

# **FORTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON STRATEGIES AND REVIEW**

12 – 15 April 2010

## **(Unedited) decisions as adopted by the Working Group on 15 April 2010**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Working Group:

(a) Took note of a report from the secretariat suggesting potential difficulties for the secretariat to continue to coordinate the work and to participate in all key meetings of the Task Forces and Expert Groups due to resource constraints. Consequently, requested the secretariat to maintain its present level of support to the Task Forces and Expert Groups and prepare a note outlining the difficulties for consideration by the Bureau of the Executive Body and for final decision by the Executive Body;

(b) Invited the Executive Body to explore solutions, in conjunction with consideration of the long-term strategy for the Convention.

### **I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The Working Group adopted the agenda of the meeting as set out in ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/99.

### **II. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP**

The Working Group considered and adopted the report of its forty-fifth session as set out in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/98.

### **III. OPTIONS FOR REVISING THE GOTHENBURG PROTOCOL**

The Working Group:

(a) Welcomed the contributions made by the Task Forces, Expert Groups and centres in the work for revision of the Gothenburg Protocol;

(b) Took note of the proposed draft amended text of the Protocol as presented in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/1 and invited the secretariat to make available for its next session a revised text in the format of an informal document reflecting the amendments made during the session;

(c) Expressed its appreciation for the work of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues in preparing draft revised versions of the technical annexes and guidance documents to the Gothenburg Protocol;

(d) Thanked the ad hoc group of experts for discussing in parallel to the session the technical annexes IV, V and VI as presented in documents ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/17,

ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/18, ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/19 and ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/20, as well as the new draft technical annexe on dust as presented in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/21. It invited the experts to continue their work at the next session of the Working Group in September;

(e) Welcomed the progress in the development of a baseline scenario presented by the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling (CIAM) as well as in the assessment of the ambition levels proposed in the technical annexes in relation to the proposed emission levels, control options and related costs, and effects on the environment and health;

(f) Accepted the use both national and PRIMES baseline scenarios and invited the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and CIAM to finalize work on the baseline scenarios and to propose additional scenarios focusing inter alia on fine particles and ozone impacts on health, eutrophication, acidification and ozone impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as to look in general at different type of activities that have an impact on short-lived climate forcers, for discussion at its forty-seventh session in September;

(g) Noted the results of the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh meetings of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and welcomed the progress made with the target-setting approaches;

(h) Expressed its appreciation to the Chair of the Working Group on Effects for presenting draft amended annex I to the Gothenburg Protocol on critical loads and levels (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2010/3) as well as for its proposals to revise the relevant text of the Protocol (informal document no 1) and invited the Chair of the Working Group on Effects to further elaborate its proposals for discussion at its next session, reflecting the comments and suggestions made during the session;

(i) Encouraged the Working Group on Effects to participate in the integrated assessment modelling, and in particular to carry out the ex post analysis on various selected environmental and health endpoints;

(j) Welcomed the plans to update empirical critical loads and dose-response functions and to have those results fed into the further development of indicators on e.g. biodiversity during 2010, where appropriate;

(k) Took note of the presentation by a representative of EURELECTRIC on the outcomes of its study "Low-CO<sub>2</sub> Europe by 2050" on the interlinkages between air pollution and climate change;

(l) Took note of the report of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/4); Welcomed the options for a draft revised annex IX to the Gothenburg Protocol on measures for the control of emissions of ammonia from agricultural sources (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/5) prepared by the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen as well as the explanatory remarks and further information it provided on the revision of the annex IX, the Guidance Document on Control Techniques for Preventing and Abating Emissions of Ammonia and the Framework Code for Good Agricultural Practice for Reducing Ammonia and

invited it to present revised documents for discussion at the next session of the Working Group in September, reflecting the comments and suggestions made during the session;

(m) Invited the national experts to provide information to the Expert Group on Techno Economic Issues on the costs of the abatement measures as well as to actively participate in the work of the Expert Group;

(n) Requested the secretariat together with the Chair of the Working Group to develop a plan for organizing the next session of the Working Group in September so as to maximize the participation of EECCA countries, notably through providing interpretation for the work of the technical experts.

#### **IV. PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA**

(a) Took note of the information provided by the secretariat that no contributions were made to the Trust Fund for supporting countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia as well as South-Eastern Europe in 2010. It also noted that the secretariat believed that it was necessary to rely on an extra budgetary staff member for this work, urging countries to provide resources as soon as possible in order to continue projects under the action plan for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia;

(b) Thanked the Spanish Presidency of the European Union for having organized informal EECCA and SEE consultations prior to the forty-sixth session of the Working Group and the representative of Bulgaria for having facilitated the discussions;

(c) Thanked the representatives of Montenegro, the Republic of Macedonia and Serbia for the progress report on the implementation of the “Balkans Project”, the Netherlands for financing the project and the secretariat for supporting its implementation;

(d) Welcomed the information provided by the Russian Federation on the new project on “Facilitating the ratification and implementation of the Convention’s protocols in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia region” as well as on the steps that the three partner countries (Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation) would undertake to ratify and establish compliance with the three most recent protocols. Finally, it welcomed the pledged contribution of the Russian Federation of 100,000 USD in the first year of the project and encouraged Parties to explore the possibility to co-finance it;

(e) Thanked Norway for financing the translation of the EMEP/EEA Air Pollutant Emission Inventory Guidebook into Russian;

(f) Welcomed the progress report provided by the representative of Moldova on the project aimed at assisting Moldova to ratify the Gothenburg Protocol and thanked the Czech Republic for financing the project;

(g) Thanked the Russian Federation (in cooperation with Belarus and Kazakhstan) for taking the leadership in establishing the new Coordinating Group for the countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia;

(h) Welcomed the conclusions of a workshop co-organized by the Task Force on Heavy Metals and the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues with the financial support from France and Germany and hosted by the Russian Federation in St. Petersburg in October 2009 (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/7);

## **V. OPTIONS FOR REVISING THE PROTOCOL ON HEAVY METALS**

The Working Group:

(a) Welcomed the contributions made by the Task Force on Heavy Metals and the Expert Group on Techno-Economic Issues in the work for the review and revision of the Heavy Metals Protocol;

(b) Took note of the proposals by Switzerland for revising the Protocol on Heavy Metals as presented in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/6;

(c) Requested the secretariat to prepare a document to be used as a basis for the further negotiations and to include in that document Switzerland's proposals for amendments in accordance with the mandate given by the Executive Body at its twenty-seventh session, starting the negotiations with the articles 1, 13 and 15 of the Protocol and annexes I, II, IV and V at the next session of the Working Group in September ;

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Working Group took note of the informal document presented by the Co-Chair of the Task Force on POPs on the definition for Short-Chain Chlorinated Paraffins (SCCP) in the Protocol on POPs as amended by the Parties to the Protocol on POPs at the twenty-seventh session of the Executive Body in December 2009

## **VII. ADOPTION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP**

In accordance with the revised practice continued by the Executive Body at its twenty-sixth session, the Working Group on Strategies and Review adopted the decisions taken during the session.

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