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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 the Heads of Delegation of the Working Group

(Geneva, 19 – 21 April 2006)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 19 April 2006

**Item 1: Adoption of the agenda**  
**(Wednesday, 19 April, p.m.)**

1. The Heads of Delegation are expected to adopt the agenda of the meeting.

**Item 2: Preparations for the review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol**  
**(Wednesday, 19 April, p.m.)**

2. At its twenty-third session, the Executive Body initiated a first review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol in accordance with article 10 of the Protocol following the Protocol's entry into force in 2005 (ECE/EB.AIR/83, para. 51(b)). It invited all bodies of the Convention to plan their work for the review.

3. At the twenty-third session of the Executive Body, an informal document, prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, in collaboration with the secretariat and some members of the Bureau of the Executive Body, listed possible elements for the review of the Protocol. The Working Group had considered a similar document at its thirty-seventh session.

4. Also at its twenty-third session, the Executive Body decided that the Working Group on Strategies and Review, working with the appropriate bodies under the Convention, should develop and evaluate options for addressing the long-range transport of particulate matter and tropospheric ozone, including the air pollutants that contribute to their formation (ECE/EB.AIR/83, para. 51(b)). Such an evaluation could also take into account associated issues relevant to climate change.

5. To plan further for the review process, the secretariat, in collaboration with the Chair of the Working Group, has drawn up a draft annotated report outline that could form the basis of the first review (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/1). The session will be invited to discuss this document and to agree on a provisional outline and summary contents for consideration at the twenty-fifth session of the Working Group on Effects (30 August - 1 September), the thirtieth session of the Steering Body to EMEP (4-6 September) and the thirty-eighth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (18-22 September). Representatives of Convention bodies and programme centres attending the current session will be invited to indicate their bodies'/centres' contributions to the work.

6. Since the Executive Body is planning to complete the first review in time for its twenty-fifth session in December 2007, the Working Group will need to prepare a detailed timetable to ensure completion of all work by that date.

**Item 3: Financing of core activities not covered by the EMEP Protocol  
(Thursday, 20 April, p.m.)**

7. The Executive Body at its twenty-third session noted that decision 2002/1, on the financing of core activities not supported by the EMEP Protocol, had not been effective in attracting the necessary funds for coordination of the work (ECE/EB.AIR/83, para. 23). It requested the Working Group to consider further the issue of funding in order to identify possible alternatives to decision 2002/1 that might be more effective.

8. The session will be provided with updated information on the effectiveness of decision 2002/1, and delegations will be invited to discuss possible options that might improve the effectiveness of the funding mechanism.

**Item 4: Further work related to persistent organic pollutants (POPs), heavy metals and particulate matter**

**(Thursday, 20 April, p.m.)**

9. The review of the sufficiency and effectiveness of the obligations under the Protocol on POPs was finalized at the twenty-third session of the Executive Body. The Task Force on POPs is continuing its work on track B assessments for the substances proposed for addition to the Protocol annexes, PeBDE and PFOS. In addition, assessments are starting on substances newly proposed by the European Community for addition to the Protocol annexes (hexachlorobutadiene, octabromodiphenyl ether, pentachlorobenzene, polychlorinated naphthalenes, short-chain chlorinated paraffins). The risk profiles of the substances were deemed acceptable by the Executive Body in December 2005 for their consideration as POPs through track A assessments in 2006.

10. For the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Task Force on Heavy Metals is reviewing the sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol obligations. The review should be completed in 2006, and a draft report will be presented to the Working Group at its thirty-eighth session in September 2006.

11. Technical work is also in progress to consider possibilities for including particulate matter (PM) more effectively in the Convention's protocols. The Expert Group on PM will report to the Working Group at its thirty-eighth session.

12. The Working Group may be invited by the chairpersons of the Task Forces and the Expert Group to provide guidance or support to ensure timely preparations for the thirty-eighth session.

**Item 5: Implementation of the action plan for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)**

**(Friday, 21 April, a.m.)**

13. The Executive Body at its twenty-third session decided to implement the action plan proposed by the Working Group on Strategies and Review (ECE/EB.AIR/83, para. 56(a)) and invited the Working Group to report on its implementation at the twenty-fourth session of the Executive Body. It is proposed that the Working Group discusses and agrees its report to the Executive Body at the Working Group's thirty-eighth session. The current session will provide an opportunity for informal discussions on ways of implementing the action plan. Delegates are invited to pay particular attention to the specific needs of EECCA countries with regard to implementing the Convention and its protocols. Delegations may also consider the possible

support their countries might provide on a technical and/or financial level. Delegations from EECCA countries may wish to indicate their priority requirements and outline possible future plans related to implementation of the Convention and its protocols.

**Item 6: Other business**

**(Friday, 21 April, a.m.)**

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

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