

Decision 2019/2

Review of compliance by Parties to the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol)

The Executive Body,

Recalling its decision 2012/25 on improving the functioning of the Implementation Committee,

Recalling also its decision 2012/2 on amendment of the text of, and annexes II to IX to, the 1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) and the addition of new annexes X and XI, adopted on 4 May 2012,

Welcoming the entry into force of those amendments on 7 October 2019,

Acting in accordance with article 9 of the Convention,

Encouraging Parties to the original Gothenburg Protocol that have not yet accepted the amended Gothenburg Protocol to do so as soon as possible,

Emphasizing the need for Parties to the amended Gothenburg Protocol to comply with their emission reduction commitments for 2020 and beyond, as listed in annex II of the amended Protocol,

Recognizing that Parties to the original Gothenburg Protocol that have not yet accepted the amended Gothenburg Protocol remain legally obligated to meet their 2010 emission ceilings, as set out in annex II to the original Gothenburg Protocol, and that compliance reviews of those ceilings will continue for those Parties,

Noting that, for the Parties that have accepted the amended Gothenburg Protocol, emission reduction commitments for 2020 and beyond, as listed in annex II to the amended Gothenburg Protocol, will be in effect as of 1 January 2020,

Noting also that emission data that will enable the review of compliance by Parties with the emission reduction commitments for 2020 and beyond, as listed in annex II to the amended Gothenburg Protocol, will become available in 2022 and beyond,

Noting further the need for clear priorities in the interest of the most efficient use of resources,

Decides to:

1. Invite the Parties to the amended Gothenburg Protocol, from 2022, to refrain from making use of the adjustment procedure provided for in article 3, paragraph 11 quinquies of the amended Gothenburg Protocol, for the purposes of comparing national emission totals with the 2010 emission ceilings set out in table 1 of annex II to that Protocol;
2. Amend its decision 2012/25, by replacing paragraph 3 (b) of the annex with the following: "Consider any submission or referral made in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 5 below, with a view to securing a constructive solution, with the exception, from 2022 onwards, of ongoing or new submissions or referrals of possible non-compliance by a Party to the 1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended on 4 May 2012, with one of its 2010 emission ceilings set out in table 1 of annex II to that Protocol. Such submissions or referrals will no longer be considered."