



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

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

#### Forty-second session

Geneva, 12–16 December 2022  
Item 1 of the provisional agenda  
**Adoption of the agenda**

### **Revised annotated provisional agenda for the forty-second session\***

**To be held as a hybrid session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting at 3 p.m. on Monday, 12 December 2022**

#### **I. Provisional agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Report on credentials.
3. Thematic session on barriers to ratification and implementation of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012.
4. Review of the implementation of the 2022–2023 workplan:
  - (a) Science;
  - (b) Policy;
  - (c) Compliance;
  - (d) Capacity-building and awareness-raising to promote ratification and implementation;
  - (e) Communication, outreach and cooperation.
5. Review of sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012.

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\* Delegates attending the meeting are requested to register online by 25 November 2022 through the relevant link: <https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Air-Pollution/events/367824>. There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Please find further information on in-person attendance and related restrictions on the meeting web page. This will be a paperless meeting. All the documentation for the session and related information will be posted on the meeting web page. Delegates should bring copies of any documentation they will require. On the day of the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge from the Pass and Identification Unit at Villa Les Feuillantines (13, Avenue de la Paix). A map is available on the United Nations Office at Geneva website [www.ungeneva.org/en/practical-information/delegates](http://www.ungeneva.org/en/practical-information/delegates).



6. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention.
7. Review of the rules of procedure for the Executive Body.
8. Impartiality declaration for elected officers.
9. Election of officers.
10. Other business.
11. Adoption of the draft report on the forty-second session.

## **II. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 12 December, afternoon*

The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution is invited to adopt the agenda for its forty-second session as set out in the present document.

#### **Documentation**

Revised annotated provisional agenda for the forty-second session (ECE/EB.AIR/151/Rev.1)

### **2. Report on credentials**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 12 December, afternoon*

Delegations will be invited to submit their credentials to the secretariat in advance of the session. The officers of the session will examine the credentials and report on them to the Executive Body. The Executive Body is invited to take note of the report on credentials.

### **3. Thematic session on barriers to ratification and implementation of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 13 December, morning and afternoon*

The thematic session on barriers to ratification and implementation of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (the Gothenburg Protocol), as amended in 2012, is organized in accordance with item 2.1.2 (c) of the 2022–2023 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/148/Add.1) and contributes to the review of the Protocol. At its forty-first session (Geneva, 6–8 December 2021), the Executive Body highlighted the importance of holding such a thematic session in 2022.<sup>1</sup> The Working Group on Strategies and Review at its sixtieth session (Geneva, 11–14 April 2022) discussed the draft programme of the thematic session and invited delegations to provide comments thereon.<sup>2</sup> The thematic session is organized as an informal segment of the forty-second session of the Executive Body. Representatives of countries not yet Parties to the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012, are particularly encouraged to actively participate.

#### **Documentation**

Programme of the thematic session on barriers to ratification and implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012 (informal document No. 1)

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<sup>1</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/148, para. 29 (g) (advance version), available at <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/executive-body-forty-first-session>.

<sup>2</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/128, para. 19, available at <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/working-group-strategies-and-review-sixtieth-session>.

Review of the flexibility provisions to facilitate ratification and implementation (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/6)

Barriers to ratification and implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012, and potential solutions (informal document No.2)

#### 4. Review of the implementation of the 2022–2023 workplan

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 14 December, morning*

The Executive Body will be invited to review the implementation of the 2022–2023 workplan for the implementation of the Convention.

##### (a) Science

Considering the main outcomes, conclusions and recommendations of the eighth joint session of the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) and the Working Group on Effects (Geneva, 12–16 September 2022), as contained in the report of the session (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2022/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2022/2, forthcoming), the Executive Body will be invited to take note of the progress in the implementation of section I of the workplan (science).

The Executive Body will be invited to adopt the Guidelines for Reporting Emissions and Projections Data under the Convention, updated in accordance with item 1.1.2.13 of the workplan and as approved by the EMEP Steering Body at the eighth joint session.

At its forty-first session, the Executive Body requested the EMEP Steering Body to prepare a formal update of the Technical Guidance for Parties Making Adjustment Applications and for the Expert Review of Adjustment Applications (ECE/EB.AIR/130) and to present the results to the Executive Body at its forty-second session.<sup>3</sup> The Executive Body will be invited to adopt the guidance, as approved by the EMEP Steering Body.

Additionally, the Executive Body will be invited to adopt the strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention, as approved by the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects at their eighth joint session.

