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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
(Meeting of heads of delegation, 25-26 April 2002)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF HEADS OF DELEGATION

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 3 p.m. on Thursday, 25 April 2002

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Draft instruments on the financing of core activities.
3. Other business.

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

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

The heads of delegation are expected to adopt the agenda of the meeting.

Item 2: Draft instruments on the financing of core activities

At its nineteenth session, the Executive Body discussed the results of the work conducted by the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its thirty-third session (EB.AIR/WG.5/70) concerning the financing of core activities. In the light of the discussion, the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/75, para. 18):

- (a) Took note of the report of the thirty-third session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (EB.AIR/WG.5/70) and the report on the meeting of heads of delegation (EB.AIR/WG.5/68);
- (b) Took note, in particular, of the preliminary draft protocol in the report of the Working Group (EB.AIR/WG.5/70, annex I) and the preliminary draft text to be included in an Executive Body decision to be adopted at the time of adoption of the protocol (EB.AIR/WG.5/70, annex II);
- (c) Decided to finalize its work on the long-term financing of core activities at its twentieth session and to prepare input on it to the Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” scheduled for May 2003 in Kiev;
- (d) Requested the Working Group on Strategies and Review to finalize the draft protocol by resolving the few issues still outstanding and to prepare, as an alternative, a decision and recommendation that would facilitate voluntary financing, including a proposal for reporting and recording contributions;
- (e) Further requested the Working Group to hold a meeting of heads of delegation on these issues in spring 2002 and requested the secretariat to prepare, in consultation with the Working Group’s Chairman and the delegation of the United Kingdom, draft text as input for this meeting.

In the Ministerial Declaration adopted in Gothenburg (para. 10), 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.

As a basis for the discussion, an amendment to the draft protocol text is proposed in annex I below. A negotiating text for a draft decision is set out in annex II below.

Item 3: Other business

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

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 April. Registration forms and explanatory instructions are available on the Internet at www.unece.org/env/wgs .

Annex I

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE DRAFT PROTOCOL TEXT

(EB.AIR/WG.5/70, annex I)* /

Article 4 bis

Recording of contributions

The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe shall present for the consideration of the Parties meeting within the Executive Body, at each annual session of the Executive Body, a list of the contributions, both mandatory and voluntary, whether in cash or in kind, made in the preceding financial year towards the cost of core activities. The Executive Secretary shall list contributions in kind to a designated international centre based on information provided to the secretariat by the contributing Party together with the centre receiving the contribution.

* / Prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chairman of the Working Group and the United Kingdom's delegation.

Annex IINEGOTIATING TEXT FOR
A DRAFT DECISION ON THE FINANCING OF CORE ACTIVITIES ^{*/}The Executive Body,

Noting that the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and, with one exception, its Protocols do not contain any provision for the long-term financing of core activities,

Recalling that in 1984 the Parties adopted a Protocol to the 1979 Convention to provide for long-term financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP),

Considering that in the 1999 Gothenburg Ministerial Declaration the Parties noted that the efficient operation of the Convention and its Protocols required there to be stable, long-term funding arrangements for their core activities,

Convinced, that it is necessary to make appropriate arrangements regarding this matter,

Decides that:

1. For the purposes of this decision,
 - (a) “Convention” means the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, which was adopted on 13 November 1979 and entered into force on 16 March 1983;
 - (b) “Executive Body” means the Executive Body for the Convention, constituted under article 10, paragraph 1, of the Convention;
 - (c) “EMEP” means the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe;
 - (d) “Financial year” means the financial year of the United Nations, and “annual budget” shall be construed accordingly;
 - (e) “General Trust Fund” means the General Trust Fund for the Financing of the

^{*/} Prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chairman of the Working Group and the United Kingdom’s delegation on the basis of an earlier draft decision (EB.AIR/WG.5/2000/3) taking into account the changes in the text of the preliminary draft protocol introduced since.

