(b) The measures set out in regulation 788/1999 and other effective measures to control PAH emissions from mobile sources;

(c) The methodology used to scale the emission estimates on accidental fires; whether there any plans to improve the accuracy of this estimate; and the expected quantified effect of the legislation on fire controls in buildings and fire brigades.

5. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to review the progress and timetable of Iceland, and to report to it thereon at its thirty-second session in 2013.
