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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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

Twenty-sixth session
Geneva, 15–18 December 2008
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BODY ON ITS
TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION**

ACTIVITIES OF THE BUREAU

Note by the secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. At its twenty-fifth session, the Executive Body adopted a revised mandate for its Bureau (ECE/EB.AIR/91/Add.1, annex I) that enabled it to decide upon urgent matters including amending the Convention's adopted workplan. The mandate requires that such changes to the workplan shall be done through a corrigendum to the workplan and that all substantive decisions be reported to the Executive Body. The secretariat has prepared this document for reporting purposes as is required under the mandate.

I. MEETINGS OF THE BUREAU IN 2008

2. At its twenty-fifth session, the Executive Body elected Mr. M. Williams (United Kingdom) as Chair. The following were elected as Vice-Chairs: Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland), Mr. D. Fantozzi (United States), Mr. A. Fretheim (Norway), Mr. T. Johannessen (Norway), Ms. M. Lešnjak (Slovenia), Mr. Mr. Rico (France) and Mr. J. Schneider (Austria). The Bureau is comprised of the chair and the vice-chairs. A representative of the European Commission was invited to sit on Bureau meetings in 2008 as an observer to ensure effective coordination with European Community activities on air pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/91, para. 123).

3. In 2008, up to the time of this report's completion, the Bureau had held two meetings, on 14 April and 1 September. It had also scheduled a third meeting, to be held in December in the week of the twenty-sixth session of the Executive Body. Reports of the Bureau can be found online at: <http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/ExecutiveBureau/EB%20Bureau%20home.html>.

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE WORKPLAN

4. In accordance with its revised mandate, the Bureau of the Executive Body considered a number of proposals for amendments to the 2008 workplan for the Convention, and agreed to amend the workplan as follows:

(a) Following a proposal by Sweden, to add, under section 1.1 Strategies and review: a workshop on the co-benefits and interactions of air pollution and climate change (lead country Sweden, in collaboration with the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum), to be held from 17 to 19 September 2008 in Stockholm;

(b) To add a new item, 1.11, Long-term strategy for the Convention (which was designed to enable the Executive Body to consider its long-term strategy for work):
Description/objectives: To ensure effective future development of the Convention, the Bureau of the Executive Body will prepare a long-term strategy for the Convention. Main activities and time schedule: The Bureau will take account of the long-term strategies under preparation by the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body of EMEP¹, as well as possible policy developments under the Convention, to prepare an outline long-term strategy for consideration by the Executive Body at its twenty-sixth session. The Bureau is expected to complete its work and to present a finalized draft strategy for adoption by the Executive Body at its twenty-seventh session;

¹ The Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe.

(c) To add a new item under section 2.4, Hemispheric transport of air pollution: a workshop on atmospheric chemistry, climate and transboundary air pollution, to be held from 9 to 13 June 2008 in Washington, D.C.;

(d) To add a new item under section 3.1, Review of effects of major pollutants: a report on guidelines for monitoring [i.e. guidelines for reporting on the monitoring and modelling of air pollution effects] to be submitted by the Bureau of the Working Group [on Effects] to the twenty-seventh session of the Working Group on Effects;

(e) To add a new item under section 3.9, Dynamic modelling: ninth meeting of the Joint Expert Group to be held from 20 to 22 October 2008 in Sitges, Spain.

5. The above amendments, together with an updated provisional calendar of meetings, were published in document ECE/EB.AIR/91/Add.2/Amend.1, submitted by the secretariat for translation in June 2008.

6. The Executive Body may wish to consider and confirm these changes as appropriate, as required under the mandate of its Bureau.
