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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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

Twenty-fourth session
Geneva, 11-14 December 2006
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Working Group on Strategies and Review

Thirty-eighth session
Geneva, 19–22 September 2006
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

REVISED DRAFT 2007 WORKPLAN¹

Prepared by the secretariat in collaboration with the Chair on the basis of inputs from the
expert groups and task forces of the Working Group

¹ This document was revised by the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its thirty-eighth session for submission to the twenty-fourth session of the Executive Body.

1.1 STRATEGIES AND REVIEW

Description/objectives: Assessment of ongoing scientific and technical activities for the review of existing protocols or the preparation of new ones; negotiating revisions of protocols, including their annexes; promoting the exchange of technology; preparing proposals for strategic developments under the Convention. The Working Group will assist the Executive Body in all policy-related issues.

Main activities and time schedule: Taking into account relevant activities under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects, as well as the initiatives of the European Community and other Parties, and on the basis of information received from its expert groups, the Working Group will, in particular:

(a) Assess work on the review of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol, including progress in reducing acidification, eutrophication and ground-level ozone and the pollutants responsible for these effects, and work carried out under items 1.3 (economic assessment) and 1.8 (ammonia abatement) below. It will also review work on item 1.9 (particulate matter) as well as work carried out under item 2.3 (integrated assessment modelling) of the EMEP workplan. It will complete the review in accordance with the timetable agreed at the Meeting of the Heads of Delegation in April 2006 (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/82, annex) and present a report to the Executive Body;

(b) Assess work under the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), taking into account progress under item 1.4 (review and assessment of POP substances);

(c) Assess work under the Protocol on Heavy Metals, taking into account progress under item 1.5;

(d) Review progress in the exchange of information and technology, including work carried out under item 1.6 (techno-economic issues); it will also review information received on product-related measures to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), POPs and heavy metals and progress in other work carried out under item 1.7 (exchange of information and technology);

(e) Continue to implement the Action Plan to Involve countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) in the Work of the Convention (EB.AIR/WG.5/80, annex);

(f) Assess progress made in the Convention's communication strategy and consider possible future needs; and

(g) Hold its thirty-ninth session on 18–20 April 2007 and its fortieth session on 17–21 September 2007.

1.2 REVIEWS OF STRATEGIES AND POLICIES FOR AIR POLLUTION ABATEMENT

Description/objectives: Overview of air pollution abatement in the UNECE region, giving a comprehensive description of national and international strategies and policies, including legislation in force, emission levels and future priorities; providing, together with emission data, a basis for the Implementation Committee to review compliance by Parties with their obligations under the protocols to the Convention. Reviews for purposes of compliance are carried out every two years; a general policy review is carried out every four years.

Main activities and time schedule:

(a) A draft review of strategies and policies for air pollution abatement will be made available to the Executive Body in 2006. The draft publication will be based on replies to the 2006 questionnaire, approved by the Executive Body at its twenty-third session (EB.AIR/2005/4, Add.1 and 2 and Corr.1), and made available by the secretariat through the website of the Convention;

(b) If approved by the Executive Body, the draft review will be published in 2007 and made available on the website of the Convention.

1.3 ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT OF BENEFITS FROM AIR POLLUTION ABATEMENT AND ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS

Description/objectives: To develop further the work on benefits and economic instruments undertaken by the former Task Force on Economic Aspects of Abatement Strategies and to enable economic considerations to be taken into account in the discussion/review of the protocols to the Convention.

Main activities and time schedule: The Network of Experts on Benefits and Economic Instruments, led by the United Kingdom, with Norway as rapporteur, will provide the framework and expertise for a series of workshops. The Network will meet only on the occasion of planned workshops and will include not only economists but also representatives from other specialist groups. The Network will initiate work on assessing experiences of Parties in using economic instruments for reducing air pollution and will update the Guidance Document on Economic

Instruments to Reduce Nitrogen Oxides, Sulphur, VOCs and Ammonia (EB.AIR/1999/2, chapter VI) in the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol.

1.4 REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

Description/objectives: To work on the technical reviews of substances forwarded to it by the Executive Body and deemed acceptable by the Parties to the Protocol; to continue the exploration of management strategies and options for those substances accepted as POPs by the Parties to the Protocol. A task force, led by Canada and the Netherlands, will carry out the technical work for these.

Main activities/time schedule: The Task Force will:

- (a) Continue work on PentaBDE, PFOS and other substances as decided by the Executive Body;
- (b) Update the generic guidelines for the technical review of dossiers of new substances that may be proposed by Parties for inclusion in annexes I, II and III to the Protocol;
- (c) Prepare and circulate to relevant contacts of Parties to the Convention and Observers a questionnaire to gather further information on management strategies and options for PentaBDE, PFOS and other substances as in (b) above;
- (d) Consider issues related to paragraph 2(b) of Executive Body decision 1998/2 as a priority at its next meeting; and
- (e) Hold its sixth meeting in 2007 (date and venue to be decided).

1.5 HEAVY METALS

Description/objectives: Following completion of the review of the sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Task Force on Heavy Metals, led by Germany, will carry out further technical work.

Main activities and time schedule: The Task Force will:

- (a) Explore from a technical point of view options for further reducing the emissions of the heavy metals listed in Annex I. Advantages and disadvantages of the options will be compiled. (The Chair will liaise with other relevant bodies, as appropriate);
- (b) Assess quantitative and, where this is not possible, qualitative information on health and ecosystem benefits of further measures to reduce emissions of heavy metals listed in Annex I;
- (c) Carry out other work as directed by the Executive Body; and
- (d) Hold its fourth meeting (date and venue to be announced).

