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

Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for
Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range
Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

Working Group on Effects

Tenth joint session

Geneva, 9–13 September 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the tenth joint session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 3 p.m.
on Monday, 9 September 2024*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies and activities of the Bureaux of the Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects.
3. Discussion on the Gothenburg Protocol revision.
4. Progress in activities of the Working Group on Effects in 2024 and future work:
 - (a) Air pollution effects on health;
 - (b) Critical loads and other issues related to modelling and mapping;
 - (c) Air pollution effects on materials, the environment and crops:
 - (i) Air pollution effects on materials;

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Delegates attending the meeting are therefore requested to register online by 20 August 2024 through the web page for the meeting: <https://unece.org/info/events/event/384923>. This will be a paperless meeting. All 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 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 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe website (<https://unece.org/practical-information-delegates>). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat at +41 22 917 3570.

- (ii) Air pollution effects on forests;
 - (iii) Air pollution effects on waters;
 - (iv) Integrated monitoring of air pollution effects on ecosystems;
 - (v) Air pollution effects on vegetation;
- (d) Update on the Effects joint report based on the international cooperative programmes' and task forces' inputs into the Gothenburg Protocol review.
5. Progress in activities of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe in 2024 and future work:
- (a) Improvement and reporting of emission data and adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone:
 - (i) Adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone;
 - (ii) Improvement and reporting of emission data;
 - (b) Measurements and modelling;
 - (c) Integrated assessment modelling;
 - (d) Hemispheric transport of air pollution.
6. Financial and budgetary matters:
- (a) Working Group on Effects;
 - (b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe.
7. Joint thematic session:
- (a) Nature restoration and air pollution;
 - (b) Managing uncertainties;
 - (c) Discussion: Impacts of climate change policies on air pollution.
8. Outreach activities, information-sharing and cooperation with other organizations and programmes.
9. Information-sharing by Parties.
10. Election of officers:
- (a) Working Group on Effects;
 - (b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the draft report on the tenth joint session.
13. Closing of the tenth joint session.

II. Introduction

1. The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution agreed, at its thirty-second session (Geneva, 9–13 December 2013), that, as of 2015, the Working Group on Effects and the Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) should meet jointly to achieve enhanced integration and cooperation between the Convention’s two scientific subsidiary bodies.¹ The two bodies will hold their tenth joint session from 9 to 13 September 2024 in Geneva.

III. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. The Steering Body to EMEP and the Working Group on Effects will be invited to adopt the agenda for their tenth joint session as set out in the present document.² The provisional time schedule is presented in an informal document entitled “Organization of work during the tenth joint session”.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda for the tenth joint session
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2024/1–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2024/1)

Organization of work during the tenth joint session
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.15)

2. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies and activities of the Bureaux of the Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects

3. The Chair of the Executive Body for the Convention will inform participants about matters arising from the forty-third session of the Executive Body (Geneva, 11–14 December 2023). The Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review will inform participants about the outcomes of the sixty-second session of the Working Group (Geneva, 27–31 May 2024).

4. The Chairs of the EMEP Steering Body and of the Working Group on Effects will present a summary of the work of their Bureaux since the ninth joint session (Geneva 11–15 September 2023).

Documentation

2024 Joint progress report on policy-relevant scientific findings
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2024/3–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2024/3)

Activities of the Bureaux of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.5)

3. Discussion on the Gothenburg Protocol revision

5. Participants are expected to discuss and coordinate scientific input into the Gothenburg Protocol revision process based on the outcomes of the sixty-second session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.

¹ ECE/EB.AIR/122, para. 47 (b).

² Documentation for the session and other information materials will be made available on the web page for the session (<https://unece.org/info/events/event/384923>).

