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

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BODY

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Introduction

1. The twenty-second session of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution was convened in Geneva from 29 November to 3 December 2004.
2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following Parties to the Convention: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, and the European Community (EC).
3. Representatives from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Research Centre for Asia and the Pacific representing the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) attended. The European Environment Agency (EEA) was also represented.
4. Representatives of the following non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were present: European Academies Science Advisory Council, International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA), International Union of Air Pollution Prevention and Environmental Protection Associations (IUAPPA), World Conservation Union (IUCN).
5. The Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East (MSC-E), the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West (MSC-W), the Chemical Coordinating Centre (CCC) and the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling (CIAM) of EMEP, the Coordination Center for Effects (CCE), the programme centres of the International Cooperative Programme (ICP) Waters and ICP Integrated Monitoring were also represented.
6. Mr. H. Dovland (Norway) chaired the meeting; and Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland) chaired the adoption of the report (chap. XV).
7. The Director of the Environment and Human Settlements Division, Mr. K. Bärlund, addressed the Meeting. He drew attention in particular to the need to consider implementation issues in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA).

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

8. The agenda (ECE/EB.AIR/82) was adopted.

9. The secretariat noted the guidelines for the preparation of reports circulated by the Secretary-General that required reports to focus on conclusions, decisions and substantive issues. These would also apply to the Convention's documents.

II. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FIFTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE AND THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

10. The secretariat reported on the fifty-ninth session of the Economic Commission for Europe, held in February 2004, noting the relevance of its consideration of sustainable development issues. It would provide input to the Commission on Sustainable Development, which would consider air pollution in its second round of topics in 2006/2007. It also noted the continued interest of the Committee on Environmental Policy in the work of the UNECE environmental conventions.

11. The secretariat provided information on the status of ratification of the Convention and its protocols. The Gothenburg Protocol needed just two more ratifications to enter into force.

III. PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT TO ANNEX II TO THE 1994 OSLO PROTOCOL

12. The Chairman noted the proposal from Cyprus, communicated by the secretariat to Parties, to adjust annex II to the 1994 Oslo Protocol to enable Cyprus to accede to it.

13. The delegation of Cyprus indicated its intention to accede to the Protocol and noted its wish to become more involved in the work of the Convention and its protocols.

14. The Executive Body agreed to adjust annex II to the Protocol to include Cyprus with the following emission ceilings (in kilotonnes): 1980 - 28; 1990 - 46; 2000 - 53; 2005 - 48; 2010 - 39; and requested the secretariat to inform the Depositary accordingly.

IV. PROGRESS IN CORE ACTIVITIES

A. Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)

15. Mr. J. Schneider (Austria), Chairman of the EMEP Steering Body, reported on the activities of EMEP, including the results of its twenty-eighth session (EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/2). He stressed the importance of improving emission data quality. He noted plans to review the MSC-E models for persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and heavy metals. Noting the differences between the 2002 revised emission reporting guidelines and the previous guidelines, he explained that an interim solution was to use memo items, but in the longer term there was a need to revise the guidelines. He drew attention to the revised monitoring strategy adopted by the Steering Body at its twenty-eighth session and proposed a decision on implementation for adoption by the Executive Body. The Steering Body had approved a draft letter to the European Centre for

Medium-range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF) to establish a working arrangement on collaboration (EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/2, para. 65 (b)), which he submitted to the Executive Body for signature by the Chairman.

16. The delegation of the Netherlands expressed satisfaction with the interim solution for addressing the differences and supported the future revision of the guidelines. Other delegations expressed support for improving the quality of the emission data.

17. The Executive Body:

(a) ..Took note of the report of the twenty-eighth session of the EMEP Steering Body (EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/2);

(b) Welcomed the positive outcome of the review of the EMEP Eulerian model and noted the need for further work on PM;

(c) Noted the progress made on heavy metals modelling, monitoring and emission reporting, and welcomed the EMEP contribution to the preparatory work for the review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals;

(d) Noted the progress made on POPs monitoring and modelling, welcomed the EMEP contribution to the review of the Protocol on POPs and took note of MSC-E plans to review its models for POPs and heavy metals;

(e) Approved the EMEP monitoring strategy for the period 2004-2009 and adopted decision 2004/1 regarding its implementation;

(f) Welcomed the publication of the EMEP assessment report;

(g) Noted with appreciation the progress in the development of the RAINS model and the positive outcome of its review, noted the development of baseline scenarios and urged all Parties to provide the necessary data for integrated assessment modelling;

(h) Welcomed plans by CIAM to organize a workshop on integrated assessment methodologies in relation to the RAINS model on 20-21 January 2005 at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), in Laxenburg (Austria);

(i) Welcomed the note on emission inventory review and data quality assurance (EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/15) and the note on the differences between the revised and the previous emission reporting guidelines (EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/8); noted the use of memo items as an interim solution for the differences;

(j) Recognized the importance of further developing the inventory improvement programme and took note of the future need to revise the 2002 Emissions Reporting Guidelines;

(k) Urged all Parties to report emissions data on POPs, heavy metals and particulate matter (PM) and to improve the quality of reported emissions data;

- (l) Requested Parties to report emissions data for 2003 and any necessary revisions to historical data in accordance with the Emission Reporting Guidelines and the letter sent to the Heads of delegation by the secretariat, including memo items, to the secretariat by 15 February 2005;
- (m) Welcomed the continued and useful cooperation of EMEP with other international organizations;
- (n) Approved the exchange of draft letters establishing a formal working arrangement between the Convention and ECMWF and agreed with their signature;
- (o) Approved the proposed budget of CIAM for 2005 (see EB.AIR/GE.1/2003/4, para. 59), agreed to keep the 2006 and 2007 budgets at the same level and called upon Parties to make every effort to provide the necessary funding for work on integrated assessment modelling to be conducted as foreseen in the work-plan.

