



Report on 59th Session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review

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Chair of Working Group on Strategies and Review
41st session of the Executive Body
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- WGSR59 took place in a hybrid/virtual mode from 18-21 May 2021
 - Session held in part without interpretation for budgetary/pandemic-related meetings with four 2-hour time slots with interpretation and four 2-hour slots without
- Continued to advance policy aspects of 2020-2021 workplan
 - Information exchange and review/development of strategies and policies
 - Development and promotion of guidance documents
- Discussed possibility of second WGSR meeting in 2022 for further discussions on the GP review in view of 2022 deadline and early WGSR60 (April 2022)
 - Associated (additional) resource implications were flagged and secretariat requested to provide cost estimates to the EB Bureau for further discussion
 - EB/WGSR may wish to consider other options for a second meeting in 2022, such as HoD meeting

Information exchange and review/development of strategies and policies



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- Information-sharing by Parties
 - Progress and challenges in implementing protocols
 - Progress in implementing BACA commitments
- *Define scope and content of GP review and do work to begin and carry out the review*
- Discuss control strategies to recommend to HTAP in future scenarios and discuss hemispheric transport more broadly
- Discuss next steps on broader cooperation
- Review control costs to improve GAINS analysis including comparing cost analyses of different models and improving cost estimates of impacts of air pollution on health and ecosystems (funding needed)
- Produce report on cost of controls vs. cost of inaction (funding needed - carried over to next workplan)
- *Carry out tasks to support review of the GP, initial focus on articles 10(3) and 10(4)*
- Policy discussions on condensables reporting

Guidance documents

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- Develop guidance on prioritizing reductions in PM that are also significant sources of black carbon
- Develop guidance on agricultural residue burning
- Finalize guidance document on integrated sustainable nitrogen management
 - Finalized and adopted by EB40

Information-sharing at WGSR 59

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Protocols

- Heard presentations by Portugal, Slovenia and Sweden on good practices and lessons learned, particularly in relation to residential wood burning
- Reminded of the need to report every 4 years and encouraged Parties whose reports were outstanding to provide them at WGSR60

BACA

- Heard reports from Canada, Switzerland and Georgia, including of usefulness of initiative and intent to continue actions beyond lifetime of initiative (2021)
- Recommended to EB to explore possibilities for continuing the initiative beyond 2021

National Ammonia Codes

- Took note of a proposal by the TFRN that progress in the implementation of national ammonia codes and other aspects of annex IX to the GP continue to be monitored by collecting information through a dedicated questionnaire

TF HTAP and broader cooperation at WGSR 59

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TF HTAP

- Heard report of TF HTAP vice-chair on progress in implementing WGSR-relevant activities in 2020-2021 workplan
- Recommended that TFIAM, with the support of CIAM and TFTEI begin discussions on the development of air pollution control policy scenarios for use by TFHTAP in exploring mitigation potential of PM and ozone precursors and report back to the WGSR
 - Scenarios to be assessed by EMEP/WGE
- Further policy discussions and recommendations to be discussed under auspices of, and to inform, GP Review

Broader geographic cooperation

- Welcomed offer of Sweden and UK to lead work of forum for international cooperation on air pollution and invited comments on proposal/questions developed by lead countries
- Recommended to EB that forum be established as a Task Force reporting to WGSR
 - Invited lead countries to develop mandate for Task Force for discussion at EB41

Condensables and Rules of Procedure at WGSR 59

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Condensables

- Heard report by EMEP SB Chair on progress in scientific work on accounting for the condensable part in PM emissions in scientific assessments and planned steps forward
- Agreed to continue discussion on policy implications of reporting on condensables at WGSR60, noting need to coordinate the work on the science road map and policy implications and suggested ad hoc group of experts (AGE) and EMEP SB prepare a brief note to support discussions at WGSR60

Rules of Procedure

- Heard suggestions/rationales for amending RoP, including procedures for virtual meetings
- Recommended to EB that a comprehensive review be undertaken by an AGE and reviewed by ad hoc group of legal experts, and invited nominations for AGE
- Welcomed Canada's offer to develop a proposal for process to review RoP for discussion at EB41

Work of task forces and guidance documents at WGSR59

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- Working Group took note with appreciation of reports by Task Forces on Reactive Nitrogen (TFRN), Techn-economic Issues (TFTEI), and Integrated Assessment Modeling (TFIAM) and discussed guidance documents

By TFTEI and TFRN/ICCI

- Forwarded guidance on reduction of emissions from agricultural residue burning, as revised during session, for consideration at EB41

By TFIAM/TFTEI

- Forwarded guidance on prioritizing reductions of PM from sources that are also high in black carbon, as revised during session, for consideration at EB41

By TFIAM and TFMM/TFRN

- Welcomed assessment report on ammonia and forwarded it for consideration at EB41

Draft 2022-2023 workplan

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- The Working Group agreed on the policy-related aspects and elements of the draft 22-23 workplan
- Suggested to the EMEP SB/WGE to include the following complementary items in the science part of the 22-23 workplan
 - Development and design of regional and global emission scenarios to explore mitigation potential in comparison to the baseline; deliverable to be a data set for use in Convention modelling tools
 - Assessment and exploration of emission scenarios related to mitigation potential in comparison to the baseline, taking into account interactions at the regional and global scales; deliverable to be an assessment of scenarios for consideration by the WGSR

Election of officers and AOB

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- The Working Group elected Mr. Peter Meulepas (Belgium) and Ms. Donna Yates (UK) and re-elected Ms. Dominique Pritula (Canada) and Mr. Till Spranger (Germany)
 - Expressed its appreciation to Mr. Ivan Angelov (Bulgaria) for his service as WGSR vice-chair
- EU informed the Working Group of the Third European Union Clean Air Forum, which was to take place in Madrid in November; and of ongoing discussions concerning the quantitative targets on pollution under the Convention on Biological Diversity and opportunities for cooperation
- The Working Group was presented with a proposal from the EU for a decision on methodology to update tables 2-6 of annex II to the GP (as amended) to account for changes in the membership of the EU; forwarded to EB41 for consideration

Thank you



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- Thank you for the excellent participation and cooperation of all delegations, especially during these challenging times
- It has been a pleasure serving as WGSR Chair