

**Statement by the representative of the Russian Federation during the 10th Joint meeting of the EMEP Steering Body and Working Group on Effects of the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
Agenda item 1 Approval of the agenda**

9 September 2024, Geneva

Thank you, Chair,

Firstly, we would like to underline that there is no point on the agenda, which involves political statements. We would like to receive clarification why the procedure is violated, and on a consecutive basis. There is agenda item 11 “Other issues”, it is under this item that Ukrainian diplomats could take the floor and make their intervention. , all the accusations expressed in the Ukrainian statement are false. Russian troops do not fight with the civilian population, unlike Ukrainian troops, which mainly howl with peaceful cities and villages, killing civilians with Western weapons.

Secondly, I want to remind you that since 2014, the nationalist forces of Ukraine and their neo-nazi avant-garde called for the murder of Russian citizens of Ukraine on an ethnic basis. Does anyone seriously think that Russia could allow such developments? We were patient for 8 years, and our patience got exhausted. Now the Ukrainian forces attacked peaceful cities in the Kursk region in Russia. They killed whole families, including children. This is real terrorism. The purpose of this operation was to capture the Kursk nuclear power plant, this was confirmed by captured militants.

Finally. All sessions within our Convention are very politicized. Because of this, in violation of the provisions of the Protocol, the Parties adopted an illegitimate decision to liquidate the EMEP Center in Moscow. These are actions aimed at the destruction of cooperation, and therefore of the Convention itself. It is unclear why this is done.

We oppose the reflection of the false statements of the Ukrainian delegation in the session report.

Thank you.