

**Template for the submission of  
examples of good practices with regard to air pollution  
related policies, strategies and measures**

**Background**

1. The Executive Body, at its thirty-sixth session, adopted decision 2016/3 on Improving the effectiveness of reporting on strategies, policies and other measures to implement obligations under the Convention and its Protocols. This decision stipulates that *“the period for reporting the information referred to in article 5, paragraph 1 (a), of the 1994 Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions, article 7, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, article 9, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and article 7, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) is **at least once every four years**”*. As per this decision, the Executive Body also *“invites States and organizations referred to in article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention that are not Parties to these four Protocols to provide information on strategies, policies and measures to abate air pollution at the sessions of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.”*

2. The enclosed template has been developed to facilitate the submission by Parties of examples of and good practices with regard to different regulatory, voluntary, economic and other measures relating to air pollution in advance of WGSR’s sixtieth session. The templates with information filled in should be sent to the secretariat at [air\\_meetings@un.org](mailto:air_meetings@un.org) by **11 March 2022**.

3. Delegations are invited to submit to the secretariat case studies/examples which could be of interest to other countries. A summary of submitted information will be made at the Working Group’s session. Parties that had not shared such information during the recent years are particularly invited to do so. An overview of the previous reporting at WGSR sessions since 2013 is available on the Convention website:

<https://unece.org/strategies-and-policies-abatement-air-pollution>

4. Examples could comprise, among others, economic measures such as financial incentives or disincentives (such as taxes, subsidies, set prices or caps/ceilings, payments, rebates), voluntary measures (such as voluntary agreements, programmes or contracts), regulatory or legislative measures or other measures (such as educational or informational measures). They can include policies, strategies and measures emanating from different sectors with positive effects on air pollution abatement (such as acts/laws on sustainable transport, sustainable agriculture/farming, energy, green building, biodiversity conservation and enhancement). A more detailed description of the implementation of your chosen policy, strategy or measure and related challenges and problems as well as solutions would be more useful than the presentation of many different examples. Furthermore, your examples could also be useful to other Parties even if they have not been successful by indicating why this was the case. You are thus also invited to submit experiences that cover such items as:

- a) A measure that was less effective than you anticipated and why;
- b) A measure that was actually more effective than you predicted;
- c) A measure that had particular implementation challenges – what were they and how did you address them;
- d) A measure that was either less expensive or more expensive than you had estimated. What caused the increased or decreased costs?
- e) Goals that were set and were met by innovative strategies.

**Template to facilitate the submission of examples/good practices of strategies, policies and measures employed to implement obligations under any of the protocols to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution**

<p><b>Country:</b> Lithuania</p>	<p><b>Pollutant(s):</b> Emission of solid particles, air quality</p>
<p><b>Protocol(s):</b> Gothenburg Protocol</p>	<p><b>Sector:</b> All industrial sectors</p>
<p><b>Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation:</b> Legislation at a national level</p> <p><i>Please identify the type of strategy, policy or measure – economic e.g. incentive or disincentive (taxes, funds, subsidies, prices or caps/ceilings, payments, rebates, etc); voluntary (agreements, programmes, contracts), regulatory (legislation), or other measures (educational, informational, other) Please state at which level (municipal, regional, sub-national, national) the policy, strategy or measure is targeted or implemented</i></p>	<p><b>Method used for the current analysis:</b> <i>Please identify the method used for collecting information and the analysis made</i></p>
<p><b>What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented?</b> <i>Please describe briefly what the measure attempts to achieve or what has been the result of its implementation. Please also describe since when it is being employed or for when its implementation is foreseen. Please explain whether implementation is/was immediate or gradual. [150 words max]</i></p> <p>The new requirements for dust reduction during storage, loading and transport of bulk solid materials were established in 2020. The purpose of this environmental legislation is to lay down the requirements for industrial activities in which dusty solid materials are loaded, stored or transported in order to prevent or reduce dust emissions and to improve environmental conditions for residents living in the vicinity of such activities. Prior to the adoption of the Requirements, there was a lack of legal means to control such activities and to hold companies liable for environmental pollution outside their territories. The Requirements came into force on May 1 2021.</p>	
<p><b>Background and driving forces:</b> <i>Please explain briefly why this strategy, policy or measure was implemented; mention the driving forces for its introduction e.g. policy development, legislation (EU, national), action plans, voluntary, incentive, or other [150 words max]</i></p> <p>Legal preconditions for the preparation of such environmental requirements arose when, on the initiative of the active public concerned, the Law on Environmental Protection was amended by adding a provision prohibiting the release of solid materials (waste, raw materials, and products) outside the territory of enterprises into the environment in certain cases. The reason for the amendment of the law was a very high level of public dissatisfaction with the activities of enterprises operating near residential areas. In recent years, there have been numerous complaints from the public concerning solid materials and dust emissions from industrial activities carried out near residential areas. Even without specific studies, the local population identified the raw</p>	

