

## Decision 2019/7

### Revised mandate of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling

*The Executive Body,*

*Recalling* its decision at its fourth session (Geneva, 11–14 November 1986), whereby it established the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling (ECE/EB.AIR/10, annex III, para. 5 (2)),

*Acknowledging* the recent achievements of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling, which include:

- (a) Analysis of the initial impact of the 2012 amended Gothenburg Protocol, which sets new emission ceilings objectives with respect to air pollutants, including fine particulate matter;
- (b) Demonstration of the benefits of developing synergies between environmental policies, in particular climate and air pollution policies;
- (c) Assessment of the impact of short-lived climate pollutants on air pollution inside and outside the ECE region and conception and evaluation of mitigation options to target those pollutants;
- (d) Analysis of the linkages between global, regional and local air pollution patterns and levels in the ECE region, and evaluation of potential synergies between control measures that could be implemented at various geographical scales.

*Recognizing* the need to update the mandate of the Task Force 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).

*Welcoming* the ongoing leadership of the Task Force by the Netherlands and Sweden,

1. *Adopts* the revised mandate of the Task Force as contained in the annex to the present decision, which includes the key objectives and functions of the Task Force 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;

2. *Decides* that:

- (a) The lead country or countries have the responsibility for leading and coordinating the ongoing work and tasks of the Task Force, for organizing its meetings, for communicating with participating experts, for maintaining an up-to-date web page that includes information on the activities, work, meetings and participants of the Task Force, and for other organizational arrangements in accordance with the biennial workplan. Chairs of the Task Force are appointed by the lead country or countries to carry out these tasks;
- (b) The Task Force 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;

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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).

(c) The Task Force will be comprised of subject matter experts from the Parties to the Convention, acting in their personal capacity;

(d) Meetings will be open to representatives of intergovernmental or accredited non-governmental organizations, researchers, industry associations and other relevant organizations. Co-Chairs are encouraged to invite individuals with expertise relevant to the work of the Task Force. Meeting reports will reflect the views of all participants to the extent practicable;

(e) In the event that a lead country needs to discontinue its leadership role, it is encouraged to notify the secretariat, Co-Chairs and other lead countries as soon as possible, but preferably no later than one year prior to the time it will need to cease its leadership activities. In that event, the withdrawing lead country will make every effort to ensure a smooth transition to the next leadership model, by ensuring that all data and any other information required for the operations of the Task Force are provided to the appropriate country or person(s).

## **Annex**

### **Revised mandate of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling**

1. The Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling will continue to guide the work of the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling, review its modelling results and exchange modelling experiences of the Parties. The Centre and the Task Force will continue to integrate information from the other scientific bodies under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects and assess future scenarios and the cost-effectiveness of abatement strategies, as requested by the Working Group on Strategies and Review. This includes multiscale multi-objective assessment modelling aimed at cost-effective policy strategies that combine international, national and local actions, as well as the links between air quality policy and other policy processes, such as the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

2. The Task Force will report on its activities and deliverables to the Steering Body to EMEP, the Working Group on Effects, the Working Group on Strategies and Review and, as needed, to the Executive Body.

3. The functions of the Task Force are to:

(a) Guide the technical work of the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling; review the scientific quality of the Greenhouse Gas and Air Pollution Interactions and Synergies (GAINS) model; and assess future scenarios and the cost-effectiveness of abatement strategies upon request by the EMEP Steering Body or the Executive Body;

(b) Integrate information from the other scientific bodies under EMEP and the Working Group on Effects into the GAINS model and organize ex post analyses by these scientific bodies, as well as extend the scientific network to include data and scenario results of climate, energy, transport and agricultural models and feed data into economic models;

(c) Exchange integrated assessment modelling experiences between the Parties and organize bilateral consultations on the data used in the GAINS model; reach out to exchange experiences with countries outside the Convention area and exchange experiences with local air quality managers;

(d) Assist Parties seeking advice on developing scenarios and integrated assessment modelling to find relevant experts from other Parties;

(e) Provide expertise in support of the Parties in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and develop specific studies for these countries that require considerable resources to consolidate appropriate input data for integrated assessment modelling;

(f) Closely collaborate with:

(i) The Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections and the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections to improve emission estimates and projections;

(ii) The Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West and the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling to use the latest version of the EMEP model for

source-receptor relationships and the development of a methodology to assess local exposure;

(iii) The Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution and the International Cooperative Programme on Modelling and Mapping of Critical Levels and Loads and Air Pollution Effects, Risks and Trends to use the latest findings on exposure response relationships and impacts on biodiversity;

(iv) The Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution to assess cost-effective abatement strategies at the hemispheric scale.

(g) Exchange information with the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and the World Bank Group to encourage cost-effective strategies for health and ecosystems at a global scale;

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