

## Report on capacity-building and awareness-raising to promote ratification and implementation

This note provides an overview of capacity-building and awareness-raising activities carried out by the secretariat in 2020 to promote ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols.

- **First virtual EECCA Coordinating Group meeting (27 May)** to exchange information among the participating countries on progress in the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols.
- **Central Asia Regional Air Quality Management Workshop: Taking Action for Cleaner Air, at the invitation of US EPA (10-20 August)** (virtual): The workshop provided a platform to share information on resources available to further air quality management goals in the countries and cities of Central Asia, to learn about key challenges and institutional capacities for air quality management from representatives of different Ministries, to provide an overview of selected topics in air quality management, and to facilitate discussion with participants to identify major sources of air pollution and exposed populations, as well as potential regulatory, technical, and financial capacity needs to improve air quality. The secretariat also shared the lessons learnt from the Air Convention as the most successful example of intergovernmental air quality governance in the region.
- **Second virtual EECCA Coordinating Group meeting (16 October)**: The Coordinating Group discussed the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, to be initiated at the 58th session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (Geneva, 14, 15 and 17 December 2020).
- **First part of workshops on emission inventories for the Republic of Moldova (6 November), Kyrgyzstan (4 December) and Kazakhstan (21 December)** (virtual): The aim of these virtual workshops was to further improve emission reporting under the Convention. The training sessions focused on guidance for data collection to prepare for the second part of these workshops and on developing gridded aggregated NFR sector data (GNFR). The second part of these workshops, which will be focused on hands-on practical work with reporting tables, will be held in 2021.
- **Intermediate workshop for stakeholders in Kazakhstan to select a best scenario for ratification and develop a national action plan (11 November)** (virtual): In June, the secretariat launched the project "Assessment and enhancement of Kazakhstan's national capacity to ratify the key protocols and development of a national action plan for ratification". The project covers the following activities: a) assessment of current legal framework, analysis of gaps and identification of best scenarios for ratification of the protocols; b) economic assessment of selected scenario of ratification and implementation of the protocols; and c) development of a National Action Plan for ratification and implementation of the protocols. The activities are carried out in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders in Kazakhstan, prepared and supported by a group of international experts under the coordination of UNECE. A final high-level round table to present and discuss the final draft of the national action plan with national authorities is tentatively scheduled for July 2021.