1.6 TECHNO-ECONOMIC ISSUES

Description/objectives: Further explore emission abatement techniques, including their efficiencies and costs; to continue to develop a techno-economic database (ECODAT) and methodologies for evaluating uncertainties; and to draw up draft revisions of techno-economic items in annexes to protocols.

Main activities and time schedule: The Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues, with France and Italy as lead countries, will:

- (a) Continue to collect and store techno-economic data on emission control options and abatement techniques in selected sectors, along with their costs and ranges of uncertainty;
- (b) Continue to transmit data on reference installations and control technologies, investment and operational costs to the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling (CIAM) to be aggregated for inclusion in the RAINS model, after endorsement by the Working Group;
- (c) Make data available for future consideration of revision of technical annexes to protocols, in particular annexes IV, V and VIII of the Gothenburg Protocol;
- (d) Continue to provide the Working Group with summaries of background information on new sectors covered by ECODAT; the Expert Group will aim to reach agreement on synopsis sheets for the glass, cement and refining industries;
- (e) Test the methodologies used by the Expert Group for large combustion plants in Sweden and the Czech Republic; continue the survey of small combustion plants in Italy;

(f) Assess the feasibility of providing the CIAM with information on the evolution of emission abatement technologies over time, and on their efficiency, cost and potential penetration rates, for a few key activity sectors;

(g) Organize training sessions, publish a newsletter and increase contacts with EECCA countries to increase understanding of the needs and aims of the Expert Group;

(h) Organize a workshop on state-of-the-art technologies in Almaty in October 2007, back to back with the CAPACT workshop (see 1.7); and

(i) Hold its eleventh meeting in April 2007 in Rome.

1.7 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Description/objectives: To create favourable conditions for implementing technology-related obligations of the Convention and its protocols; to facilitate the implementation of existing protocols and the accession of non-Parties, particularly countries with economies in transition; to examine the needs for updating technical annexes and guidance documents to the protocols.

Main activities and time schedule:

(a) The secretariat, with support from the Trust Fund, will publish guidelines for the implementation of the Protocol on POPs, the Protocol on Heavy Metals and the Gothenburg Protocol in English and Russian;

(b) The secretariat will complete its project on capacity-building for air quality management and the application of clean-coal combustion technologies in Central Asia (CAPACT), funded by the United Nations Development Account and supported by national experts and EMEP centres, and report to the Working Group at its fortieth session;

(c) With the support of the Trust Fund, the secretariat will extend the workshops planned under CAPACT to countries outside the Central Asian region;

(d) The Working Group will review the implementation of the Action Plan to Involve EECCA Countries in the Work of the Convention.

1.8 AMMONIA ABATEMENT

Description/objectives: To prepare input for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, including the promotion and use of the Framework Advisory Code of Good Agricultural Practice for Reducing Ammonia Emissions as a basis for Parties to establish national codes and to quantify relationships between recommended control options/techniques and resulting ammonia emissions (EB.AIR/WG.5/2002/3).

Main activities and time schedule: The Expert Group on Ammonia Abatement, led by the United Kingdom, will:

(a) Seek to improve emission inventories and projections of emissions of ammonia and other nitrogen species from agricultural and non-agricultural sources;

(b) Finalize the Guidance Document on Control Techniques for Preventing and Abating Emissions of Ammonia (EB.AIR/1999/2, chapter V); update the Framework Advisory Code, taking into account the European Union Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) BAT reference document (BREF) for pigs and poultry as well as other relevant BREFs;

(c) Improve the quality of reported ammonia emissions and measurements; review strategies to measure emissions of nitrogen compounds; consider results of the Workshop on Atmospheric Ammonia held jointly by the Expert Group and the EMEP Task Force on Measurements and Modelling (4–6 December 2006, Edinburgh); and

(d) Hold its eighth meeting jointly with the panel on agriculture and nature of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in 2007 in Saint Petersburg, consecutively with an English-Russian seminar on ammonia emissions and greenhouse gases from agricultural sources specifically targeted towards EECCA countries.

1.9 PARTICULATE MATTER

Description/objectives: Improved technical understanding of the abatement options and the technical possibilities for reducing concentrations of particulate matter (PM) under the Convention.

Main activities and time schedule: The Expert Group on Particulate Matter, led by Germany and the United Kingdom, will:

- (a) Assess the degree of control of precursor pollutants contributing to the formation of PM already provided for by existing protocols to the Convention (the Co-Chairs will liaise with the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling);
- (b) Review current work under the Convention on PM precursors, also taking into account the latest results of the Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution of the European Community and similar strategies of other Parties (the Co-Chair will liaise with the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling);
- (c) Use, *inter alia*, the results of the EMEP model to review the current and future contributions to ambient concentrations of primary and secondary PM particularly from the key source sectors, and consider the implications of choosing different particle size fractions at the fourth meeting of the Expert Group (the Co-Chairs will liaise with MSC-W);
- (d) Consider, *inter alia*, the work of CIAM on the scientific and technical requirements, as well as the technical and non-technical measures, needed to assist Parties in developing further measures to reduce PM in order to prepare supporting information for the fourth meeting of the Expert Group (the Co-Chairs will liaise with CIAM);
- (e) Give technical input to other abatement strategies of Parties to the Convention;
- (f) Contribute to reports for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol as prepared by the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling;
- (g) Hold its fifth meeting in Germany in early 2007 to finalize the report of the Expert Group; and
- (h) Submit its final report to the Working Group on Strategies and Review for its fortieth session in 2007.