B. Effects of major pollutants on human health and the environment

18. Mr. H. Gregor (Germany), Chairman of the Working Group on Effects, reported on the effect-oriented activities, including the results of the twenty-third session of the Working Group (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/2). He drew attention to the new pollutant-oriented structure used for the session. He noted the report on the review and assessment of present air pollution effects and their recorded trends and its revised executive summary (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/14/Rev.1) and the Joint Report on the history of effect-oriented activities (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/3). He stressed that current protocols would not solve existing problems, noting, inter alia, the increased exceedances of critical loads resulting from the (EB.AIR/2004/2), use of the new EMEP model. He highlighted other issues, especially the revision of the draft elements for the long-term strategy of the Working Group as well as increased focus on nitrogen.

19. The delegation of the Netherlands drew attention to the improved format of the financial tables, which, made it easier to assess the use of the Trust Fund. The delegations of Austria and Sweden commented on the need for emission reductions beyond those in the current protocols in order to achieve environmental protection in the long term.

20. The Executive Body:

- (a) Took note of the report of the twenty-third session of the Working Group on Effects (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/2);
- (b) Noted the further progress in developing the effect-oriented activities and the important results achieved by the International Cooperative Programmes and the Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution in implementing the Convention (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/3/Add.1);

- (c) Welcomed the progress achieved in cooperation between the bodies under the Convention, in particular the harmonization of data on land cover and base cations (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10/Add.1 and EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/15);
- (d) Reiterated the importance of the active participation of all Parties to the Convention, the effective cooperation among the programmes, task forces and coordinating centres and their close collaboration with EMEP, and welcomed the further development of close links with relevant institutions and organizations outside the Convention;
- (e) Noted that future responsibility for ICP Materials would be shared between Sweden and Italy, which would co-chair the programme starting in January 2005;
- (f) Reiterated its invitation to Parties to nominate national focal centres for those effect-oriented activities/programmes in which they did not yet actively participate;
- (g) Appreciated the continued progress achieved in the application of dynamic modelling (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/13) and the related work-plan elements for future work;
- (h) Noted the progress achieved in developing methods for flux-based ozone critical levels (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/8) and effects-based approaches for heavy metals (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10/Add.1);
- (i) Noted the revised Mapping Manual for critical thresholds and their exceedances, confirmed that the updated European critical loads data and maps (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/10/Add.1) may be used for work under the Convention and noted the new calls for data for the critical loads of heavy metals in the EMEP region, acidification and eutrophication and target loads;
- (j) Noted the importance of continuing the communication of the results and findings of the effect-oriented activities to the scientific community, policy makers and the general public, both nationally and internationally;
- (k) Took note of the 2004 substantive report on the review and assessment of present air pollution effects and their recorded trends and its revised executive summary (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/14/Rev.1);
- (l) Took note of the updated medium-term work-plan for the further development of the effect-oriented activities (EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/4) and invited the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body of EMEP to prepare effectively for continuing close cooperation in implementing the priority tasks of the Convention;
- (m) Welcomed the Working Group's efforts to reorganize its meetings and results in a more pollutant-focused manner, thereby promoting collaboration among ICPs, and requested the Working Group's Bureau to continue these efforts.

V. REVIEW OF PROTOCOLS AND OTHER STRATEGY ACTIVITIES

A. Protocol on Heavy Metals

21. The Executive Body noted that its twenty-second session was the first meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Heavy Metals.

22. Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland), Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, reported on the decisions taken at the Working Group's thirty-sixth session (EB.AIR/WG.5/78), including those on procedures, methods and timing for the review of the Protocol on Heavy Metals (EB.AIR/2004/4). He noted the report of the Expert Group (EB.AIR/WG.5/2004/3) and reports of two scientific workshops (EB.AIR/WG.5/2004/2; EB.AIR/WG.5/2004/3/Add.1). He indicated that the work of the Expert Group preparing for the review had been completed. He drew attention to the proposed decision to establish a task force (EB.AIR/WG.5/2004/4, annex) and its mandate for carrying out the necessary review of the Protocol as summarized in the draft work-plan (EB.AIR/2004/3, item 1.6). The secretariat had incorporated the elements agreed in discussion by the Working Group as requested (EB.AIR/WG.5/78, para. 18).

23. The delegation of Germany indicated its readiness to lead the proposed task force under the chairmanship of Mr. D. Jost. The first meeting was scheduled for 16-18 March 2005 in Berlin.

24. The delegations of Canada and the United States expressed concern over the timing and procedures of the proposed task force and proposed an amendment to the work-plan for preparing a timetable.

