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Working Group on Effects
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FINANCING OF THE EFFECTS-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

Note prepared by the Bureau of the Working Group on Effects
in collaboration with the secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its seventeenth session, the Working Group on Effects (EB.AIR/WG.1/1998/2, para. 58) approved the note on the financing of the effect-oriented activities (EB.AIR/WG.1/1998/15) and confirmed that the estimated 1999 essential coordination costs of their different elements as provided in document EB.AIR/WG.1/1997/14 were still valid.

Documents prepared under the auspices or at the request of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for GENERAL circulation should be considered provisional unless APPROVED by the Executive Body.

2. The Working Group again stressed that the burden of funding the effect-oriented activities was still primarily carried by the lead countries of the individual programmes and/or by the countries hosting the programme coordinating centres, and reiterated the need to share the coordinating costs more equally. It also invited its Bureau to establish, in collaboration with the secretariat, a transparent method for recording and presenting all kinds of voluntary contributions.

3. At its sixteenth session, the Executive Body for the Convention noted document EB.AIR/WG.1/1998/15 and invited the Bureau of the Working Group on Effects to continue to provide information on voluntary cash contributions (earmarked and non-earmarked) to the Trust Fund, on the understanding that direct financial contributions from the lead countries or host countries to the coordinating centres should be acknowledged in an accompanying text. Other forms of contributions (e.g. hosting task force meetings and workshops, supporting the national focal centres, indirect contributions/support to Programme Coordinating Centres) should be recorded separately by the secretariat (ECE/EB.AIR/59, para. 42 (i)).

4. The Executive Body again stressed the need to establish a stable long-term financial mechanism for the core activities under the Convention, including, besides EMEP, the effect-oriented activities and integrated assessment modelling, and urged delegations to continue their efforts to gather support from their Governments for such a mechanism. It also welcomed the voluntary contributions to the effect-oriented activities in 1999, as pledged by Parties at that session (by Canada, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland (also for 1998), the United States of America, and the European Community), and invited other Parties to explore possibilities for making pledges, using the indicative scale of contributions as annexed to the report of the twenty-second session of the Working Group on Strategies (EB.AIR/WG.5/46, annex I)(ECE/EB.AIR/59, para. 66).

5. At its meeting in February 1999, the Extended Bureau of the Working Group on Effects noted with appreciation that there had been an increase in voluntary contributions over the past two years. Both earmarked and non-earmarked cash contributions to the Trust Fund were deployed to fund additional agreed activities at the programme centres. It also noted that while non-earmarked contributions could be allocated to areas specified by the Working Group on Effects and its Bureau, a number of Parties provided contributions earmarked only for specific programmes and/or activities. To ensure the highest efficiency in the use of these financial resources it would be preferable to receive non-earmarked contributions, and, if the Parties had to earmark them, it should be done with due regard to the work-plan for the Convention and/or in consultation with the Bureau of the Working Group on Effects. The Bureau of the Working Group on Effects also approved the priority tasks of international coordination of effect-oriented activities in 1999/2000, prepared in consultation with the Extended Bureau, which should be partially financed by voluntary contributions.

II. PRIORITY TASKS FOR 1999/2000 (TO BE PARTIALLY FINANCED BY THE TRUST FUND)

6. ICP on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests

- (a) Hosting of a programme coordinating meeting to define the ICP Forests strategy beyond the year 2001;
- (b) Evaluation of the latest data and preparation of the technical and executive report on Forest Condition in Europe;
- (c) Draft report on the integrated evaluation of level I data on crown condition, soil condition and foliage chemistry;
- (d) Summary report of the recent literature study on cause-effect relationships;
- (e) Progress report on the internal review of ICP Forests, referring to the recommendations of the external review of the effect-oriented activities.

