

## 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 2021 to promote ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols. These activities were made possible thanks to the contributions by the European Union, Germany, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden and Switzerland.

- **Joint workshop of EECCA Coordinating Group and Task Force on Techno-economic Issues (TFTEI) (26-27 April) (virtual):** To discuss progress in the region and activities to further facilitate ratification, Convention Parties from EECCA countries met virtually together with the Task Force on Techno-Economic Issues. They also discussed the review of the Gothenburg Protocol, suggesting simplification or further flexibilities, such as, for example, a step-wise or annex-by-annex approach to ratification, a bottom-up process for commitments, or specific conditions for countries from the EECCA region, as currently established in the protocol for Canada and the United States of America.
- **Second part of workshops on emission inventories for the Republic of Moldova (16-18 March), Kyrgyzstan (25-27 May) and Kazakhstan (1-3 June) (virtual):** A series of online workshops were held for national experts in 2020 and 2021. The workshops gave an introduction to requirements and emission reporting guidelines under the Convention and instructions on using the templates. Participants also discussed the existing dataset and how to fill in data gaps. In 2021, national experts in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and the Republic of Moldova participated in hands-on online trainings to work with national data sets. As a result of these workshops, Kazakhstan and the Republic of Moldova submitted their emission inventories, including the methodological report (Informative Inventory Report). Kyrgyzstan submitted its first report on gridded emissions.
- **Sub-regional workshop for EECCA countries on advanced methods for estimation of road transport emissions (COPERT) (14-15 June) (virtual):** The secretariat organized an introductory webinar focused on the advanced methods used for estimation of emissions from road transport and identification of main challenges in EECCA countries towards gathering activity data required for such methods. Advanced countries that are able to develop a Tier 3 method (COPERT model) will be selected and invited to a follow-up in-depth training workshop planned for June 2022. The in-depth workshop will lead to improved skills and capacities of national experts to develop high quality and accurate road transport emission inventories, which are part of the national reporting of emissions under the Air Convention and serve to improve the scientific basis for policymaking.
- **High-level roundtable in Kazakhstan to discuss results of national legislation analysis and a national action plan for ratification of the protocols, (12 July 2021) (hybrid):** In June 2020, 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 covered 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 carried out in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders in Kazakhstan, prepared and supported by a group of international experts under the coordination of UNECE. On 12 July 2021, the secretariat held a high-level roundtable in hybrid mode with interpretation, where the result of gap analysis in the national air quality management legislation, economic assessment of ratification scenarios and the draft national action plan for implementation of the protocols were presented and discussed with national authorities.

- **Workshop on gridded emissions for national experts of Georgia (26-28 October 2021) (hybrid):** To assist Georgia in developing gridded emissions, the secretariat organized a three-day hybrid workshop in Tbilisi. The training programme for the workshop focused on both theoretical and practical work, covering a number of activities in various sectors. In particular, participants discussed the methods and tools used to collect and process relevant data for the calculation of grid emissions, followed by practical work and interactive discussions and exchanges.
- **E-learning starter course on the Convention:** To sustainably raise awareness of the benefits of the Convention and better air quality management at large, the secretariat launched a new project to develop an e-learning starter course on the Convention and its key protocols. This will give decision makers and new staff in the countries who deal with the Convention an introduction and orientation to the Convention framework overall, key principles, legal requirements and obligations. It will also strengthen their capacities to ratify and/or implement the Convention and its key protocols at national level and to cooperate effectively in the framework of the Convention.

Methodologically, the course will be self-paced, using informative texts, videos and quizzes to check learning progress. Upon successful completion of the course, a certificate will be awarded to participants. The course will be developed in English and Russian languages. The e-learning course will be hosted on a dedicated e-learning platform and linked to the UNECE website. The course is expected to be finalized in spring 2022.