25. The Parties to the Protocol:

- (a) Adopted the procedures, methods and timing required for the sufficiency and effectiveness reviews;
- (b) Agreed to the necessary scheduled evaluations and review activities;
- (c) Decided in accordance with article 13, paragraphs 6 and 7, of the Protocol and Executive Body decision 1998/1, related to any submission of a proposal to amend annex I to add a heavy metal, annex VI to add a product control measure or annex VII to add a product or product group, to use the Working Group on Strategies and Review, assisted by a task force, for the technical review of the proposal.

26. The Executive Body:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Working Group on Strategies and Review;
- (b) Expressed its appreciation to the Chair of the Expert Group, and the lead country, for the work done leading up to entry into force, and noted with appreciation the preparatory work carried out by the Working Group;
- (c) Established the Task Force on Heavy Metals, led by Germany, and requested it to start its work (see decision 2004/2, ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);
- (d) Noted that the terms of reference for the Task Force were included in the draft work-plan;
- (e) Requested the Working Group on Effects and the EMEP Steering Body to:

- (i) Support the work of the Task Force through the participation of, and contributions from, relevant experts from their subsidiary bodies and international centres; and
- (ii) Provide relevant information to the Task Force to support it in preparing the progress and final summary reports on the reviews and evaluations;

(f) Requested the Working Group to report to it at its next session on progress in the sufficiency and effectiveness review, provide recommendations regarding the scheduled evaluations, and report on progress in the preparation of technical reviews for proposed additional heavy metals, product control measures or products/product groups;

(g) Requested the Implementation Committee to consider a timetable, as part of its functions (Executive Body decision 1997/2, annex, para. 3 (d)), for an in-depth review of the compliance by Parties with their obligations under the Protocol on emission levels (art.10, para. 3).

B. Protocol on POPs

27. The Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review presented information on re-evaluations of substance-related provisions, progress in the review of the sufficiency and effectiveness of the obligations and the procedure for reviewing new substances proposed for addition to the Protocol (EB.AIR/WG.5/2004/1) as reported by the Task Force on POPs to the Working Group at its thirty-sixth session (EB.AIR/WG.5/78).

28. The delegation of Italy announced that it would host an informal meeting of the Task Force from 28 February to 1 March 2005 in Rome.

29. The Executive Body:

(a) Expressed satisfaction with the work of the Task Force and invited it to continue its work, reporting to the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its next session;

(b) Agreed that the re-evaluations and reassessments of substances required by the Protocol had been fulfilled, and requested that the results be addressed in the sufficiency and effectiveness review;

(c) Took note of the progress on the review of sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol and requested the Task Force to continue its work following the structure outlined in document EB.AIR/WG.5/2004/1;

(d) Agreed to interpret "deemed acceptable" as proposed by the Working Group on Strategies and Review and requested the secretariat to provide reports on proposed substances to aid this interpretation (EB.AIR/WG.5/78, para. 32 (i) and (j));

(e) Noted the generic guidelines for the technical review of new substance dossiers and agreed that these should be used for proposals to add substances to the annexes;

(f) Requested the Co-Chairs of the Task Force and the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review to prepare a paper on options for priority setting and possible amendments to the Protocol for the next session of the Working Group;

(g) Thanked Italy and Austria for their offers to host an informal meeting in Rome (28 February – 1 March 2005) and a meeting of the Task Force in Austria in late May/early June 2005;

(h) Took note of the work conducted by other subsidiary bodies and requested them to continue to support the Task Force as required.

C. New substances

30. The delegation of Sweden stated that, having coordinated within the European Union (EU), the intent of its submission of a substance to the secretariat had been to initiate a technical review process for PFOS which could be conducted on the basis of paragraph 4 (d) of decision 2003/10 and in accordance with decision 1998/2.

31. The delegation of Norway stated that the intent of their submission had been to propose penta-BDE for possible inclusion into annex(es) to the Protocol on POPs, on the basis of a technical review of submitted dossiers by the technical review team under the Task Force on POPs. This review should take place on the basis of decision 2003/10 and in accordance with decision 1998/2.

32. The Executive Body requested, based on decision 2003/10, paragraph 4 (d), the Task Force to conduct a technical review of penta-BDE and PFOS and report progress to the Working Group on Strategies and Review in accordance with the Executive Body's work-plan. This could lead to possible inclusion of these substances into annexes I, II or III to the Protocol depending on the outcome of the review and after consideration by the Working Group on Strategies and Review and by the Executive Body.

33. The secretariat informed the Executive Body that it had looked at the dossiers of the submitted substances as requested by the Working Group on Strategies and Review (EB.AIR/WG.5/78, para. 32 (j)) and it considered that they contained all the elements required.

34. The Executive Body noted the secretariat's statement and agreed to an ad hoc process to begin technical reviews of these compounds. The Executive Body agreed that substances should be submitted in line with decision 2003/10.

35. The Executive Body underlined that future submissions of such a kind, or similar submissions under the Protocol on Heavy Metals, should be submitted in time for circulation by the secretariat at least 90 days before its session.

36. MSC-E indicated that it had information on penta-BDE that would be made available to the Task Force. The delegation of Germany noted that it was carrying out work on endosulphan with a view to proposing it for review.

D. Gothenburg Protocol

37. The Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review reported on its recent discussions and decisions with regard to the preparation for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol.

38. Mr. M. Vainio (European Community) provided relevant information on work under the European Commission's Clean Air for Europe programme (CAFE). He stressed the good cooperation with the Convention and the importance of improving the quality of emission inventories. He noted the extension of the CAFE baseline scenario to a few other non-EU countries.

