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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE BODY FOR THE CONVENTION ON  
LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme  
for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range  
Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)  
(Twenty-third session, Geneva, 6-8 September 1999)  
(Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda)

**EMEP website <http://www.emep.int>**

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**Summary**

In 1998 the three EMEP Centres joined forces to develop the EMEP website. Its purpose is to foster communication and facilitate the sharing of data and information relevant to EMEP. The website is primarily addressed to the Parties to the Convention, the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies, but also to the general public. It is expected that the website will rapidly evolve in response to the needs of its users. This note has been prepared to inform the Steering Body about the contents and general updating of the EMEP website. At its sixteenth session in 1998, the Executive Body approved the posting of EMEP results on the Internet.

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.

## **Introduction**

1. The EMEP website was presented for the first time during the twenty-second session of the EMEP Steering Body in 1998 and since 30 October 1998 it has been available to EMEP Steering Body members at an address protected with a password. The new address <http://www.emep.int> was registered in December 1998 and the website was posted on the Internet according to the recommendations of the Executive Body in 1998. Since April 1999, it has been accessible to the general public.

2. The aims of the EMEP website are to:

(a) Foster communication among the three EMEP centres, the secretariat and the Parties to the Convention;

(b) Facilitate the sharing of information with different Task Forces and Working Groups under the Convention; and

(c) Improve the understanding and accessibility of the data produced by EMEP.

To fulfil its purpose, the EMEP website is freely accessible on the Internet. As it is desirable to follow up web statistics to determine the degree of interest in the EMEP website and gather feedback from its visitors, they are requested to register with name and address before accessing specially detailed data. The form and the contents of the website should change in accordance with the features of the Internet and in response to the various needs of its regular visitors.

3. Following the reporting procedures of EMEP, it is intended that the main data contents of the EMEP website would be updated during the second half of the year. The main update would take place by 15 September, after the most recent EMEP data have been accepted at the annual EMEP Steering Body session. The second update would take place by 15 December, to include necessary updates approved by the Executive Body. From that time, and until the next Steering Body session, the latest officially submitted and approved data would be available on the Internet.

4. The content of the EMEP website is described in general terms in tables 1 and 2. Although this content may change according to needs, the general principles for the inclusion of information and data on the EMEP website are summarized below, together with the definition of four different levels. Information from levels I, II and III are described in table 1, while table 2 gives examples of information and data from level IV.

5. Level I. General information on EMEP, such as information about workshops, model documentation, networks, recent events and publications. This type of information will be updated as necessary and be freely available.

6. Level II. Measured and modelled air quality data and emission data from EMEP, as habitually reported to the Steering Body. These data correspond to the contents of the EMEP reports. They should be updated by 15 September, as suggested above, and corrected by 15 December, after approval by the Executive Body. The latest officially submitted data should be included. Also at this level, data and information will be freely available.

7. Level III. Data files with EMEP air quality and emission data from the latest official submissions. Data are updated as in level II and should also be freely available. However, as these data are considered useful for research purposes, it is interesting to keep a register of the visitors for statistics and feedback. At level III, visitors are required to register before retrieving the data.

8. Level IV. This level involves special requests and is determined by the limitations of the on-line data load on the Internet. The EMEP website is not an on-line database and, therefore, it is not feasible at present to include the impressive amount of data compiled by EMEP over more than 20 years. These data are stored in data archives at the EMEP Centres and would be available upon request. EMEP data are freely available, but the processing and transmission of the data would require extra resources by the EMEP Centres. Consequently, the data deliveries upon special request are subject to a small processing and transmission fee, depending on the resources used to satisfy the request.

Table 1. On-line contents of the EMEP website. All data will be freely available, shaded data would be available on-line after registration of username and address

On-line Contents	Updates	Resolution
<b>1. Emissions</b>		
Documentation, general information Useful links, reporting templates	Ongoing Ongoing	
Updated UN/ECE-EMEP official emission tables National totals for all available years and components and official projection data	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
Gridded UN/ECE-EMEP emission data for all available components, for the latest official submission year	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
Updated UN/ECE-EMEP emission trends for all available components	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
<b>2. Transboundary fluxes</b>		
Documentation, general information Useful links	Ongoing Ongoing	
Source-receptor matrices for available components, corresponding to the latest official emission submission year	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
Import-export budgets for each country, corresponding to the latest official emission submission year	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
Country allocated depositions for each country, calculated for the latest official emission submission year	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
<b>3. Modelled concentrations and depositions</b>		
Documentation, model description Useful links	Ongoing Ongoing	
Available contour maps for the EMEP domain Air concentrations and depositions for all reported components for the latest official emission submission year	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly

Available gridded total deposition for the EMEP domain (numbers in grids). Model calculations for the year with the latest official emission submissions	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
<b>4. Measured concentrations and depositions</b>  Documentation, network description Useful links	Ongoing Ongoing	
Available measurements of main components in air and precipitation from EMEP and other monitoring stations (such as HELCOM, OSPARCOM as to be agreed with these bodies) from the latest year with official submissions	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly Daily
Statistical summaries for air and precipitation data	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
<b>5. Time series and trends</b>  Documentation, network description General information, useful links	Ongoing Ongoing	
Selected time series with observed and modelled air concentrations and concentrations in precipitation	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
Available model calculations of main components in air and precipitation from EMEP stations from the latest year with official submissions	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly Daily
<b>6. Publications</b>  List of available bibliography, On-line EMEP reports from the latest year Workshop information, workshop proceedings	Ongoing Ongoing	

Table 2.Examples of data available upon request. Additional processing of these data would be subject to a processing and transmission fee, depending on the resources required for its delivery

Data available upon request	Updates	Resolution
<b>1. Emissions</b> Gridded UN/ECE-EMEP emission maps for all available components, from previous years	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
Sector split data, specification of low/high sources, specification of seasonal variations	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Seasonal
Emission expert estimates, expert estimates used for EMEP modelling	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly
Special emission trends for particular countries, other special requests	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
<b>2. Transboundary fluxes</b> Source-receptor matrices, import-export budgets for available components from previous years	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
Special requests, dedicated transboundary fluxes for particular areas	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
<b>3. Modelled concentrations and depositions</b> Air concentrations and depositions for all reported components from previous available years, eventually also at different heights above the surface	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly Daily 6-hourly
Country-to-grid depositions (wet + dry) from all countries and special areas (numbers in grids). Model calculations from previous available years	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
<b>4. Measured concentrations and depositions</b> Available measurements of main components in air and precipitation from EMEP stations from previous available years	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly Daily Hourly
Statistical summaries for air and precipitation data from previous available years	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
<b>5. Time series and trends</b> Selected time series with observed and modelled air concentrations and concentrations in precipitation	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly
Available model calculations of main components in air and precipitation from EMEP stations from previous years	15 September (after SB) 15 December (after EB)	Yearly Monthly Daily