Implementation of the Convention, which has been established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(f) “Designated international centres” means the international centres for the coordination of effect-related activities and integrated assessment modelling under the Convention that are specified in appendix I below;

(g) “Costs of core activities” means the costs of the international coordination of health, materials and ecosystem effect-related activities and integrated assessment modelling at the designated international centres that are covered by the work-plan adopted by the Executive Body, but excluding costs covered by the EMEP Protocol;

(h) “Contributions in kind” means contributions made by a Party directly to a designated international centre in respect of its work on core activities, as well as any other contributions recognized in decisions by the Executive Body as contributions in kind for the purpose of the present decision.

2. An annual budget for the costs of core activities should be adopted by the Executive Body by consensus in advance of the beginning of the financial year to which it applies and, at the same time, provisional budget totals drawn up for each of the two succeeding financial years.

3. The costs of core activities specified in the annual budget should be met from contributions made in cash and/or in kind by any Party or Signatory to the Convention, as well as, subject to approval by the Executive Body on the recommendation of the Working Group on Effects or the EMEP Steering Body, by any other country, organization or individual wishing to contribute to the costs of core activities.

4. All contributions in cash should be deposited in the General Trust Fund account.

5. The contributions referred to in paragraph 3 should be made in accordance with the scale of contributions set out in appendix II below.

6. The secretariat should present for the consideration of the Executive Body at each annual session a list of the contributions, whether in cash or in kind, made in the preceding financial year towards the cost of core activities under the Convention and its Protocols. The secretariat should list contributions in kind to a designated international centre based on information provided to it by the contributing Party together with the centre receiving the contribution.

Appendix I

DESIGNATED INTERNATIONAL CENTRES

Programme Coordination Centre for the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Natural Vegetation and Crops:

at the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Bangor, United Kingdom.

Programme Centre for the International Cooperative Programme on Integrated Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Ecosystems:

at the Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, Finland.

Programme Main Coordinating Centre for the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests:

at the Federal Research Centre for Forestry and Forest Products, Hamburg, Germany.

Programme Centre for the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Acidification of Rivers and Lakes:

at the Norwegian Institute for Water Research, Oslo, Norway.

Main Research Centre for the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Materials, including Historic and Cultural Monuments:

at the Swedish Corrosion Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

Coordination Center for Effects for the International Cooperative Programme on Modelling and Mapping:

at the National Institute of Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoven, Netherlands.

Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling for the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling:

at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Laxenburg, Austria.

[Centre for Work on the Health Effects of Air Pollution

at the World Health Organization's European Centre for Environmental Health, Bonn, Germany.]

Appendix II

SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The following is the scale of contributions referred to in paragraph 5:

Parties to the Convention <u>a/</u>	Per cent
Armenia	0.005
Belarus	0.044
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.009
Bulgaria	0.030
Croatia	0.090
Cyprus	0.088
Czech Republic	0.437
Estonia	0.023
Georgia	0.012
Hungary	0.280
Iceland	0.076
Kazakhstan	0.067
Kyrgyzstan	0.002
Latvia	0.023
Liechtenstein	0.014
Lithuania	0.039
Malta	0.035
Monaco	0.009
Norway	1.503
Poland	0.817
Republic of Moldova	0.005
Romania	0.136
Russian Federation	[2.776]
Slovakia	0.099
Slovenia	0.187
Switzerland	2.947
The FYR of Macedonia	0.014
Turkey	1.025
Ukraine	0.123
Yugoslavia	0.046
Austria	2.202
Belgium	2.628
Denmark	1.742
Finland	1.214
France	15.042
Germany	22.726
Greece	1.254
Ireland	0.685
Italy	11.783
Luxembourg	0.185
Netherlands	4.043
Portugal	1.076
Spain	5.861
Sweden	2.389
United Kingdom	12.879
European Community	3.33

a/

Canada and United States: voluntary contributions.