

Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range
Transboundary Air Pollution

Working Group on Strategies and Review

Sixty-second session

Geneva, 27–31 May 2024

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixty-second session

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 3 p.m. on
Monday, 27 May 2024***

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Progress in the implementation of the 2024–2025 workplan.
3. Revision of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012.
4. Review of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Executive Body.
5. Information-sharing by Parties on the implementation of the Convention.
6. Financial requirements for implementation of the Convention.
7. Other business.
8. Adoption of the draft report on the sixty-second session.

* Delegates attending the meeting are requested to register online, **by 1 May 2024**, through the relevant link, which is available on the meeting web page: <https://unece.org/info/events/event/384007>. There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. A map of the Palais des Nations is available on the United Nations Office at Geneva website: www.ungeneva.org/en/about/practical-information/map. This will be a paperless meeting. All the documentation for the session and related information will be posted on the meeting web page. Delegates should bring copies of any documentation they will require.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Monday, 27 May, afternoon

1. The Working Group on Strategies and Review under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution will be invited to adopt its agenda, as contained in the present document.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixty-second session (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/131)

2. Progress in the implementation of the 2024–2025 workplan

Tentative timing: Monday, 27 May, afternoon

2. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues, the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen, the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Task Force for International Cooperation on Air Pollution will present progress in the implementation of the 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/154/Add.1). The Working Group may wish to take note of the reports.

3. The Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling will present for initial consideration by the Working Group the draft policy brief on scenarios to reduce health and ecosystem risks (item 2.1.12 of the 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention), the draft guidance document on behavioural and structural measures (item 2.2.3 of the workplan) and a document entitled “Clean air in cities”. The Working Group is invited to discuss the documents and provide its comments to the Task Force for the documents’ finalization.

Documentation

Report of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/INF.1)

Report of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/INF.2)

Report of the Task Force for International Cooperation on Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2023/INF.3)

Draft policy brief on scenarios to reduce health and ecosystem risks (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/INF.4)

Clean air in cities (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/INF.5)

Draft guidance document on behavioural and structural measures (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/INF.6)

3. Revision of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 28 May, morning and afternoon, Wednesday, 29 May, morning and afternoon, and Thursday, 30 May, morning

4. With decision 2023/5 (ECE/EB.AIR/154), adopted at its forty-third session (Geneva, 11–14 December 2023), the Executive Body initiated the process of revising the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone, as amended in 2012 (the current Gothenburg Protocol) in order to address the conclusions of the report on the review of the Protocol (ECE/EB.AIR/150/Add.2). The Executive Body requested the Working Group on Strategies and Review to begin work to revise the Protocol at its sixty-second session and to report on its progress to the Executive Body at its forty-fourth session (Geneva,

9–12 December 2024). Following the request by the Executive Body, the Working Group is invited to develop a plan, including timelines, to guide its work in revising the current Gothenburg Protocol based on a plan proposed by the Bureau of the Working Group in advance of the session, as well as views submitted by Parties. The Working Group is also invited, as part of the revision process, to: work to address barriers to ratification and implementation of the current Gothenburg Protocol, including through consideration of, inter alia, stepwise approaches to commitments and ratification, sector-based approaches, a focus on key sectors, restructuring of the technical annexes, replacement of annexes with guidance documents, or combinations thereof; and, continue discussions with non-Parties.

Documentation

Draft plan for the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol, as amended in 2012 (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/1)

Preparatory considerations to facilitate ratification and implementation of a future revised Gothenburg Protocol by non-Parties (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/INF.7)

4. Review of the rules of procedure for sessions of the Executive Body

Tentative timing: Thursday, 30 May, morning and afternoon

5. At its forty-first session (Geneva, 6–8 December 2021), the Executive Body adopted decision 2021/6 on review of the rules of procedure for the sessions of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution as adopted by decision 2010/19 and amended by decision 2013/1 (ECE/EB.AIR/148). The ad hoc group of experts, convened by the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review and tasked with undertaking this review, presented its report to the Executive Body (ECE/EB.AIR/2023/8) at its forty-third session. At the same session, the ad hoc group of legal experts presented the results of the legal assessment of the recommendations made by the reviewing group. The Executive Body requested the ad hoc group of experts, established by decision 2021/6, in cooperation with the ad hoc group of legal experts, to propose potential amendments to the rules of procedure for consideration by the Working Group on Strategies and Review at its sixty-second session. It invited Parties to submit views on potential amendments initially identified by the reviewing group by 9 February 2024. Following the request by the Executive Body, the Working Group is invited to consider the review conclusions and to provide possible recommendations to the Executive Body meeting at its forty-fourth session.

Documentation

Proposal for amendments to the rules of procedure (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2024/2)

5. Information-sharing by Parties on the implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 30 May, afternoon

6. Regular exchange of information on air pollution-related policies and strategies is stipulated under article 8 of the Convention. In accordance with Executive Body decision 2013/2 on reporting on strategies, policies and other measures to implement obligations under the Convention and its Protocols (ECE/EB.AIR/122/Add.1), delegations may wish to exchange information on policies and strategies for the control of major air pollutants and the implementation of the Convention and its protocols. The Working Group will be expected to take note of the information presented.

6. Financial requirements for implementation of the Convention

Tentative timing: Thursday, 30 May, afternoon

7. At its forty-third session, the Executive Body took note of the resource requirements to support the implementation of intergovernmental activities under the Convention in 2025, as well as the indicative scale of recommended contributions, and invited Parties to make contributions.¹ The Working Group is invited to take note of the information on received and expected contributions, as well as on the impact of the liquidity crisis in the United Nations Secretariat on the resources available from the United Nations regular budget to support the implementation of intergovernmental activities under the Convention.

7. Other business

Tentative timing: Thursday, 30 May, afternoon

8. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item. Delegations wishing to propose any other business are invited to contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

8. Adoption of the draft report on the sixty-second session

Tentative timing: Friday, 31 May, morning

9. The Chair, with support from the secretariat, will present a record of the main conclusions and recommendations made at the session, which will form the basis for the draft report. The Working Group is invited to review and adopt the draft report on the session and entrust the secretariat to finalize it following the session.

¹ As contained in document entitled “Financial requirements for the implementation of the Convention” (ECE/EB.AIR/2023/2, table 16) and the accompanying informal document No. 5 entitled “Resource requirements to support intergovernmental activities under the Convention”.