7. ICP on Assessment and Monitoring of Acidification of Rivers and Lakes

- (a) Data gathering and processing; database management;
- (b) Preparation, undertaking and assessment of results of chemical and biological intercalibration, including trends in chemical intercalibration results over a 10-year period;
- (c) Preparation of the 12-year report;
- (d) Evaluation of the ICP Waters database regarding monitoring of effects of acid deposition;
- (e) Preparation of the proceedings of the workshop on biological monitoring;
- (f) Review of data on heavy metals in ICP Waters database.

8. ICP on Effects of Air Pollution on Materials, including Historic and Cultural Monuments

- (a) Finalizing the contribution to the substantive report on Trends in the Impacts of Air Pollution;
- (b) Evaluation of results from trend analysis for 1997 exposure;
- (c) Drafting the extended executive summary report for the 8-year exposure and trend analysis data;
- (d) Promoting the use of dose-response relations for mapping of damage and calculation of cost, including preparation of a joint workshop with the Task Force on Mapping (spring 2000);
- (e) Development of a database of environmental data for the programme on the multi-pollutant effects on materials.

9. ICP on Effects of Air Pollution and other Stresses on Crops and Non-wood Plants

- (a) Processing of 1998 data;
- (b) Analysing clover clone data to determine the relative importance of level II factors, and to incorporate their influence into the dose-response function for ozone;
- (c) Coordinating ozone flux modelling and mapping activities;
- (d) Developing methods for the investigation of ozone sensitivity in natural vegetation;
- (e) Initiating an economic evaluation of crop losses;
- (f) Further analysing clover clone samples for heavy metal content.

10. ICP on Integrated Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Ecosystems

- (a) Database maintenance at the Finnish Environment Institute;
- (b) Preparation of a strategy report for the assessment of heavy metals fluxes: status and trends;
- (c) Preparation of the strategy report for the further assessment of biological effects at IM sites.

11. Mapping Programme

- (a) Updating the critical loads data used, taking into account new methodological developments;
- (b) Updating and providing specific databases (e.g. exceedance isolines) to the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Implementation Committee;
- (c) Setting up web pages for the Task Force on Mapping and CCE and link them to other ICPs and to NFCs;
- (d) Preparing a joint report with ICP Materials on mapping of corrosion rates and economic aspects of material damage.

12. Health Aspects

- (a) Finalization and editing of the report on the first preliminary assessment of the health risk of particulate matter;
- (b) Publication of the report.

III. VOLUNTARY CASH CONTRIBUTIONS IN 1998 AND 1999

13. The voluntary cash contributions towards partially financing the necessary international coordination of the effect-oriented activities paid to the Trust Fund in 1998 and 1999 (as of 27 May 1999) are presented in tables 1 and 2, respectively. In addition to the cash contributions earmarked for

individual programmes, the tables show in the column "EOA-GEN" the non-earmarked cash contributions and in the column "TOT.CONTR." the total contributions from individual countries to the Trust Fund for the year.

14. In addition to these voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, it should be stressed, however, that all lead countries of the programmes as well as countries hosting the main programme centres (i.e. Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom) continue to provide substantial funding for the activities of the task forces and the programme centres. Their financial support substantially exceeds their respective share of funding as indicated by the scale of contributions in document EB.AIR/WG.5/R.55, annex II. The financial support provided by a number of countries to the activities of several sub-centres (e.g. within ICP Forests, ICP Materials and the Mapping Programme) should also be noted.

15. Hosting task force meetings and workshops is yet another form of important support to the effects-oriented activities. Since the seventeenth session of the Working Group on Effects in 1998, the following countries have provided this kind of support: Canada (Extended Bureau and task force), Czech Republic (workshop), Germany (task force), Lithuania (task force), Poland (task force and workshop), Switzerland (workshop) and United Kingdom (two task forces). The European Centre for Environment and Health of the World Health Organization has also hosted a task force meeting.

IV. USE OF VOLUNTARY CASH CONTRIBUTIONS IN 1998 AND 1999

16. Institutional contracts for specified tasks (defined by the Bureau of the Working Group on Effects) within a given time period, concluded between UN/ECE and the institutes nominated as the programme centres, provide the formal basis for the use of voluntary cash contributions to the Trust Fund.