materials or products potentially emitted by one or another company during storage or loading. The problem was that air quality monitoring stations, which are constantly operating in the vicinity of such areas, and episodic measurements of air pollution by particulate matter (PM10), did not, in principle, indicate an exceedance of the limit values. It was concluded that the existing legal basis was insufficient to ensure the control of such activities and controlling authorities had insufficient powers to require operators to apply solid materials and dust emission prevention and reduction measures. Addressing this problem, the case of Klaipeda State Seaport is to be mentioned as an example. Most of the complaints concerned the activities of seaport stevedoring companies loading bulk solid materials in open sites. In Klaipeda, due to the peculiarities of the port layout, residential and public buildings are located very close to the boundary of the port area (in some places with a distance of less than 100 meters). State ambient air quality monitoring data did not detect significant exceedances of the limit values for particulate matter (PM) concentrations, but it has often been visually observed that materials (e.g., iron ore, carbon coke) loaded and stored by port companies are likely to be released outside the port boundaries and deposited on residential buildings and other surfaces.

**Description of the strategy, policy or measure:**

*Please explain briefly how the strategy, policy or measure works and why it has been chosen compared to other policies/measures. Please also explain how its implementation is being monitored. [200 words max]*

The Requirements set out the organizational and technical measures to be taken by operators to prevent or reduce dust emissions during their activities, such as: materials stored in open areas must be covered, moistened, protected from wind, the height of piles must be limited, dust retention equipment must be used; vehicles carrying materials must be covered during transport; roads on site must be cleaned and irrigated; contaminated wheels of departing vehicles must be cleaned or washed, etc. The application of the Requirements varies according to the dispersion of the material (low or high dispersion), the place where the activity is carried out (urbanised area defined by Law or not). Certain exceptions are applied to some activities, such as mineral quarries, transport of materials by rail and inland waterway transport where it is technically impossible to cover the load, etc.

Operators are required to take measures to ensure that there is no visible emission of stored or loaded materials outside the boundary of the site and the residential, public buildings and other surfaces are not covered (contaminated) by materials. If pollution occurs, operators must clean up the contaminated surfaces.

After the entry into force of the Requirements, in May-July 2021 state environmental control authorities, in cooperation with national scientific institutions, carried out studies on the composition and quantity of deposited particulate matter using passive aggregators. The quantities, composition, and the origin of suspended particulate matter deposited on surfaces were analyzed in order to assess the pollution potentially caused by stevedoring companies operating in the Klaipėda seaport outside their territories. The results showed that particles of iron ore loaded and stored by one company entered the environment outside the company's site. Based on the results, a decision was taken to prohibit the company from carrying out iron ore loading and storage activities after a transitional period. The company was allowed to remove the remaining iron ore from its territory under the supervision of the state environmental control authorities as the removal of the iron ore stored was more in line with environmental objectives and the public interest in a safe environment and health. At present, the company does not operate with iron ore.

**Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:**

*Please state how much the implementation of the measure costs including its monitoring and how it is funded (national budget, industry, taxes, etc.) If the measure is creating revenue, please also explain how this revenue is being allocated and collected. [200 words max]*

The cost-benefit analysis of the aforementioned amendment to the Law on Environmental Protection and the implementation of the Requirements was not carried out. It should be noted that since 2021, companies storing and loading bulk cargoes have been given the opportunity to apply for national financial support for the execution of loading such materials in a closed way (cover, etc.), giving priority (with a higher project assessment score) to activities carried out in urbanised areas.

**Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:**

*Please explain briefly the effect of the policy, strategy or measure and how it has impacted the abatement of air pollution. If impacts are known, please quantify, if possible. Please highlight also other effects of the implementation of the measure e.g. with regard to compliance, the acceptance of the measure or its transposition (e.g. from a voluntary to a regulatory or another type of measure). [150 words max]*

According to the environmental control authorities, at least so far, there has been a reduction in the number of complaints from the population concerned.

**References/Further information:** *Please provide most relevant sources for information such as references for web links, books, other resources.*

Law on Environment protection (see Article 19(2)) (in the Lithuanian language):

<https://www.teisesakturegistras.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.E2780B68DE62/mByQFzAmSd> ;

Minimum requirements for dust reduction during storage, handling and transport of bulk solid materials (only in the Lithuanian language): <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/4b6141b0240a11eb932eb1ed7f923910> .

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**Additional comments:**