



# UNECE Weekly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 127 – 4-8 July 2005

## *It's just happened ...*

### **UNECE focuses on Energy Security and Energy Efficiency in the Eurasian Space**

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, held from 27-30 June with its focus on "Energy Security and Energy Efficiency in the Eurasian Space" was attended by over 200 delegates from 30 member States. The meeting opened with a special session devoted to the



stabilization of the European Energy Market and, in particular, development of the South-East European Regional Energy Market. Speakers from the European Commission and senior officials from a number of South-East European countries addressed the issue of integration of energy systems and markets in this region concluding that a great deal of progress has been made, but a significant amount of work still remains including in the area of market design and operation.

On 28 June the meeting changed its focus to energy security in the form of the UNECE Energy Security Forum High-Level Meeting on the Caspian Sea Region, during which government representatives – including the Special Envoy of President Vladimir Putin on International Energy Cooperation and the Kazakh Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources – discussed emerging energy security risks and risk mitigation of the Caspian Sea Region in a global context. This debate was undertaken together with senior representatives of the energy industries and financial sector. The event resulted in a joint statement on Global Energy Security and the Caspian Sea Region being signed by representatives of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Turkey. Recognising the need to mitigate the environmental impacts of meeting increasing energy demand, the Committee then spent 29 June focusing on "*Implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Mitigation*".

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### **Review of the Air Convention's Heavy Metals Protocol continues**

The Air Pollution Convention's Task Force on Heavy Metals is making good progress towards the review of the sufficiency and effectiveness of the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals, which entered into force on 29 December 2003. The Task Force, holding its second meeting from 16-17 June in Geneva, agreed on elements for a report on whether the Protocol had met its aims in reducing heavy metal releases to the atmosphere. The Task Force's first set out to evaluate limits and control measures targeted at mercury emissions from the two sectors required by the Protocol - chlor-alkali plants and medical waste incineration. The Task Force also agreed draft guidelines for adding metals or products to the Protocol.



**Not an official record - For information only**

## Air emissions experts focus on data quality

The Air Pollution Convention's Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections held its fourteenth meeting on 6-7 June in Copenhagen. Its main aim was to draft new procedures for reviewing the data on air pollutant emissions submitted by Parties to the Convention. The new emission inventory review and improvement programme, focused on data quality, will be proposed to the Steering Body of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long Range-Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) in September 2005. The programme will aim to ensure that emission data are reliable and comprehensive and give an accurate picture of the emissions and their trends.

## Experts on air pollution abatement look at emerging technologies and their costs

The Air Pollution Convention's Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues held its eighth meeting in Rome on 6 June. The meeting assessed the state of the Expert Groups ECODAT database that holds information on air pollution abatement technologies, their costs and efficiencies and other techno-economic data. Abatement and integrated assessment experts use ECODAT to assess emission control options and for modelling. The data will be important for the review and possible revision of the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol, the eighth and most recent protocol to the Convention, which entered into force on 17 May 2005.

For more information on these topics contact Brinda Wachs ([brinda.wachs@unece.org](mailto:brinda.wachs@unece.org)).

## Facts and figures:

### Crude rate of the natural increase of population in selected European countries (per 1000 inhabitants)

Country	1992	2000	2001	2002	2003
Austria	1.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.0
Belgium	2.1	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.5
Denmark	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.3
Finland	3.4	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.5
France	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.5
Germany	-0.9	-0.9	-1.1	-1.5	-1.8
Greece	0.6	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Ireland	5.7	6.2	7.3	7.9	8.2
Italy	0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.6
Luxembourg	2.8	4.4	4.1	3.6	2.7
Netherlands	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.6
Portugal	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.4
Spain	1.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3
Sweden	3.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.7
United Kingdom	2.5	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.4
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Cyprus	8.8	4.3	4.8	3.8	4.0
Czech Republic	0.1	-1.8	-1.7	-1.5	-1.7
Estonia	-1.4	-3.9	-4.3	-4.0	-3.7
Hungary	-2.6	-3.7	-3.5	-3.5	-4.1
Latvia	-1.5	-5.1	-5.6	-5.3	-4.9
Lithuania	3.3	-1.4	-2.6	-3.2	-3.0
Malta	7.2	3.4	2.5	1.8	2.0
Poland	3.1	0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.4
Slovakia	4.0	0.5	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Slovenia	0.4	-0.2	-0.5	-0.6	-1.1
<b>New EU members-10</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
<b>EU-25</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Iceland	11.1	8.9	8.4	7.7	7.9
Norway	3.6	3.4	2.8	2.4	3.1
Switzerland	3.6	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.2
Bulgaria	-2.2	-5.1	-5.6	-5.9	-5.7
Croatia	-1.0	-1.4	..	..	..
Romania	-0.2	-0.9	-1.8	-2.7	-2.5

Source: Eurostat.

Definition: The crude rate of natural increase is the ratio of natural population increase over a period to the average population of the area in question during that period.

## Coming up soon ...

4-8 July ECOSOC Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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