

## Decision 2019/14

### Revised mandate for the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections

*The Executive Body,*

*Recalling* the provisions of article 9 and other relevant provisions of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP Protocol),

*Recalling further* its decision to establish the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections at its twenty fifth session in 2007 (ECE/EB.AIR.91, para. 27 (f)) upon the recommendation of the EMEP Steering Body on the reorganization of the emission-related work within EMEP (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2007/9, annex II),

*Recognizing* the Centre's contribution to the scientific assessment of past trends and current status in air pollution throughout the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region and to the evaluation of the implementation of the Protocols to the Convention,

*Acknowledging* the support provided by the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections to the Parties to the Convention and EMEP, among other things, through the following actions:

(a) Ensuring that all emission data reported by Parties are stored in a database, publicly accessible via the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections website and presented in interactive data viewers;

(b) Providing the results of the initial checks of emission inventories (stage 1 and stage 2) to Parties and EMEP annually; organizing two cycles of in-depth reviews of emission inventories since 2008, with up to 10 Parties reviewed annually and 44 in a five-year cycle; developing a system for the annual review of adjustment applications and managing the process since 2015, including the assessment of the applications by two independent reviewers and submission of the recommendations of the expert review team to the EMEP Steering Body in a status report and their publication on the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections website;

(c) Putting in place a module-based gridding system with detailed spatial resolution of 0.1° x 0.1° (longitude/latitude) and annual provision of data for modellers; publishing technical reports on methodologies used for gap filling and information on discrepancies between reported and expert emission estimates of the main pollutants, particulate matters, heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants.

*Recognizing* the need to update the mandate of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections to ensure its consistency with the provisions of the amended Protocols to the Convention, as well as its strategic priorities as set out in the following documents:

(a) The long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for 2020–2030 and beyond (decision 2018/5, annex);

(b) The 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention;<sup>1</sup>

(c) The policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2017/3 and Corr.1 and ECE/EB.AIR/2017/4).

*Noting* that the annual costs of the centres cooperating within EMEP for the activities appearing in the work programme of the Steering Body of EMEP are covered in accordance

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<sup>1</sup> See Rob Maas and Peringe Grennfelt, eds., *Towards Cleaner Air: Scientific Assessment Report 2016* (Oslo, 2016) and United States Environmental Protection Agency and Environment and Climate Change Canada, *Towards Cleaner Air: Scientific Assessment Report 2016 – North America* (2016).

with the EMEP Protocol, from contributions by the Parties to the Convention on the basis of the annual EMEP budget approved by the Executive Body upon the recommendation of the Steering Body to EMEP:

1. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections by Environment Agency Austria;
2. *Adopts* the revised mandate of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections as contained in the annex to the present decision, which includes the key objectives and functions of the Centre to be carried out on an ongoing basis, whereas additional activities and specific tasks and associated deliverables to be carried out in a shorter time frame will be included in the biennial workplans for the implementation of the Convention;
3. *Decides* that the Centre is responsible for communicating with national experts, for maintaining an up-to-date web page that includes information on its work, and for other organizational arrangements in accordance with the biennial workplan;
4. *Decides* that the Centre is responsible for carrying out the work assigned to it in the biennial workplans approved by the Executive Body, and reporting thereon, as well as for keeping other relevant bodies apprised of its work.

## **Annex**

### **Revised mandate for the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections**

1. The Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections will continue to have principal responsibility for coordinating the emission-related work under EMEP.
2. The Centre reports on its activities and deliverables to the Steering Body to EMEP.
3. The functions of the Centre are to:
  - (a) Compile emission data reported by Parties to the Convention and import them into the EMEP/Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections database; maintain and improve the EMEP/Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections database system and the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections website; Adjust the database system (WebDab, RepDab) according to new reporting requirements and reporting formats; make reported data accessible to public on the web;
  - (b) Carry out annual quality control of inventories reported under the Convention; evaluate timeliness, consistency and completeness of submitted data; plan and organize an annual technical in-depth review of submitted inventories; regularly improve/develop new tests for emission checking; set up review teams and communicate with Parties; communicate the results to the Parties and the EMEP Steering Body;
  - (c) Develop emission data sets for modellers (gridded data of EMEP pollutants for the EMEP area); calculate expert estimates for missing data and use a module-based gridding system and proxies for the spatial distribution of gap-filled emission data for the new EMEP grid domain in geographical coordinates (0.1° x 0.1° longitude/latitude); develop distribution of emissions for Parties that do not report gridded data; perform checks of gridded data; during a transition period, provide gridded data also in resolution 50 x 50km EMEP grid, if requested;
  - (d) Support the Implementation Committee in reviewing compliance with reporting obligations: carry out periodic review of compliance with Parties' reporting obligations and emission trends, based on emission and projection data submitted to EMEP and available in the WebDab emission database;
  - (e) Support EMEP by managing review of adjustment applications to emission reduction commitments or inventories and any supporting documentation submitted by Parties in accordance with Executive Body decisions 2012/3, 2012/4 and 2012/12; set up review teams and communicate with Parties; maintain the online database system for storage and review of approved adjustments and supporting documentation provided by Parties;
  - (f) Assess emission uncertainties by comparison of Convention data with emission data from other sources, such as the Joint Research Centre of the European

Commission, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and, to the extent possible, quantification of the differences;

(g) Cooperate closely with the secretariat, the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections and the European Environment Agency through capacity-building activities (training sessions, workshops, country visits) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Furthermore, the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections provides online ad hoc support to technical experts from the region;

(h) Build on the emission-related work within EMEP; cooperate with the other EMEP centres and task forces and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme, the Austrian Ministry of Environment, the European Environment Agency, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission and the European Commission; Participate in relevant meetings organized by the partner organizations and EMEP bodies; contribute to joint reports with other centres;

(i) Carry out other tasks assigned to it by the EMEP Steering Body and the Executive Body.