



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
12 June 2023

Original: English

---

## Economic Commission for Europe

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

### Working Group on Strategies and Review

#### Sixty-first session

Geneva, 4–6 September 2023

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the sixty-first session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on  
Monday, 4 September 2023\*

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Progress in the implementation of the 2022–2023 workplan.
3. Policy options to address the conclusions of the review of sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012.
4. Draft 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention: policy-related aspects and elements.
5. Information-sharing by Parties on the implementation of the Convention.
6. Review of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Executive Body.
7. Financial requirements for implementation of the Convention.
8. Election of officers.
9. Other business.
10. Adoption of the draft report on the sixty-first session.

---

\* Delegates attending the meeting are requested to register online, **by 1 August 2023**, through the relevant link, which is available on the meeting web page: <https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Air-Pollution/events/371555>. There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. A map of the Palais des Nations is available on the United Nations Office at Geneva website: <https://www.ungeneva.org/en/about/practical-information/map>. 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.



## II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

### 1. Adoption of the agenda

*Tentative timing: Monday, 4 September, morning*

1. The Working Group on Strategies and Review under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution will be invited to adopt its agenda, as contained in the present document.

#### **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixty-first session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/129)

### 2. Progress in the implementation of the 2022–2023 workplan

*Tentative timing: Monday, 4 September, morning*

2. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues, the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen, the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Task Force for International Cooperation on Air Pollution will present progress in the implementation of the 2022–2023 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/148/Add.1). The Working Group may wish to take note of the reports.

3. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues will present for consideration by the Working Group the draft Guidance document on technical measures for reduction of methane emissions from landfill, the natural gas grid and biogas facilities and the draft Guidance document on technical measures for reduction of emissions from shipping, prepared in accordance with the revised mandate of the Task Force (Executive Body decision 2018/7, annex, para. 2 (b)– (c)).<sup>1</sup> The Chair of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen will present the draft document entitled “Co-mitigation of methane and ammonia emissions from agricultural sources: policy brief and guidance” (item 2.2.1 of the workplan), prepared in cooperation with the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues. The final drafts of the three guidance documents, incorporating any comments of the Working Group, are foreseen to be submitted to the Executive Body for consideration at its forty-third session (Geneva, 11–14 December 2023).

#### **Documentation**

Report of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/INF.1)

Report of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/INF.2)

Report of the Task Force for International Cooperation on Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/INF.3)

Draft Guidance document on technical measures for reduction of methane emissions from landfill, the natural gas grid and biogas facilities (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/3)

Draft Guidance document on technical measures for reduction of emissions from shipping (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/4)

Co-mitigation of methane and ammonia emissions from agricultural sources: policy brief and guidance (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/5)

---

<sup>1</sup> All Executive Body decisions referred to in the present document are available at <https://unece.org/decisions>.

### **3. Policy options to address the conclusions of the review of sufficiency and effectiveness of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 4 September, afternoon, and Tuesday, 5 September, morning*

4. The Executive Body concluded the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (the Gothenburg Protocol), as amended in 2012, at its forty-second session (Geneva, 12–16 December 2022). The Executive Body decided that an ad hoc group of experts should be convened by the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review to develop policy options to address the conclusions of the review, including consideration of the option of a revision of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012, and options for addressing conclusions related to the technical annexes, and including recommendations for next steps and future work (Executive Body decision 2022/4, para. 9 (a)). The Working Group is invited to discuss the options and recommendations presented by the ad hoc group and to also provide its recommendations to the Executive Body meeting at its forty-third session.

#### **Documentation**

Options to address the conclusions of the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012 (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/2)

### **4. Draft 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention: policy-related aspects and elements**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 5 September, morning and afternoon*

5. The Working Group will be invited to discuss policy and other related aspects and elements of the draft 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention that will be presented to the Executive Body at its forty-third session. The Working Group will be invited to take into account the activities proposed by the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen, the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues, the Task Force for International Cooperation on Air Pollution, the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution, as included in the draft 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention: policy-related aspects and elements.