Documentation

EMEP Steering Body and Working Group on Effects inputs into the Gothenburg Protocol revision process
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.17)

4. Progress in activities of the Working Group on Effects in 2024 and future work

6. Participants are expected to consider progress in effects-oriented activities in 2024 in relation to the 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/154/Add.1). Representatives of international cooperative programmes, centres and task forces and the Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution (Task Force on Health) will present main achievements and difficulties in the implementation of the 2024–2025 workplan items, and their relevance in connection with the goals of the long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for 2020–2030 and beyond (Executive Body decision 2018/5) and of the Strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (Executive Body decision 2022/3).³

7. Participants are expected to take note of the technical reports and the progress in implementation of the 2024–2025 workplan. They may wish to provide guidance for future work.

(a) Air pollution effects on health

8. A representative of the Task Force on Health will report on its activities, including the results of its twenty-seventh meeting (Bonn, Germany, 22–23 May 2024).

Documentation

Technical report of the Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.13)

(b) Critical loads and other issues related to modelling and mapping

9. Representatives of the International Cooperative Programme on Modelling and Mapping of Critical Levels and Loads and Air Pollution Effects, Risks and Trends (ICP Modelling and Mapping) and its Coordination Centre for Effects and the Centre for Dynamic Modelling will report on their activities, including the results of the fortieth ICP Modelling and Mapping Task Force meeting held jointly with the thirty-first meeting of the Coordination Centre for Effects (Oslo, 23–25 April 2024).

Documentation

Technical report of the International Cooperative Programme on Modelling and Mapping of Critical Levels and Loads and Air Pollution Effects, Risks and Trends
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.12)

(c) Air pollution effects on materials, the environment and crops

(i) Air pollution effects on materials

10. A representative of the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Materials, including Historic and Cultural Monuments (ICP Materials) will report on its activities, including the results of its thirty-ninth Task Force meeting (Madrid, 6–8 May 2024).

³ All Executive Body decisions referred to in the present document are available at <https://unece.org/decisions>.

Documentation

Technical report of the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Materials, including Historic and Cultural Monuments
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.9)

(ii) Air pollution effects on forests

11. A representative of the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests (ICP Forests) will report on its activities, including the results of its fortieth Task Force meeting (Prague, 10–14 June 2024).

Documentation

Technical report of the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.7)

(iii) Air pollution effects on waters

12. A representative of the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of the Effects of Air Pollution on Rivers and Lakes (ICP Waters) will report on its activities, including the results of its fortieth Task Force meeting held jointly with the thirty-second Task Force meeting of the International Cooperative Programme on Integrated Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Ecosystems (ICP Integrated Monitoring) (Prague, 28–30 May 2024).

Documentation

Technical report of the International Cooperative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of the Effects of Air Pollution on Rivers and Lakes
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.8)

(iv) Integrated monitoring of air pollution effects on ecosystems

13. A representative of ICP Integrated Monitoring will report on its activities, including the results of its thirty-second Task Force meeting held jointly with the fortieth Task Force meeting of ICP Waters (Prague, 28–30 May 2024).

Documentation

Technical report of the International Cooperative Programme on Integrated Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Ecosystems
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.11)

(v) Air pollution effects on vegetation

14. A representative of the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Natural Vegetation and Crops (ICP Vegetation) will report on its activities, including the results of its thirty-seventh Task Force meeting (Kaunas, Lithuania, 20–21 February 2024).

Documentation

Technical report of the International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Natural Vegetation and Crops
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.10)

(d) Update on the Effects joint report based on the international cooperative programmes' and task forces' inputs into the Gothenburg Protocol review

15. Draft Effects joint report, based on the ICPs' and task forces' inputs into the Gothenburg Protocol review, will be presented for discussion. The participants are expected to agree on its finalization process.

Documentation

Draft Effects joint report, based on the ICPs' and Task Forces' inputs into the Gothenburg Protocol review
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1-WG.1/2024/INF.16)

5. Progress in activities of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe in 2024 and future work

16. Participants are expected to consider progress in the activities of EMEP in 2024 and in relation to the 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention. Representatives of centres and task forces will present the main achievements and difficulties in the implementation of the 2024–2025 workplan items, and their relevance in connection with the goals of the long-term strategy for the Convention for 2020–2030 and beyond and of the Strategy for scientific bodies under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.

