



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
7 January 2011

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range
Transboundary Air Pollution

Working Group on Strategies and Review

Forty-eighth session

Geneva, 11–15 April 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Monday, 11 April 2011*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the report of the forty-seventh session of the Working Group.
3. Options for revising the technical annexes to the Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone.
4. Options for revising the Protocol on Heavy Metals.
5. Options for revising the Gothenburg Protocol.
6. Options for revising annex IX to the Gothenburg Protocol.
7. Exchange of information and technology.
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the conclusions of the Working Group.

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the registration form, which is available from the Convention website (<http://www.unece.org/env/registration/lrtap.htm>), and to transmit it to the secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting. On the day of the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge from the Pass and Identification Unit at the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section at the Pregny gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). A map is available on the UNECE website (http://www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf).

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 April, morning

Documentation: ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/103 (Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session)

2. Adoption of the report of the forty-seventh session of the Working Group

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 April, morning

Documentation: ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/102 (Report of the Working Group on Strategies and Review on its forty-seventh session)

3. Options for revising the technical annexes to the Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

Tentative timing: Monday, 11 April morning and afternoon; Tuesday 12 April, morning; Thursday 14 April, morning

Documentation: ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/2 (Options for revising the annexes to the Gothenburg Protocol)

ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/17–22 (Draft revised technical annexes IV, V, VI and VIII and draft technical annexes on dust emissions from stationary sources and on solvent contents of products)

ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/5 (Draft revised annex I on critical loads and levels)

1. The Working Group on Strategies and Review is expected to continue negotiations on options for revising the 1999 Gothenburg Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone Protocol (Gothenburg Protocol) and its technical annexes, in line with the relevant decisions by the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution at its twenty-eighth session in 2010, and with a view to presenting amendment proposals to the Parties to the Protocol meeting at the twenty-ninth session of the Executive Body in 2011. The revision of the Protocol should include meaningful measures designed to increase the possibility for ratification of an amended Protocol by countries not yet party to the Protocol, especially such countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia.

2. For its negotiations on the technical annexes to the Protocol, the Working Group will have before it:

(a) Proposals for revising the annexes IV, V, VI and VIII to the Gothenburg Protocol, as well as the draft texts of the proposed two new annexes on dust emissions from stationary sources and on solvent contents of products, prepared by the Expert Group on

Techno-economic Issues and presented to the Working Group at its forty-fifth session in September 2009 (documents ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2009/17–22);¹ and

(b) Outcomes of the work by the ad hoc group of technical experts on annexes IV and VI, as well as on the two proposed new annexes as presented in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/2. The document lists the amendment proposals made since September 2009, indicates for each of the annexes three proposed options for emission limit values (ELVs) and provides additional information on the costs of these options.

3. The Working Group is first invited to consider the proposed options for ELVs in the technical annexes, taking into account the following additional information:

(a) Impacts of the proposed ELV options on national emissions presented by the Co-Chairs of the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues. (An informal document on this topic will also be before the meeting.);

(b) Options for ELVs for stationary sources applicable to the countries with economies in transition. In particular, representatives from these countries are invited to pronounce themselves on the key major source categories to be controlled, as well as on the applicability of the proposed ELVs and the best available technologies (BAT) to new installations. Furthermore, the needs for flexibility as regards the obligations for the existing installations should be further clarified.

4. The Working Group may then wish to negotiate and agree on options for revising the technical annexes in the following order:

(a) Annex IV on limit values for emissions of sulphur from stationary sources and the proposed new annex on dust emissions;

(b) Annex V on nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from stationary sources, annex VI on limit values for emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from stationary sources, and the new annex related to solvent content of products; and

(c) Annex VIII on limit values for fuels and new mobile sources.

4. Options for revising the Protocol on Heavy Metals

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 12 April, afternoon and Thursday, 14 April, afternoon

Documentation: ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/4 and ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/10
(Options for revising the Protocol on Heavy Metals)

5. In line with the revised mandate provided by the Executive Body at its twenty-eighth session in 2010, the Working Group is invited to continue negotiations for revising the Protocol on Heavy Metals and its annexes, with a view to finalizing the discussions and presenting proposed amendments at the thirtieth session of the Executive Body in 2012 at the latest.