39. Attention was drawn to the importance of actively involving non-European Union countries in the work of the Convention. The delegation of the Netherlands urged lead countries of task forces and expert groups to provide the necessary funds for experts from EECCA to participate in their meetings.

40. The Executive Body:

(a) Expressed satisfaction with the progress made in preparing for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, calling upon Parties to support the scientific activities by providing the necessary data (emissions, modelling, critical loads, etc.);

(b) Urged Parties to ratify the Gothenburg Protocol as soon as possible, noting that entry into force was expected soon and that the first meeting of the Parties to the Protocol would probably take place at its twenty-third session in December 2005;

(c) Welcomed progress in integrated assessment modelling, the conclusions of the review of the RAINS model, and work by CIAM exploring links and synergies between climate change and air pollution effects and policies; it welcomed the plans of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling to organize a workshop on integrated assessment methodologies related to RAINS at IIASA on 20-21 January 2005, and took note of its need to hold two meetings in 2005;

(d) Took note of the progress in the development of the baseline scenario by CIAM, expressing concern that at present it failed to cover the whole of the EMEP region; expressed its satisfaction that the European Commission's CAFE programme would include some non-EU countries in the future;

(e) Welcomed the progress by the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues on developing its database (ECODAT), noting its usefulness for integrated assessment modelling; it noted the next meeting of the Expert Group would be held on 19 January 2005, back to back with the workshop on RAINS methodology;

(f) Welcomed the progress made by the Expert Group on Ammonia Abatement, recalling that Parties to the Protocol had one year from the Protocol's entry into force to establish national codes for good agricultural practices for reducing ammonia emissions.

E. Establishing an expert group on particulate matter

41. The Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review reported on its recent discussions and decisions related to work on PM. Germany's proposal to lead an expert group to investigate scientific and technical issues on PM was supported by the Working Group (EB.AIR/WG.5/78, annex). Germany reiterated its willingness to lead the expert group and the United Kingdom offered to co-chair.

42. The delegation of the United States proposed that the work-plan for the expert group should include a review of the characteristics of PM as a transboundary pollutant.

43. The EC delegation indicated that it would focus on PM 2.5 for its Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution. Mr. Schneider drew attention to a report on the health effects of PM prepared by the Task Force on Health; it would be finalized in spring 2005 and could provide input to the work of the proposed expert group. He stressed the importance of monitoring the speciation of PM.

44. The Executive Body:

(a) Adopted the proposed draft decision establishing an expert group on PM (EB.AIR/WG.5/78, annex) as amended (decision 2004/3);

(b) Welcomed the offer of Germany and the United Kingdom to lead and co-chair the Expert Group, and noted that its first meeting was scheduled for May 2005;

(c) Noted that the terms of reference were included in the draft work-plan and agreed to return to this under item 11 of the agenda;

(d) Urged collaboration between the Expert Group and those bodies that already had interest in this area.

VI. FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE CONVENTION

45. The Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review provided information on the outcome of its seminar on the EECCA region held at the time of its thirty-sixth session. He noted the UNECE Capacity Building for Air Quality Management and the Application of Clean Coal Combustion Technologies in Central Asia (CAPACT) project and other initiatives providing support to countries with economies in transition and stressed the need for further action in this area.

46. The secretariat provided more information on the CAPACT project, noting that it was providing a useful start to a process that was needed at a much broader scale. It described its analysis of the status of ratification of the Convention and its protocols (EB.AIR/2004/4) drawing

attention to the conclusions reached. In particular it was noted that countries were taking longer to ratify the more recent protocols. The geographic pattern of countries that had not signed or not ratified protocols was not always easy to understand. Finally, attention was drawn to first drafts of implementation guides for the last three protocols. Given the required resources the secretariat hoped to complete these guides and have them translated into Russian. The secretariat also noted the importance of streamlining documentation for meetings and suggested some options for the future.

47. Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden) summed up the conclusions from the recent workshop in Gothenburg, Sweden, which had considered strategies for air pollution policy, noting the increased focus required on some issues, such as particulate matter and nitrogen, whilst stressing that the earlier environmental problems had still to be solved. The report of the workshop would be available in 2005 and the Working Group on Strategies and Review would discuss its conclusions at its next session.

48. The delegation of the United States noted the importance of the hemispheric movement of pollutants as highlighted at the Gothenburg workshop. It believed that it was timely to formalize earlier work on hemispheric studies and proposed a new task force to address the issue. It offered to lead such a task force and noted that the European Community had offered to co-lead such a body. It proposed a draft mandate for consideration by the Executive Body.

49. Mr. J. W. Erisman (Netherlands) drew attention to the 3rd International Nitrogen Conference, which had been held in Nanjing, China. He stressed the increasing problems arising from nitrogen emissions and highlighted the Nanjing Declaration, made available to the Executive Body, that had been agreed by the Conference. The Netherlands was prepared to host a workshop on reactive nitrogen in 2005.

50. Mr. R. Mills (IUAPPA) noted the importance of collaboration between international bodies and drew attention to an initiative of IUAPPA, which had convened a forum of organizations and networks concerned with air pollution to facilitate the exchange of information and promote collaboration. IUAPPA had agreed to continue with this initiative and planned further meetings and action.