##### Documentation

Report of the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe and the Working Group on Effects on their eighth joint session (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2022/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2022/2, forthcoming)

Guidelines for Reporting Emissions and Projections Data under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2022/20–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2022/13)

Technical Guidance for Emissions Inventory Adjustments under the Amended Gothenburg Protocol (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2022/21–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2022/14)

Strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/10)

Draft decisions of the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/8)

##### (b) Policy

The Executive Body will be invited to take note of the progress in the implementation of section II of the workplan (policy) and of the outcomes of the sixtieth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.

<sup>3</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/148, para. 13 (b) (advance version).

The Executive Body will be invited to consider and endorse the report on the cost of inaction, forwarded to it by the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its sixtieth session.<sup>4</sup>

**Documentation**

Report of the Working Group on Strategies and Review on its sixtieth session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/128)

Cost of inaction (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/7)

**(c) Compliance**

The Executive Body will be invited to take note of progress in the implementation of section III of the workplan (compliance), and in particular the twenty-fifth report of the Implementation Committee, prepared based on the outcomes of the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the Committee (Geneva (online), 3–4 May 2022, and 30–31 August 2022, respectively).

At its fortieth session (Geneva, 18 December 2020), the Executive Body elected two members of the Implementation Committee and re-elected two members for a fifth term and five members for a third term.<sup>5</sup> The Executive Body is therefore invited to elect nine members of the Implementation Committee and to elect its Chair from among those members.

**Documentation**

Twenty-fifth report of the Implementation Committee (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/2)

Compliance with reporting obligations (informal document No. 3)

**(d) Capacity-building and awareness-raising to promote ratification and implementation**

The Executive Body will be invited to take note of the information on the implementation of section IV of the workplan (capacity-building and awareness-raising to promote ratification and implementation), as contained in the reports of the Coordinating Group on the promotion of actions towards implementation of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and the secretariat.

**Documentation**

Report of the Coordinating Group on the promotion of actions towards implementation of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (informal document No. 4)

Report of the secretariat on capacity-building and awareness-raising activities to promote ratification and implementation (informal document No. 5)

**(e) Communication, outreach and cooperation**

The Executive Body will be invited to take note of the information on the implementation of section V of the workplan (communication, outreach and cooperation), as contained in the report of the secretariat. The Executive Body will be invited to take note of the information provided.

**Documentation**

Report on communication and outreach activities (informal document No. 6)

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<sup>4</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/128, para. 13.

<sup>5</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/146, para. 14.

## 5. Review of sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 14 December, afternoon, and Thursday, 15 December, morning*

At its thirty-ninth session (Geneva, 9–13 December 2019), the Executive Body initiated the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012, with a view to concluding it at the forty-second session.<sup>6</sup> At its fortieth session, the Executive Body adopted decision 2020/2 on the plan for undertaking the review of the Protocol to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012, pursuant to its article 10 (ECE/EB.AIR/146, annex II).

The Working Group on Strategies and Review at its sixtieth session considered the draft report on the review prepared by the Gothenburg Protocol review group and requested the group to submit the final report to the Executive Body at its forty-second session for consideration of conclusions and implications for the way forward.<sup>7</sup> The Executive Body is invited to adopt the final report on the review.

The Executive Body is invited to take note of the following documents accompanying the report:

- (a) Scientific information for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol;
- (b) Technical information for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol;
- (c) Review of the flexibility provisions to facilitate ratification and implementation.

In its deliberations, the Executive Body may wish to consider the outcomes of the informal meeting of the Heads of Delegations to the Working Group on Strategies and Review (The Hague, Netherlands, 27–30 September 2022) and the thematic session on barriers towards ratification and implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended (item 3 of the present provisional agenda).

### Documentation

Report on the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012 (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/3)

Scientific information for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/4)

Technical information for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/5)

Review of the flexibility provisions to facilitate ratification and implementation (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/6)

Outcomes of the informal meeting of the Heads of Delegations to the Working Group on Strategies and Review (informal document No. 7)

## 6. Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention

*Tentative timing: Thursday, 15 December, afternoon*

The secretariat will inform the Executive Body about the status of Parties' contributions to the trust funds for financing implementation of the Convention in 2021–2022 and the expenditures during that period. It will also present resource requirements for the period 2023–2024.

On the recommendation of the Steering Body to the EMEP and the Working Group on Effects, the Executive Body is invited, among other things, to approve: (a) the detailed use

<sup>6</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/144/Add.1, decision 2019/4.