#### **Documentation**

Draft 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention: policy-related aspects and elements (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/1)

### **5. Information-sharing by Parties on the implementation of the Convention**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 5 September, afternoon*

6. Regular exchange of information on air pollution-related policies and strategies is stipulated under article 8 of the Convention. At its thirty-second session (Geneva, 9–13 December 2013), the Executive Body decided that the Working Group on Strategies and Review would continue to devote time each year to policy discussions related to the design and implementation of different regulatory, voluntary, economic or other measures relating to air pollution (Executive Body decision 2013/2, para. (a)). In accordance with paragraph (d) of Executive Body decision 2013/2, the sessions of the Working Group on Strategies and Review are considered the format for reporting on strategies, policies and measures referenced in article 5 (1) of the 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions, article 7 (2) of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, article 9 (2) of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and article 7 (2) of the Gothenburg Protocol. Moreover, Parties to the Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary

Fluxes (the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub>) and the Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes (the Protocol on VOCs) may utilize the time set aside during the annual session of the Working Group to report on changes or revisions to their policies, strategies and measures to implement their respective obligations under article 8 (1) of the Protocol on NO<sub>x</sub> and article 8 (2) of the Protocol on VOCs.

7. At its thirty-sixth session (Geneva, 15 and 16 December 2016), the Executive Body 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. It decided that the period for reporting the information referred to in article 5 (1) (a) of the 1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions, article 7 (1) (a) of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, article 9 (1) (a) of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and article 7 (1) (a) of the Gothenburg Protocol was at least once every four years. It furthermore invited other States and organizations referred to in article 14 (1) of the Convention that were not Parties to those four protocols to provide information on strategies, policies and measures to abate air pollution at the sessions of the Working Group.<sup>2</sup>

8. The Working Group will be invited to exchange information on national, subregional and regional policies and strategies for the control of major air pollutants, including exchanging experiences and best practices to implement the Convention's protocols. Representatives of Parties and other States, in particular those not having recently reported, are invited to submit their completed reporting templates in advance of the session and to present their experiences and best practices on policies, strategies and specific measures to implement their obligations under any of the protocols to the Convention at the session. The Working Group will be expected to take note of the information presented.

9. Under item 2.1.1 of the 2022–2023 workplan for the implementation of the Convention,<sup>3</sup> the secretariat is tasked with collecting information on strategies and policies for air pollution abatement throughout the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region shared at the sessions of the Working Group following Executive Body decision 2016/3. An overview of reporting by countries of experiences and challenges related to the implementation of the Convention and its protocols at sessions of the Working Group on Strategies and Review has been made available by the secretariat on the Convention website.<sup>4</sup>

## **6. Review of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Executive Body**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 6 September, morning*

10. At its forty-first session (Geneva, 6–8 December 2021), 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 Executive Body decision 2010/19 and amended by Executive Body decision 2013/1. With its decision 2021/6, 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. It requested the ad hoc group of legal experts to undertake a legal assessment of any recommendations for revisions proposed by the ad hoc group of experts. The Working Group is invited to take note of the review conclusions and to provide possible recommendations to the Executive Body meeting at its forty-third session.

### **Documentation**

Report on the review of the rules of procedure (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/INF.4)

---

<sup>2</sup> Decision 2016/3, para. 4.

<sup>3</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/2021/2, table 2.

<sup>4</sup> See <https://unece.org/strategies-and-policies-abatement-air-pollution>.

## **7. Financial requirements for implementation of the Convention**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 6 September, morning*

11. 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 particular the funding of the secretariat on a stable basis. The Bureau and the secretariat presented the results of its assessment to the Executive Body at its forty-second session.<sup>5</sup> As proposed by the Bureau, the Executive Body decided to temporarily restrict some core secretariat activities in 2023.<sup>6</sup> The Bureau noted that it would continue to assess the financial situation and would develop a proposal for a long-term and stable solution. The Working Group is invited to take note of the information on progress made and to provide its comments and recommendations to the Executive Body Bureau and the secretariat to further develop a proposal for consideration by the Executive Body at its forty-third session.

## **8. Election of officers**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 6 September, morning*

12. The Working Group is expected to elect its Vice-Chairs. At its fifty-ninth session (Geneva, 18–21 May 2021), the Working Group elected Mr. Peter Meulepas (Belgium) and Ms. Donna Yates (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and re-elected Ms. Dominique Pritula (Canada) for a second term as Vice-Chairs of the Working Group.<sup>7</sup>

## **9. Other business**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 6 September, afternoon*

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

## **10. Adoption of the draft report on the sixty-first session**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 6 September, afternoon*

14. The Chair, with support from the secretariat, will present a record of the main conclusions and recommendations made at the session, which will form the basis for the draft report. The Working Group is invited to review and adopt the draft report on the session and entrust the secretariat to finalize it following the session.

---

<sup>5</sup> Cover note by the Executive Body Bureau produced as an informal document under agenda item 6 accompanying document ECE/EB.AIR/2022/9 entitled “Resources for the secretariat to support the core functioning of the Convention”.

<sup>6</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/150 (advance version), para. 42 (f).

<sup>7</sup> ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/126, para. 41.