51. In the resulting discussion many delegations noted their interest in hemispheric pollution issues, agreed it was timely for a task force to be established and indicated that their experts would participate in its work.

52. Many delegations drew attention to difficulties experienced in ratifying protocols. It was suggested by many that the technical annexes to recent protocols could present additional problems and sometimes barriers to accession or ratification. It was suggested that due consideration should be given to any possible annexes in the development of new or revised protocols. A number of delegations proposed to start negotiations with a view to making the

technical annexes to the last three protocols to the Convention dealing with emission ceilings voluntary.

53. A number of delegations drew attention to the importance of PM and its impacts on human health, suggesting that this was a priority for the future. It was noted that better emission inventories and measurements of PM were needed. While some delegations believed that this was best addressed through revision of the Gothenburg Protocol, others suggested that a protocol on particulate matter was needed.

54. Many delegations noted the need for involving EECCA countries in the work of the Convention. They stressed the importance of providing support, noting the need for lead countries of task forces and expert groups to support participation of experts from that area. Mechanisms for funding EECCA workshops were discussed; possibilities for using one of the Convention's trust funds would be explored.

55. A number of delegations noted the importance of cooperation between regions and suggested future collaboration between UNECE and the other regional commissions, while several delegations stressed the importance of addressing nitrogen issues, suggesting Convention support of the Nanjing Declaration.

56. The Executive Body:

(a) Noted with appreciation the secretariat's preparation of document EB.AIR/2004/4, agreed that the conclusions merited further study and, while noting the concern expressed by some Parties that the complexity of annexes presented barriers to ratification, requested that the issue of ratification and accession be investigated further possibly through the next strategies and policies questionnaire;

(b) Took note of the major outputs from the workshop held in Gothenburg and requested that the report from the workshop be forwarded to the subsidiary bodies for them to consider in relation to their medium-term work-plans and long-term strategies;

(c) Welcomed the offer of the United States and the EC to lead a task force on the hemispheric transport of air pollution under EMEP, agreed to establish the Task Force (see decision 2004/4) and requested it to develop a work-plan, taking account the need to collaborate with Asian scientists, and to report this to the EMEP Steering Body as soon as possible;

(d) Welcomed the declaration from the Nitrogen Conference and agreed to draw it, together with the results of the Conference, to the attention of its subsidiary bodies for consideration in their future work, and furthermore to request its Bureau to consider the need for any further action;

(e) Invited the secretariat to explore possibilities for increasing the geographic scope of the Convention and report its findings to the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its next session;

(f) Noted the importance of the Convention's work in EECCA, welcomed the start of the CAPACT project in Central Asia and encouraged all programme centres and lead countries to promote activities in EECCA;

(g) Noted the need for organizing annual workshops among the EECCA countries and for preparing implementation manuals/guides for the more recent protocols to the Convention, whilst recognizing the importance of adequate resources for this work;

(h) Requested the secretariat to explore ways for developing its plans for implementation guides to protocols and report back to it at its twenty-third session;

(i) Invited the secretariat to discuss with the Bureaux of the subsidiary bodies the possibilities for streamlining documentation and making better use of the Internet for disseminating information.

VII. SPECIAL EVENT FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONVENTION

57. The special event was attended by delegations to the Executive Body, by representatives of the Convention's other bodies and their programmes centres as well as by invited guests, in particular those who had been involved in the Convention's work in the past. The press was also invited.

58. The special event was opened by the Chairman, who welcomed the increased participation from other bodies and the guests.

59. The Executive Secretary of UNECE, Mrs. Brigita Schmögnerová, welcomed participants to the special event. She drew attention to the statements of congratulations to the Convention received by the secretariat from Environment Ministers from Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom, United States and European Community (EB.AIR/2004/1).

60. The Secretary of State for the Environment for Switzerland, Mr. Philippe Roch, welcomed participants on behalf of Switzerland noting the history of the Convention and drawing attention to important work for the future. He stressed the importance of extending the Convention into Central Asia and noted the greater potential for tackling pollution at a global scale through inter-regional collaboration rather than looking towards a global forum.

61. The following presentations were made on policy past, present and future: Mr. H. Dorland (Norway), Chair of the Executive Body: Twenty-five years of the Convention; Mr. W. Harnett (United States): A North American perspective; Mr. P. Gammeltoft (European Community): The European Community policy; Ms. J. McGlade (Executive Director, European Environment Agency): A European Environment Agency perspective; Mr. V. Sokolovsky (Russian Federation): A policy perspective for the East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asian region; Mr. C.

Agren (The Swedish NGO Secretariat on Acid Rain): An NGO perspective; Mr. W. Kyte (EURELECTRIC): A view from industry; Mr. P. Széll (United Kingdom): Complying with protocol obligations; Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland): A vision of the future; Mr. J. Sliggers (Netherlands): 25 years of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution - a book on the history of the Convention.

62. The following presentations were made on scientific and technical issues: Mr. A. Eliassen (Norway): Introduction to the "EMEP Assessment Report"; Mr. H.-D. Gregor (Germany): Introduction to the "Review and assessment of air pollution effects and their recorded trends"; Mr. M. Krzyzanowski (WHO): The role of the World Health Organization; Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden): Techno-economic issues; Mr. M. Amann (CIAM): Integrated assessment modelling; Mr. H. Wuester (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, secretariat): The links to global problems; Mr. D. Stone (Canada): POPs and global issues; Mr. W. Harnett (United States): Hemispheric issues.