<sup>7</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/128, paras. 14–16.

of resources for EMEP in 2023; and (b) the essential international coordination costs for financing the core activities of the Convention and its Protocols, other than those covered by the 1984 Geneva Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP Protocol); and (c) a revised schedule of mandatory contributions for the period 2023–2024. The Executive Body is also invited to amend the EMEP Protocol by adopting a revised annex, and to amend the annex to decision 2002/1 on the financing of core activities (ECE/EB.AIR/77/Add.1, annex I) in line with the most recent United Nations scale of assessments.

At its forty-first session, the Executive Body requested its Bureau in cooperation with the secretariat to assess the financial situation of the Convention in further detail, using as a basis the information presented at that session. The Executive Body requested the Working Group on Strategies and Review to consider the findings to be presented by the Executive Body Bureau and to recommend options for the organization of the Working Group's second meeting in 2023 for consideration by the Executive Body at its forty-second session.<sup>8</sup> At its sixtieth session, the Working Group welcomed the Bureau's proposed way forward for assessing the financial situation in the longer term and recommended that the Executive Body invite Parties at its forty-second session to make earmarked voluntary contributions to cover the conference costs of an additional session of the Working Group (Geneva, 4–6 September 2023, tentative).<sup>9</sup>

The Executive Body at its forty-first session also requested its Bureau to present its assessment of the financial situation of the Convention, in particular on the funding of the secretariat on a stable basis, for discussion at the forty-second session of the Executive Body.<sup>10</sup> The Executive Body is invited to consider the progress so far, together with background information provided by the secretariat, and decide on next steps.

### **Documentation**

Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/1)

Draft decisions of the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/8)

Resources for the secretariat to support the core functioning of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/9)

Informal document on financing by the Executive Body Bureau (informal document No. 8)

## **7. Review of the rules of procedure for the Executive Body**

*Tentative timing: Thursday, 15 December, afternoon*

At its forty-first session, the Executive Body adopted decision 2021/6 on review of the rules of procedure for the sessions of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution as adopted by decision 2010/19 and amended by decision 2013/1.<sup>11</sup> With this decision, the Executive Body tasked the ad hoc group of experts, convened by the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, with undertaking this review and with presenting its final recommendations at the forty-third session of the Executive Body. The Executive Body requested the Working Group on Strategies and Review to report on progress at the forty-second session. The Executive Body is invited to take note of the information on progress made to be presented by the ad hoc group of experts.

## **8. Impartiality declaration for elected officers**

*Tentative timing: Friday, 16 December, morning*

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<sup>8</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/148, para. 37 (b) (i) and (c).

<sup>9</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/128, para. 31.

<sup>10</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/148, para. 37 (d).

<sup>11</sup> *ibid.*, para. 44 and annex.

The Executive Body at its forty-first session requested its Bureau, in consultation with the secretariat and the ad hoc group of legal experts as necessary, to develop a proposal for establishing the practice of a conflict-of-interest declaration by officials elected by the Executive Body and to present it to the Executive Body at its forty-second session.<sup>12</sup> The Executive Body is invited to consider the proposal made by the Bureau and to establish the practice.

#### **Documentation**

Draft decisions of the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/2022/8)

### **9. Election of officers**

*Tentative timing: Friday, 16 December, morning*

At its forty-first session, the Executive Body re-elected Ms. Anna Engleryd (Sweden) as its Chair.<sup>13</sup> The Ministry of the Environment of Sweden informed the secretariat in a letter dated 3 October 2022 that, due to other commitments, Ms. Engleryd would resign as Chair of the Executive Body after the forty-second session of the Executive Body. The Bureau of the Executive Body at its meeting on 7 November 2022 proposed the election of a new Chair of the Executive Body for a full term at the forty-second session. It requested the secretariat to issue a revised agenda for the forty-second session adding an item on the election and to send out to Parties a call for nominations. The Executive Body is therefore invited to elect its Chair.

#### **Documentation**

Letter of resignation from the Ministry of the Environment of Sweden (informal document No. 9)

### **10. Other business**

*Tentative timing: Friday, 16 December, morning*

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no issues to raise under this agenda item. Parties wishing to propose any other business are invited to contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

### **11. Adoption of the draft report on the forty-second session**

*Tentative timing: Friday, 16 December, afternoon*

The Chair, with support from the secretariat, will present a record of the main decisions taken at the session, which will form the basis for the draft report. The Executive Body is invited to review and adopt the draft report on the session and entrust the secretariat to finalize it following the session.

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<sup>12</sup> *ibid.*, para. 47 (a).

<sup>13</sup> *ibid.*, para. 45.