Gothenburg Protocol Review:
Chair’s update and report

Jennifer Kerr
Chair of Working Group on Strategies and Review
41st session of the Executive Body
Dec 6-8, 2021
Gothenburg Protocol Review recap

• EB39 (Decision 2019/4) initiated the review of the Gothenburg Protocol and requested WGSR to develop a plan for the review including scope and content, elaboration and prioritization, as needed, of elements of review
• Spring 2020 meeting of WGSR did not take place due to pandemic
  • WGSR 58 took place in December 2020
• In spring 2020, Chair convened the Gothenburg Protocol Review Group (aka GPG), including WGSR extended Bureau, invited experts and advisors, to take work forward

• For WGSR58/EB40, GPG developed “Preparations for the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication, and Ground-level ozone, as amended in 2012” (ECE…WG.5/2020/3)
  • Included the scope and content of the review and elaborated on the elements found in EB Decision 2019/4
  • Annex I of the “Preparations” document provided a list of questions to the subsidiary bodies as inputs to the review
Work in 2021

• EB40 adopted the plan for undertaking the review of the contained in Decision 2020/3 which requested WGSR Chair to:
  • Compile the inputs and information received into annotated outline for consideration at WGSR59
  • Do policy-related work of the review including assessing policy implications
  • Prepare a report of the review, including conclusions
  • Report on progress to EB in December 2021 (EB41)
• Chair asked the GPG to continue its work, specifically to produce the annotated outline and report of the review
• GPG produced “Draft Annotated outline of the report on the review of the Gothenburg Protocol (ECE....WG.5/2021/4)”
  • Discussed at WGSR 59; inputs of SBs welcomed
• GPG also produced “Draft Report on the Review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, eutrophication and ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012” (ECE....2021/4)
  • for EB41
Review discussion at WGSR59

- WG agreed on the timelines and continued to support broad scope of review
- Initial discussion on policy-related questions from Annex I
  - Emission reduction commitments for Parties; ELVs, technical annexes, guidance documents; flexibility provisions; barriers to meeting 2020 commitments, ratification; synergies with other policy areas; evaluation of articles, and condensables
    - agreed to discuss all at WGSR60 - Parties were asked to submit views by Sept 30
  - Agreed to develop guidance document on non-technical measures
    - added to 22-23 workplan
- Discussed informal GPG document on flexibilities
  - Flexibilities and barriers to ratification recognized as key linked issue; recommendation to hold an in-person thematic session on margins of WGSR60;
  - Questionnaire on flexibility provisions shared with Parties and non-Parties; additional streamlined questionnaire on flexibilities to be shared with non-Parties
  - Asked for formal document for WGSR60 and to support thematic session
Review discussion at WGSR59

- CIAM provided information on synergies with other policy areas, in particular air-climate
- WGSR task forces also working on a number of pieces/reports for the review
- GPG (and CIAM) asked to develop an informal document for WGSR60 on synergies with other policy areas, in particular air-climate synergies, for WGSR 60
  - Scope of pollutants to include methane, black carbon, and nitrogen and its compounds
- Parties to provide views on key GP articles by Sept 2021 as well as the need to update existing guidance documents and/or develop new ones
Inputs into review

- Subsidiary Bodies (WGSR, EMEP, WGE) sent detailed answers to questions listed in each section in each section of Annex 1 to the “Preparations” document in spring 2021 and can/will continue to provide information
- Comprehensive detailed inputs from SBs compiled in informal document entitled “Supplementary Information for the Review of the GP”
- Subsidiary Bodies can/will continue to submit information, reports and other informal documentation needed for the Review
  - The Supplementary Information document will be maintained
Thank you

**HUGE** thanks to Kimber Scavo and all the members of the GPG for their significant work to advance the review and continued dedication

- Over to Kimber for content of the draft report .....