63. A number of participants drew attention to the effective work of the Convention over the past 25 years noting the important contribution of individuals and of the secretariat and in particular the spirit of collaboration that had provided the basis for success. Attention was drawn to the new initiatives on particulate matter and hemispheric modelling and to the need for improved funding mechanisms for the core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol. Participants recognized that while the Convention had achieved much it still had important work to do in the future.

64. Ms. Aida Roman (UNEP) noted that EANET was in the third year of its regular phase. She noted the current links with the Convention and looked forward to further collaboration. Mr. L. Barrie (WMO), noted the important collaborative work between the Convention and WMO.

65. Attention was drawn to the Ministerial statements made available by the secretariat, the new brochure for the Convention, the book "Clearing the Air" on the 25 years of the Convention, the EMEP assessment report, the Working Group on Effects report on status and trends, the new Handbook for the Convention, the CD-ROM of children's games, also available on the web site of the Convention, and the art competition held by the International School of Geneva.

66. Participants were invited by the delegations of Norway and Switzerland to an evening reception to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary.

67. The Executive Body agreed that the special event had been a very effective way of reflecting on past successes, considering the current situation of the Convention, and for drawing attention to future work needed. It requested the secretariat to provide information on the special event on the Convention's web site and invited the secretariat and delegations to make use of the information to draw further attention to the Convention's activities.

VIII. COMPLIANCE WITH PROTOCOL OBLIGATIONS

68. Mr. P. Széll (United Kingdom), Chairman of the Implementation Committee, introduced its seventh report (EB.AIR/2004/6 and Add.1) on compliance by Parties with their protocol obligations, including the results of the Committee's thirteenth and fourteenth meetings. He drew attention to its recommendations, in particular those that proposed decisions concerning the compliance by one Party with its obligations under the 1994 Sulphur Protocol: Slovenia, three Parties with their obligations under the 1991 VOC Protocol: Norway, Spain and Luxembourg, and by three Parties with their obligations under the 1988 NO_x Protocol: Greece, Ireland and Spain.

69. Mr. Széll highlighted the results of the Committee's annual review of Parties' compliance with reporting obligations and drew attention to its recommendation concerning non-compliance by certain Parties with their reporting obligations (EB.AIR/2004/6/Add.1, para. 34). He drew attention to the new format prepared by the Committee for presenting compliance with emission data reporting under the 1991 VOC and 1994 Sulphur Protocols and reported on the Committee's progress on the in-depth review of the Protocol on POPs. He highlighted the results of the Committee's deliberations on possible additional measures that the Executive Body might use to address non-compliance, and in particular the Committee's conclusion that the measures should depend on the particular case.

70. In adopting its decision concerning Norway's compliance, the Executive Body noted three modifications that Norway considered should have been reflected in paragraph 12 of the Implementation Committee's report (EB.AIR/2004/6). When presenting these modifications, Mr. Széll underlined that, even if the Implementation Committee had included the three points, this would not have affected its conclusions on Norway's non-compliance or the terms of the decision that it had recommended for adoption by the Executive Body. The three modifications were: (i) in line 6, the word "increase" should read "decrease"; (ii) in line 8, it would be clearer if the word "increase" had read "number" or "total"; (iii) there should have been recognition of the measures taken by Norway in 2004 to tighten its offshore emission controls.

71. The delegation of Norway stated that, as a result of the steps that Norway was taking to reduce VOC emissions, it expected to achieve compliance with its obligation in 2005 with respect to its national total annual emissions and in 2006 with respect to its tropospheric ozone management area (TOMA).

72. The delegation of Spain provided information on progress made towards compliance with the 1988 NO_x Protocol. In thanking the Spanish delegation for its presentation, the Chairman stated that its statement would be forwarded to the Implementation Committee for consideration at its fifteenth meeting. The Executive Body agreed to adopt the proposed decision as set out in paragraph 32, alternative 1 (EB.AIR/2004/6), without the amendment set out in EB.AIR/2004/6/Corr.2.

73. The delegation of Greece explained that Greece had been unable to respond to the Executive Body's invitation and requests for information in a timely manner in 2004, due to an extremely burdensome administrative year. It expressed the intention of Greece to provide the requested information and to participate in the meeting of the Implementation Committee in 2005. The Executive Body agreed to adopt the proposed decision with regard to Greece's non-compliance as recommended in paragraph 23 of EB.AIR/2004/6 without the amendment set out in EB.AIR/2004/6/Corr.2.

74. The delegation of Ireland stressed that emission reductions for two consecutive years were bringing Ireland closer to compliance.

75. The Executive Body noted that three Parties, Croatia, Luxembourg and the Russian Federation, had now provided the missing emission data referred to in paragraph 6, 9, 12 and 17 of the report of the Implementation Committee (EB.AIR/2004/6/Add.1).

76. With reference to paragraphs 26 and 29 of that report, the Executive Body recognized that questions 20 to 23 of the Questionnaire on Strategies and Policies did not apply to Canada and amended the proposed decision on compliance by Parties with their reporting obligations by deleting Canada from the list of non-complying Parties.