17. The use of earmarked and non-earmarked cash contributions in 1998 and 1999 (as of 1 June 1999) is presented in table 3. It should be noted that financial support for coordinating activities of individual programmes was provided to their respective programme centres. For the mapping activities, the support was provided to the Coordination Center for Effects. The line "TRENDS" represents funds provided to the programmes from non-earmarked cash contributions for the preparation of the report on Trends in the Impacts of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution through the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology (United Kingdom), which has coordinated the work.

Table 1. 1998 voluntary cash contributions towards financing the essential international coordination of the effect-oriented activities (in US\$)

	ICP F	ICP W	ICP M	ICP C	ICP IM	MAPPING	HEALTH	ROA-GEN	TOT. CONTR
Austria	2,321								2,321
Belarus									-
Belgium-Flanders	3,362								3,362
Belgium-Brussels									-
Belgium-Wallonia	1,681								1,681
Bosnia and Herzegovina									-
Bulgaria									-
Canada								13,496	13,496
Croatia	209								209
Cyprus									-
Czech Republic	1,500								1,500
Denmark	2,070							14,980	17,050
Estonia	262								262
Finland									-
France	20,979								20,979
Germany	27,705								27,705
Greece									-
Hungary	675								675
Iceland									-
Ireland								6,341	6,341
Italy									-
Latvia									-
Liechtenstein	30								30
Lithuania									-
Luxembourg	150								150
Netherlands						47,574			47,574
Norway	1,695	16,909							18,604
Poland	2,130								2,130
Portugal	450								450
Republic of Moldova									-
Romania									-
Russian Federation									-
Slovakia									-
Slovenia	300								300
Spain	5,310								5,310
Sweden	3,990								3,990
Switzerland	3,390								3,390
Turkey									-
Ukraine									-
United Kingdom									-
United States									-
European Community	4,995							65,518	70,513
TOTAL 1998 CONTR.	83,204	16,909	-	-	-	47,574	-	100,335	248,022

Table 2. 1999 voluntary cash contributions towards financing the essential international coordination of the effect-oriented activities (in US\$) as recorded on 27 May 1999

	ICP F	ICP W	ICP M	ICP C	ICP IM	MAPPING	HEALTH	EOA-GEN	TOT.CONTR.
Austria								13,700	13,700
Belarus									-
Belgium-Flanders									-
Belgium-Brussels									-
Belgium-Wallonia									-
Bosnia and Herzegovina									-
Bulgaria									-
Canada									-
Croatia									-
Cyprus									-
Czech Republic									-
Denmark	2,070								2,070
Estonia	262								262
Finland	1,605								1,605
France									-
Germany									-
Greece									-
Hungary									-
Iceland									-
Ireland								6,803	6,803
Italy									-
Latvia	525								525
Liechtenstein									-
Lithuania									-
Luxembourg									-
Netherlands									-
Norway									-
Poland									-
Portugal	450								450
Republic of Moldova									-
Romania									-
Russian Federation									-
Slovakia	810								810
Slovenia									-
Spain									-
Sweden									-
Switzerland								29,197	29,197
Turkey									-
Ukraine									-
United Kingdom									-
United States									-
European Community	4,995							100,217	105,212
TOTAL 1999 CONTR.	10,717	-	-	-	-	-	-	149,917	160,634

Table 3. Use of voluntary cash contributions to partially fund the effect-oriented activities in 1998 and 1999 (as of 1 June 1999) (in US\$)

CONTRIBUTIONS	EARMARKED		NON-EARMARKED	
YEAR	1998	1999	1998	1999
ICP FORESTS	66,500		13,500	
ICP WATERS	17,500		13,500	
ICP MATERIALS			13,500	
ICP VEGETATION			13,500	
ICP INTEGR.MONIT.			20,000	
MAPPING	57,500		15,000	
HEALTH				
TRENDS			64,000	96,439
TOTAL	141,500		153,000	96,439