6. The Working Group will have before it a document on options for revising the 1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals, which reflects the discussions and proposals by the Working Group at its forty-seventh session, in September 2010. In line with the decisions by the Executive Body in 2010, the document also includes proposals for amendments to annexes VI and VII, and for consequential changes to the Protocol text regarding mercury-containing products. The amendment proposals to annex V, not discussed in September

¹ The documents are available at:
<http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/WorkingGroups/wgs/docs45th%20session.htm>.

2010, are contained in document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2010/10. Furthermore, additional information for updating the annex V will be presented in an informal document prepared by the Chair of the Task Force on Heavy Metals.

7. The Working Group is invited to focus its negotiations on:

(a) As a first priority, any revision possibilities for increasing ratifications of the Protocol, taking into consideration possible options put forward by the Task Force on Heavy Metals;

(b) Potential revisions to the text of the Protocol and annexes I to VII, taking into consideration possible options put forward by the Task Force on Heavy Metals, as well as the relevant adopted amendments to the 1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the proposed amendments to the Gothenburg Protocol, provided that such revisions would not make it more difficult to achieve increased ratifications. In 2011, the Working Group should focus in particular on those proposed amendments that address issues raised also in the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol;

(c) Possibilities to make the Protocol more adaptable to future developments by producing a guidance document on BAT extracted from annex III and updated as appropriate.

5. Options for revising the Gothenburg Protocol

Tentative timing: Tuesday 12 April, afternoon; Wednesday 13 April, afternoon; and Thursday 14 April, morning

Documentation: ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/1 (Options for revising the Gothenburg Protocol)
ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/5 (Draft revised annex I on critical loads and levels)
ECE/EB.AIR/2010/7 (Report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Black Carbon)

8. The Working Group is invited to continue negotiations on options for revising the text of the Gothenburg Protocol and its annexes, in line with the relevant decisions by the Executive Body at its twenty-eighth session in 2010, and with a view to presenting amendment proposals to the Parties to the Protocol meeting at the twenty-ninth session of the Executive Body in 2011.

9. The Working Group may wish to base its deliberations on document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/1, which indicates proposed changes made since 2009 to the text of the Protocol currently in force. Furthermore, it is invited to consider the hybrid scenarios for further environmental and health improvements that will be presented by the Chair of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Head of the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling.

10. On the basis of document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/5, prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on Effects, the Working Group is expected to discuss and agree on amendments to annex I on critical loads and levels. Furthermore, it is invited to consider a draft guidance document on impacts of the emission reductions on health and the environment, as presented in an informal document prepared by the Working Group on Effects.

11. In line with the decisions by the Executive Body in 2010, the Working Group will discuss options for including provisions on black carbon, as a component of particulate matter, in the Gothenburg Protocol and its annexes. To further its negotiations, it will also

have before it informal draft textual proposals for revisions to the Gothenburg Protocol consistent with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Black Carbon and decision 2010/2 of the Executive Body.

6. Options for revising the annex IX to Gothenburg Protocol

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 13 April, morning

Documentation: ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2011/3 (Draft revised annex IX on measures for the control of emissions of ammonia from agricultural sources)

12. In line with its mandate for revising the Gothenburg Protocol and its annexes (see items 3 and 5), the Working Group is invited to consider the updated draft guidance document on control techniques for preventing and abating emissions of ammonia (presented in an informal document), as well as to discuss and agree on proposals for revising annex IX on measures for the control of emissions of ammonia from agricultural sources prepared by the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen.

7. Exchange of information and technology

Tentative timing: Thursday, 14 April, afternoon

13. The Working Group is expected to consider progress in activities that aim to facilitate the implementation of the existing protocols to the Convention and the accession of non-Parties, particularly countries with economies in transition in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe. Representatives from these countries are invited to provide information on their progress in implementing the protocols. In addition, they are invited to inform the negotiations under the agenda items 3 to 6 of the options for revising the Gothenburg Protocol and the Protocol on Heavy Metals that would facilitate the implementation and ratification of these Protocols for their countries.

8. Other business

Tentative timing: Friday, 15 April, morning

14. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item.

9. Adoption of the decisions of the Working Group

Tentative timing: Friday, 15 April, morning

15. The Working Group may wish to adopt its decisions taken during the session. The draft report of the session, reflecting the adopted decisions, will be finalized by the Chair in consultation with the secretariat following the session. It will then be posted on the Convention's website. The report will be presented for adoption at the Working Group's forty-ninth session.