(a) Improvement and reporting of emission data and adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

(i) Adjustments under the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone

17. The Head of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections will inform the Steering Body about the outcome of the analyses of requests to apply the adjustment procedure. Adjustment applications have been submitted by Czechia, Denmark, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with two of these applications being submitted for the first time in 2024.

18. At the ninth joint session of the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects, the Chair of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections (TFEIP) presented an informal note on adjustments in projections reporting,⁴ which discussed the possibility of including information about the impacts of already approved emission inventory adjustments in Parties' reporting of emission projections to the Convention. Following the request of the EMEP Steering Body, the Chair of TFEIP will propose necessary changes to the reporting guidance documents and present a paper outlining these changes.

19. The Steering Body is expected to consider the outcome of the analyses on adjustments and the proposal on the changes to the reporting guidance documents, and to make recommendations to the Executive Body at its forty-fourth session (Geneva, 9–12 December 2024).

Documentation

Review of adjustment applications
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1-WG.1/2024/INF.6)

(ii) Improvement and reporting of emission data

20. The Co-Chair of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections will report on progress made during the last 12 months, including the results of the thirteenth annual meeting of the Task Force (Dessau, Germany, 14–16 May 2024), and on plans for the future. He will also present a paper on the practicalities of adding methane emissions reporting to the Gothenburg Protocol and a paper on the condensable particulate matter.

⁴ "Emission inventory adjustments and Parties' emission projections reporting to the Convention: A non-technical discussion paper". Available under the "Information documents" tab at <https://unece.org/info/events/event/371556>.

21. A representative of the Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections will inform the Steering Body about the status of emissions data reporting, the work of the Centre and the work on data quality. She will report on progress in the inventory improvement programme, in particular as regards the stage 3 in-depth reviews of the emission inventories and the experiences gained in the 2024 review.

22. Participants will discuss and review quality assurance issues regarding national emission inventories. Some national experts from Parties may be invited to present their views on emissions reported to the Convention, especially when significant changes in emission estimates are reported from one year to another.

23. The EMEP Steering Body is expected to provide some guidance on future emission and modelling work.

Documentation

Emission inventories (report of the Chair of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections)
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1-WG.1/2024/INF.3)

Present state of emission data, review process and data for modellers
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2024/4-ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2024/4)

(b) Measurements and modelling

24. The EMEP status and technical reports relevant for the evaluation of progress made in 2024 (see documentation list below) will be made available on the EMEP website.⁵ Under this subitem, representatives of the EMEP task forces and centres will report on progress in measurements and modelling activities as follows:

(a) The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling will report on progress, including the results of the twenty-fifth meeting of the Task Force (Warsaw, 6–7 May 2024);

(b) A representative of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West will give an overview of the activities on monitoring and modelling of acidification, eutrophication and photo-oxidants, including progress made by the Chemical Coordinating Centre and the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling, the work of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West, discussions within the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling and plans for future work until the end of 2024;

(c) A representative of the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-East will present an overview of the activities on monitoring and modelling of heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants and plans for future work until the end of 2024;

(d) A representative of the Chemical Coordinating Centre will present an overview of activities on atmospheric monitoring and modelling of particulate matter, including with respect to work at the Meteorological Synthesizing Centre-West and the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling, the work of the Chemical Coordinating Centre and plans for future work until the end of 2024.

25. Participants are expected to:

(a) Approve the executive summaries of the 2024 status reports and to decide to present them to the Executive Body;

(b) Discuss the status of implementation of the EMEP monitoring strategy;

(c) Discuss progress made with respect to cooperation with national experts, and provide guidance on means for its improvement;

⁵ See http://emep.int/emep_publications.html.

