

Background documentation on past reviews and barriers to implementation and ratification to the Convention's Protocols

Presented by the Gothenburg Protocol Review Group (GPG)

Air pollution is a significant problem in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) as well as in other countries that have not yet ratified the Gothenburg Protocol as amended in 2012, despite the new flexibilities that were included.

The document “Preparations for the review of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone as amended in 2012 (ECE/EB.AIR/2020/3) recommends an informal session be held during a meeting of the Working Group on Strategies and Review to discuss barriers and ways forward toward ratification and implementation of the amended Gothenburg Protocol (i.e., political willingness, knowledge and technical support, needed legislation and regulations, and funding).

To begin preparing for a potential informal session for discussion and to include additional information in the current Review of the Gothenburg Protocol, the GPG collected important background documents for the Review as well as documents that have already been prepared to provide a basis for continuing the discussion on increased ratification and implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. Additional information to guide discussions on this topic at a session of the WGSR would be helpful and an official document is recommended.

Reference documents

(Ctrl + click to follow the link)

First review of the Gothenburg Protocol

- Inputs to the first review of the GP: [informal document 16 to EB23 \(2005\)](#)
- Preparations for the first review of the GP:
[document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/1](#) for WGSR-HOD (2006),
[document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2006/1Rev.1](#) for WGSR38 (2006),
[document ECE/EB.AIR/2006/6](#) for EB24 (2006),
- Report on the review (main review document):
[document ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2007/1](#) for WGSR39 (2007)
Draft report [ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2007/7](#) for WGSR40 (2007)
[Background document prepared by TFIAM](#)
Report [ECE/EB.AIR/2007/10](#) for EB25(2007)

Current review:

- [EB report on its 39th session](#) and [EB decision 2019/4](#)
- Compilation of views on additional elements to be considered in the review ([informal document for WGSR-58](#)) – inputs by EU and EEB

- [Long-term strategy for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for 2020–2030 and beyond](#) (decision 2018/5, annex)
- Policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment ([ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2017/3](#) and [Corr.1](#)) submitted by PRG;
- Highlights of proposed updates to LTS proposed by PRG ([ECE/EB.AIR/2017/4](#))
- [Supplementary information to the official document “Policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention” \(ECE/EB.AIR/2017/3\)](#) (informal document no. 6 by PRG for the 55th session of WGSR)

Reference documents on EECCA:

- A [presentation](#) on barriers towards ratification among EECCA at Saltjobaden VI, see slide 7
- Saltjobaden VI: [EECCA session](#) and the [full report](#)
- Section B.1 of [the Policy Review Group’s final report \(ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2017/3, page 9\)](#)
- Section B.1 of [Supplementary information to the official document “Policy response to the 2016 scientific assessment of the Convention” \(ECE/EB.AIR/2017/3\)](#) (informal document no.6 by PRG for the 55th session of WGSR)
- [Report of the ad hoc group of experts on the action plan for the implementation of the LTS, Annex II: Needs Assessment of the UNECE member States that have not ratified the Convention \(ECE/EB.AIR/2012/15\)](#)
 - Report on the Berlin Workshop to Promote the Ratification of Protocols of the UNECE Air Convention with Focus on Countries in the EECCA Region (14 - 16 May 2019) <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51388>