77. The Executive Body took note of the seventh report by the Implementation Committee (EB.AIR/2004/6 and Add.1), expressing its great appreciation to its members, its Chairman and the secretariat. It adopted:

(a) Decision 2004/5 on compliance by Slovenia with its obligations under the 1994 Sulphur Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(b) Decision 2004/6 on compliance by Norway with its obligations under the 1991 VOC Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(c) Decision 2004/7 on compliance by Greece with its obligations under the 1988 NO_x Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(d) Decision 2004/8 on compliance by Ireland with its obligations under the 1988 NO_x Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(e) Decision 2004/9 on compliance by Spain with its obligations under the 1988 NO_x Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(f) Decision 2004/10 on compliance by Spain with its obligations under the 1991 VOC Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(g) Decision 2004/11 on compliance by Luxembourg with its obligations under the 1991 VOC Protocol (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1);

(h) Decision 2004/12 on compliance by Parties with their reporting obligations in respect of emission data and of strategies and policies (see ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.1).

78. Furthermore, the Executive Body:

- (a) Requested the secretariat to communicate these decisions to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Parties in question;
- (b) Requested the Committee to continue the in-depth review on compliance by Parties with their obligations under the Protocol on POPs;
- (c) Noted that six members remained on the Committee for another year: Ms. Sue Biniarz (United States); Mr. Volkert Keizer (Netherlands); Mr. Lars Lindau (Sweden); Mr. Stephan Michel (Switzerland); Mr. Tuomas Kuokkanen (Finland) and Mr. Patrick Széll (United Kingdom);
- (d) Re-elected Ms. Melanija Lesnjak (Slovenia) for a second term of two years;
- (e) Elected as a new member Ms. Sonja Vidic (Croatia).

IX. STRATEGIES AND POLICIES FOR THE ABATEMENT OF AIR POLLUTION

79. The secretariat noted that the 2002 Review of Strategies and Policies for Air Pollution Abatement was available in English and French; the Russian version would be sent to Russian-speaking delegations before the end of the year.

80. The secretariat provided information on the responses by Parties to the 2004 questionnaire (EB.AIR/2004/8). It also noted discussions with the Implementation Committee regarding a thorough legal review of the questionnaire and informed the Executive Body of work undertaken to revise the questionnaire for January 2006. As previously agreed by the Executive Body, the 2006 questionnaire would comprise Protocol-related questions, as well as general policy questions.

81. The Executive Body:

- (a) Noted with appreciation the publication of the 2002 Review of Strategies and Policies for Air Pollution Abatement;
- (b) Agreed that the responses to the questionnaire should be made available on the Internet so that the database of responses could be maintained for access;
- (c) Requested the secretariat to prepare the draft 2006 questionnaire in consultation with the Implementation Committee and submit it to the Executive Body at its twenty-third session.

X. ACTIVITIES OF UNECE BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS RELEVANT TO THE CONVENTION

82. Ms. A. Roman (UNEP) provided information on EANET. She described the structure and work of EANET and indicated its future priorities. She noted the involvement of the secretariat in the work of the EANET intergovernmental body and attention was drawn to the cooperation with CCC and ICP Forests. It was noted that a joint EANET-EMEP scientific workshop was to be proposed for 2005.

83. Delegations welcomed closer collaboration with EANET and considered it mutually beneficial for future activities. It would be particularly important for the Convention's work on hemispheric transport. The delegation of the Russian Federation stressed that monitoring activities were very expensive and suggested that EMEP might provide models with a broader coverage of deposition estimates in the EANET region. The EMEP centres were invited to cooperate in this within their available resources.

84. Mr. L. Barrie (WMO) provided information on its collaborative work with EMEP as well as some activities of relevance to the Convention. The secretariat agreed to make the details available on the Convention's web site. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) had provided written information which was made available to the Executive Body.

XI. WORK-PLAN FOR 2005

85. The secretariat introduced the draft work-plan for the implementation of the Convention (EB.AIR/2004/3) and the provisional list of meetings for 2005, amended to reflect the discussion and the decisions that the Executive Body had taken earlier in the session.

86. The Executive Body adopted its work-plan for 2005 (ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.2, annex XIII). The provisional list of meetings is set out in annex XIV (ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.2).

XII. FINANCIAL ISSUES

87. The secretariat introduced the note on the financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention (EB.AIR/2004/5 and Corr.1). The note presented inter alia the detailed budgets of EMEP and the core activities for 2005, and their provisional budgets for 2006 and 2007. The secretariat provided updated information on contributions and invited comments on additional contributions.

88. Some delegations suggested that from 2005 the revised United Nations scale of assessments for 2004 should be considered for calculating the contributions to the EMEP Trust Fund.

89. The Executive Body:

(a) Welcomed the accession of Lithuania to the EMEP Protocol and decided to adopt, in accordance with its article 4, paragraph 3, the revised annex, which includes Lithuania, set out in annex XV below (ECE/EB.AIR/83/Add.2);

(b) Decided on the detailed use of resources in 2005 as set out in EB.AIR/2004/5, table 2, and on the scale of mandatory contributions as set out in table 3 (last two columns);

(c) Supported the Steering Body's call on the Parties to the EMEP Protocol to consider making additional voluntary contributions (in kind or in cash through the Trust Fund) to ensure that the work, especially the difficult tasks required in 2005 for the preparation of the

protocol reviews, including the work on integrated assessment modelling and its extension to non-European Union countries, could be accomplished as foreseen in the work-plan (EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/2, para. 73 (h));

(d) Requested the Steering Body, with the assistance of its Bureau, to present the details of the 2006 budget together with the work-plan for approval by the Executive Body at its twenty-third session;

(e) Urged Parties that had not yet done so to pay their 2004 contributions in cash to the Trust Fund and, in 2005, to pay their contributions so that they reached the Trust Fund in the first half of the year;

(f) Requested the secretariat to prepare a revision to the annex to the EMEP Protocol using the 2004 United Nations scale of assessments for submission to the Steering Body at its next session.