(d) Discuss progress made in modelling and monitoring activities in 2024 in all the above-mentioned areas of work, and provide guidance on the further development of that work;

(e) Provide guidance on the further development of the measurement and modelling work.

Documentation

Measurements and modelling (report of the Chair of the Task Force on Measurements and Modelling)
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.1)

EMEP Status Report 1/2024, *Transboundary particulate matter, photo-oxidants, acidifying and eutrophying components*. Joint MSC-W, CCC and CEIP Report (forthcoming)⁶

MSC-W Data Note 1/2024, *Individual Country Reports Transboundary air pollution by main pollutants (S, N, O₃) and PM* (forthcoming)

EMEP Status Report 2/2024, *Assessment of transboundary pollution with heavy metals and POPs*. Joint MSC-E, CCC and CEIP Report (forthcoming)

EMEP/CCC Report 1/2024 Data Report 2022: Particulate matter, carbonaceous and inorganic compounds

EMEP/CCC Report 2/2024 Ozone measurements 2022

EMEP/CCC Report 3/2024 Heavy metals and POP measurements 2022

EMEP/CCC Report 4/2024 Towards a harmonized approach for atmospheric monitoring of chemicals of emerging concern. Workshop report

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report 01/2024 *Methodologies applied to the CEIP GNFR gap-filling 2024*

Part I: Main pollutants, Particulate Matter and BC (NO_x, NMVOCs, SO_x, NH₃, CO, PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀, PM coarse, BC) (forthcoming)

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report 02/2024 *Methodologies applied to the CEIP GNFR gap-filling 2024*

Part II: Heavy Metals and POPs (Pb, Cd, Hg, Benzo(a)pyrene, Benzo(b)fluoranthene, Benzo(k)fluoranthene, Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, Total polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, Dioxin and Furan, Hexachlorobenzene, Polychlorinated biphenyls) (forthcoming)

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report 03/2024 *Uncertainties and recalculations of emission inventories submitted under the Air Convention* (forthcoming)

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report 04/2024 *Inventory Review 2024* (forthcoming)

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report CEIP 05/2024 *Methodology report* (forthcoming)

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report CEIP 06/2024 *Reporting of Black Carbon emissions – A comparison of data submitted under the Air Convention and alternative datasets* (forthcoming)

EMEP/CEIP Technical Report CEIP 07/2024 *Reporting of gridded data – Case studies comparing data submitted under the Air Convention and alternative datasets* (forthcoming)

(c) Integrated assessment modelling

26. The Chair of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling will report on the Task Force activities, including the results of its fifty-third meeting (Paris, 15–17 April 2024). A representative of the Centre for Integrated Assessment Modelling will also report on activities.

⁶ EMEP status reports for 2024 will be published in the summer or autumn. The names of the final authors and other publishing details are not currently available.

Documentation

Integrated assessment modelling (report of the Chair of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling)
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.2)

(d) Hemispheric transport of air pollution

27. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution will report on the results of recent activities and meetings that the Task Force co-organized or to which it contributed, including the annual meeting of the Task Force, which was held online on 22–25 April 2024.⁷

Documentation

Hemispheric transport of air pollution (report of the Chair of the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution)
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1–WG.1/2024/INF.4)

6. Financial and budgetary matters

28. The secretariat will introduce the note on financial and budgetary matters and report on any updates regarding payment of mandatory, voluntary and in-kind contributions to EMEP and for the effects-oriented activities in 2023 and 2024. The secretariat will also update participants on the contracts for the Convention centres in 2024 and the information provided by the centres on the total costs of their operation.

(a) Working Group on Effects

29. Participants are expected to discuss the budget for the centres under the Working Group in 2025 and to submit the budget proposal to the Executive Body for its approval.

Documentation

Financial and budgetary matters
(ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2024/5–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2024/5)

(b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

30. Participants are expected to discuss and adopt the detailed budget for the EMEP centres in 2025, and to submit the budget proposal to the Executive Body for its approval.

