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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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

Working Group on Strategies and Review (Thirty-third session, Geneva, 24-27 September 2001)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 24 September 2001

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Draft legal instrument on the financing of core activities (EB.AIR/WG.5/68).
- 3. Preparing for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/4, 5, 6 and 7).
- 4. Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals.
- 5. Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/1).
- 6. Exchange of information and technology (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/2, 8 and 9).
- 7. Communication strategy for the Convention (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/3).
- 8. Election of officers.
- 9. Other business.
- 10. Adoption of the report.

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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TENTATIVE TIMING

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda (Monday, 24 September, a.m.)

The Working Group is expected to adopt the agenda of the session.

Item 2: Draft legal instrument on the financing of core activities (Monday, 24 September, to Wednesday, 26 September, including sessional drafting groups)

At its eighteenth session, the Executive Body requested the Working Group on Strategies and Review to negotiate a draft legal instrument, taking into account paragraph 10 of the Gothenburg Ministerial Declaration as well as the draft protocol (EB.AIR/2000/3, annex I), for submission to it at its nineteenth session (ECE/EB.AIR/71, para. 42 (a)).

At the same session, the Executive Body adopted decision 2000/3 and the recommendation on the financing of core activities in 2001-2003 (ECE/EB.AIR/71, annex III) on the understanding that the essential coordination costs for core activities, other than those covered by the EMEP Protocol, were \$1,705,000 for 2001, and the provisional figure for 2002 and 2003 was \$1,765,000.

In the Ministerial Declaration (para. 10) adopted in Gothenburg (Sweden), the Parties recognized that the Convention's core activities required adequate funding if the Protocols were to be implemented effectively and cost-optimal abatement measures further developed. To this end they requested the preparation of a stable, long-term funding arrangement, preserving the possibilities for contributing in kind, that included the international coordination of health and ecosystem effect-related activities and integrated assessment modelling, for instance by appropriately extending the EMEP Protocol.

At a meeting, on 23-24 April 2001 the heads of delegation discussed further work to be done in response to the Executive Body's request. The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to adopt the report on the meeting of heads of delegation (EB.AIR/WG.5/68). A revised draft protocol text annexed to that report should serve as a basis for further deliberations.

Item 3: Preparing for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol (Monday, 24 September, p.m.)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess work in preparation of a review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol, including progress in reducing acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone and the pollutants responsible for these effects. It will also review progress in the work on particulate matter pollution (emission inventories, effects, atmospheric modelling and integrated assessment modelling) in order to present to the Executive Body a draft decision, including a timetable, on possible international action to tackle it. This work is to take into account the relevant activities under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects, and the relevant initiatives of the European Community.

The Working Group will have before it the report by the rapporteur of the Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments on the workshop on the measurement and economic valuation of health effects associated with air pollution held on 19-20 February 2001 in London (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/4).

The Working Group will also have before it the report on Integrated Assessment Modelling (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/5), including the results of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Task Force, held in Brussels on 14-16 May 2001.

Furthermore, the Working Group will have before it a report on progress in the work of the ad hoc expert group on ammonia abatement (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/6) and a draft framework advisory code of good agricultural practice for reducing ammonia emissions (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/7) drawn up by the ad hoc expert group. The framework advisory code is to assist future Parties to the Gothenburg Protocol in meeting their obligations under annex IX to the Protocol. Annex IX requires each Party, within one year from the date of entry into force of the Protocol for it, to establish, publish and disseminate an advisory code of good agricultural practice to control ammonia emissions. The Working Group may wish to recommend to the Executive Body the adoption of the draft framework advisory code.

Item 4: Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals (Tuesday, 25 September, a.m.)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess work in preparation of a review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, including information on the measures scheduled for re-evaluation in the Protocol. It will prepare a timetable of further action and required input for a review of the Protocol, including a possible effect-based approach.

The Working Group will be informed about progress in work related to heavy metals under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects. It may wish to take into account the report on the occurrence, movement and effects of selected heavy metals presented to the Working Group on Effects at its twentieth session (EB.AIR/WG.1/2001/10). It may, furthermore, wish to take note of the progress made at the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre East (MSC-E) of EMEP. The Task

Force on Measurements and Modelling reviewed this work at its second meeting (EB.AIR/GE.1/2001/4).

Item 5: Preparing for the review of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Tuesday, 25 September, a.m.)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to assess work in preparation of a review of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), including information on the pollutants scheduled for re-evaluation in the Protocol and on pollutants that are candidates for future inclusion. It will prepare a timetable of further action and required input for a review of the Protocol.

The Working Group will have before it the report on the further assessment of POPs (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/1) prepared by the Chairman of the ad hoc expert group on POPs, reflecting the discussions at its first meeting held in The Hague (Netherlands) on 6-8 November 2000.

Item 6: Exchange of information and technology (Tuesday, 25 September, p.m.)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to review progress in the exchange of information and technology, including information received on product-related measures to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), POPs and heavy metals. It will have before it the report of the workshop on the implementation of VOC abatement techniques in the surface-coating, drycleaning and surface-degreasing sectors (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/2). It will also be informed about the preparation of the workshop on control technologies for emissions from stationary sources to be held in Warsaw on 10-12 October 2001.

At its thirty-second session, the Working Group had accepted an offer by the delegation of France to host a workshop on further work on techno-economic databases and agreed that it would come back to the proposal to establish an ad hoc expert group for this work at its thirty-third session. An expert meeting on the further work on air pollution abatement options and their costs was held in Paris on 21 May 2001. The results, including proposals for further work, are reflected in the report on this meeting (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/8).

Furthermore, the Working Group will have before it the draft executive summary of the final report prepared by the Task Force on the management and use of by-products/residues containing primarily heavy metals or POPs generated by different sectors (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/9). This report, prepared at an editorial meeting on 7-9 March 2001 in Rome, presents conclusions and draft recommendations, including proposals to modify or to extend control techniques under the Protocols on Heavy Metals and POPs.

Item 7: Communication strategy for the Convention (Tuesday, 25 September, p.m.)

The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to develop a communication strategy for the Convention, including the biennial reviews of strategies and policies, and report to the Executive Body at its nineteenth session. It will have before it a note prepared, with the assistance of the secretariat, by an open-ended expert group that met in Geneva on 25 April 2001 (EB.AIR/WG.5/2001/3).

Item 8: Election of officers (Wednesday, 26 September, p.m.)

The Working Group is expected to elect its vice-chairpersons for 2001-2002.

At its thirty-second session, the Working Group re-elected Messrs. W. HARNETT (United States) and V. SOKOLOVSKY (Russian Federation) as Vice-Chairmen and elected Messrs. D. JOST (Germany) and J. ZUREK (Poland) as new Vice-Chairmen (EB.AIR/WG.5/66, para. 6).

At its eighteenth session, the Executive Body re-elected Mr. R. BALLAMAN (Switzerland) as Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (ECE/EB.AIR/71, para. 94).

Item 9: Other business (Wednesday, 26 September, p.m.)

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item.

Item 10: Adoption of the report (Thursday, 26 September, p.m.)

In accordance with established practice, the Working Group will adopt the report of the session.

To facilitate their access to the Palais des Nations, those delegates who do not have a valid badge should register with the secretariat by 10 September. Registration forms and explanatory instructions are available on the Internet at www.unece.org/env/wgs.