90. In relation to its voluntary contribution under decision 2002/1, the delegation of Denmark stressed that it had made the recommended contribution to the Trust Fund in 2003 and 2004, but may not be able to do so in the future unless other Parties complied with their recommended contributions or a protocol for mandatory contributions was agreed.

91. For its contributions under decision 2002/1, the delegation of Finland announced continuing contributions in kind to the programme centre for ICP Integrated Monitoring for 2004 and 2005.

92. The EC indicated that it had made its voluntary contributions for 2002, 2003 and 2004. It requested the secretariat to investigate omissions from its records and amend tables accordingly.

93. The delegation of Turkey indicated that the voluntary contributions under decision 2002/1 did not differentiate between the core activities under the Convention on the one hand, and under its protocols other than EMEP on the other. It also stated that Turkey was a Party to the Convention and to the EMEP Protocol and the Turkish Government, according to its legislation, could contribute only to the international instruments to which it was a Party. In this context, Turkey could and did contribute only to the EMEP Protocol. The secretariat offered to hold discussions with Turkey to explore possibilities for solving this problem.

94. Some delegations noted that it was not possible to contribute in kind to centres not listed in decision 2002/1. The delegation of Germany indicated its wish to contribute to the work of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues, noting that the Expert Group effectively had a centre though it was not recognized in decision 2002/1 and it did not appear in the work-plan. The lead country, France, noted the need for funding. Germany requested that a record be made of the funds that it had provided.

95. The delegation of Germany raised the question of more detailed budgets for EMEP and the core activities, including for example interest rates for money held in trust funds. The

Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review underlined that such detailed budgets were presented already to the respective subsidiary bodies and that due to the late payments of Parties the negative interest was higher than the positive.

96. The Executive Body:

(a) Took note of the contributions made to the Trust Fund for 2003 and 2004, but expressed disappointment at the lack of response by many Parties;

(b) Decided that the essential coordination costs for financing the core activities of the Convention and its protocols, other than those covered by the EMEP Protocol, shall be US\$ 2,152,700 in 2005, and shall provisionally be US\$ 2,152,700 in 2006 and US\$ 2,152,700 in 2007;

(c) Requested the secretariat to inform Parties of their recommended contributions to meet the 2005 budget inviting them to make contributions as agreed in decision 2002/1;

(d) Urged all Parties which had not yet done so to consider making voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for financing core activities without undue delay;

(e) Noted with appreciation the essential support provided to the Convention and its bodies by lead countries, countries hosting coordinating centres and those organizing meetings, as well as countries that funded activities of their national focal centres/points and the active participation of national experts;

(f) Took note of the intended support of Germany to the work of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues and requested the secretariat to incorporate the contribution in the relevant finance tables under CIAM with an appropriate footnote and consider this as a contribution to the core activities under Executive Body decision 2002/1. The secretariat would confirm this contribution with CIAM;

(g) Noted document EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/12, as amended, on the financing of the effect-oriented activities and invited the Working Group on Effects to submit a note on the effectiveness of voluntary contributions made according to Executive Body decision 2002/1 to core activities not funded by the EMEP Protocol, to aid the Executive Body to review in 2005 the need for adopting a protocol to achieve long-term stable funding for the core activities; and

(h) In addition requested the secretariat to prepare a complementary document suggesting ways for clarifying the requirements of, and the contributions to, individual centres, as well as for encouraging funding of shorter-term activities.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

97. The delegation of the Netherlands proposed further action on communications especially with regard to reporting on publications and meetings.

98. The Executive Body urged Parties to encourage their experts to write short, reader-friendly summaries of meetings and publications, and to send these to the secretariat so that they could be placed on the Convention's web site.

99. The delegation of Italy drew attention to a new web site that it had established. It provided information, in Italian, on the Convention and its documents as well as related national information.

XIV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

100. Mr. H. Dorland (Norway) was re-elected Chairman. Ms. P. Farnsworth (Canada), Mr. M. Williams (United Kingdom) and Mr. A. Jagusiewicz (Poland) were elected Vice-Chairpersons. The Chairmen of the EMEP Steering Body (Mr. J. Schneider, Austria), the Implementation Committee (Mr. P. Széll, United Kingdom), the Working Group on Strategies and Review (Mr. R. Ballaman, Switzerland) and the Working Group on Effects (Mr. H. Gregor, Germany) were also elected as Vice-Chairmen. Mr. R. Ballaman was re-elected as Chairman of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.

101. The Executive Body expressed its thanks to Mr. I. Mojik (Slovakia) and Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden), the outgoing Vice-Chairmen, for their effective contributions to the work of the Bureau.

XV. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

102. The Executive Body adopted for general distribution the report of its twenty-second session on 3 December 2004.