Documentation

Financial and budgetary matters (ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2024/5–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2024/5)

7. Joint thematic session

31. A joint thematic session will be held to discuss two issues: nature restoration and air pollution; and managing uncertainties. A shorter thematic discussion on the impacts of climate change policies on air pollution will follow. The session will give EMEP centres, task forces and international cooperative programmes under the Working Group on Effects the opportunity to present a number of results and conclusions from their work relevant to the questions to be considered.

(a) Nature restoration and air pollution

32. At the latest Extended EMEP Steering Body and Working Group on Effects Bureaux Meeting (Geneva, 28 February–1 March 2024), participants reflected on the fact that the

⁷ For details, see <http://htap.org/>.

focus of nature policies is shifting from nature protection to nature restoration. This session will be dedicated to a discussion on how this can be reflected in effect assessment and air pollution policies. Participants will also discuss on how to better coordinate with national and regional policies.

(b) Managing uncertainties

33. During this segment the focus will be on the ways in which uncertainties are assessed and managed in various aspects of the work of scientific bodies, particularly in connection to the ongoing revision of the Gothenburg Protocol.

(c) Discussion: Impacts of climate change policies on air pollution

34. The discussion on the impacts of climate change on air pollution will focus on the integrated areas of climate change and air pollution, as well as on how to increase scientific and policy cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

8. Outreach activities, information-sharing and cooperation with other organizations and programmes

35. Representatives of partner organizations and programmes (e.g., the World Meteorological Organization) will be invited to briefly present their work and their cooperation with the two scientific bodies under the Convention. Participants are expected to take note of the information provided and to offer guidance on further information-sharing and cooperation.

9. Information-sharing by Parties

36. Representatives of Parties are invited to present their national experiences in implementing monitoring and modelling activities under EMEP and/or their national effects-oriented activities. Parties are requested to present both successes in implementation and obstacles thereto. Participants are expected to consider the national experiences presented at the session and to recommend that similar exchanges of information continue at future sessions.

10. Election of officers

(a) Working Group on Effects

37. At the ninth joint session, the Working Group on Effects elected Mr. Jesper Leth Bak (Denmark) as its Chair for a term of two years and Ms. Zita Ferenczi (Hungary) as its Vice-Chair for a term of one year.⁸

38. The Working Group is expected to elect one or more vice-chairs following the rules of procedure adopted by the Executive Body for the Convention at its twenty-eighth session (Geneva, 13–17 December 2010), which also apply to the Working Group.⁹ In accordance with rule 17 (1) of the rules of procedure, chairs and vice-chairs are elected for a two-year term of office and are eligible for re-election but may not serve more than two consecutive terms unless the Working Group decides otherwise. The Steering Body may also wish to decide on the issue of continuing to allow representation of the European Commission at Bureau meetings.

⁸ ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2023/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2023/2, para. 101 (b)–(c).

⁹ Decision 2010/19, annex, rule 21 (1).

(b) Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

39. At the ninth joint session, Ms. Laurence Rouil (France) was re-elected as Chair of the EMEP Steering Body, while no candidates had been nominated for the position of EMEP Steering Body Vice-Chair.¹⁰

40. The Steering Body is expected to elect one or more vice-chairs following the rules of procedure adopted by the Executive Body for the Convention at its twenty-eighth session, which also apply to the Steering Body.¹¹ The Steering Body may also wish to decide on the issue of continuing to allow representation of the European Commission at Bureau meetings.

11. Other business

41. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item. Delegations wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

12. Adoption of the draft report on the tenth joint session

42. The Chairs, 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. Participants are invited to review and adopt the draft report on the session and entrust the secretariat to finalize it following the session.

13. Closing of the tenth joint session

43. The Chair will close the meeting at 1 p.m.

¹⁰ ECE/EB.AIR/GE.1/2023/2–ECE/EB.AIR/WG.1/2023/2, para. 101 (a) and (d).

¹¹ Decision 2010/19, annex, rule 21 (1).