

Recent developments under the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and the Working Group on Effects

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Outline

Recent developments in CLRTAP

- Three latest Protocols - from negotiation to implementation
- Amendments to the Gothenburg Protocol
- Other recent developments (overview)
- 2014 - 15 workplan for the implementation of CLRTAP (new structure)
- Assessment Report 2015/16
- Presentation of WGE at the 32 EB 12/2013

32 Working Group on Effects

II. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies

III. Recent results and updating of scientific and technical knowledge

IV Further development of the effects-oriented activities

V Information on the review of the ICPs

Recent developments in CLRTAP

Three latest Protocols - from negotiation to implementation (LTS)

- **Protocol on HM: December 2012**
 - New emission limit values and extended emission source categories
 - Flexibilities for new Parties
- **Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants: 2009**
 - Addition of new substances
- **Protocol to abate Acidification, Eutrophication, Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol, GP): May 2012**
 - see next slide

Amendments to the Gothenburg Protocol

- adopted by the 31. EB Meeting, May 2012
- National emission reduction targets for 2020 and beyond compared to 2005 base year: SO_x, NO_x, NH₃, VOC and - for the first time - PM 2.5 (inc. black carbon)
- Flexibilities to encourage accession by EECCA countries
- Guidance document (GD) on health and environmental improvements using new knowledge, methods and data, adopted at 32nd session of the EB (2013) as the 5th GD to GP

Amendments to the Gothenburg Protocol (GP)

Guidance document on health and environmental improvements using new knowledge, methods and data

Objective: Compare effects of emission reduction commitments in 2020 in relation to the base year 2005

- for countries within the geographical scope of EMEP
- eleven selected indicators:
 - Health: mortality (PM 2.5, ozone), morbidity (ozone)
 - Environment: acidification, eutrophication (% area at risk, AAE-Average Accumulated Exceedance),
 - Biodiversity: species richness in grassland
 - Crop damage: wheat yield reduction due to ground level ozone
 - Damage to materials: corrosion and soiling

Spotlights: Other recent developments in CLRTAP

- The former **Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYROM)** to join the the **GP** (proposal accepted by EB), **Montenegro** request still pending
- New Parties to the **EMEP Protocol: Georgia, Albania, fYROM, Armenia** (Moldova in 2014?)
- **EMEP**: Updated Guidelines for reporting emission data under CLRTAP
- New sequence of meetings
- **Action Plan for EECCA** countries: projects, assistance, workshops, financial issues, discussion on needs / support of EECCA countries
- **National reporting** (exchange of experience) in main bodies (EMEP, WGE, WGSR)

2014 - 15 workplan for the Implementation of CLRTAP

1) outline by areas of activities rather than individual bodies/groups:

1. Science,
2. Policy,
3. Compliance,
4. Capacity building to promote ratification of EECCA countries
5. Communication and outreach

2014 - 15 workplan for the implementation of CLRTAP

2) Science:

1. Atmospheric and **effects monitoring** [Bold = WGE relevant]
2. **Dose response and critical loads**
3. Atmospheric and **effects modelling**
4. Emission inventories
5. **Integrated assessment**
6. Hemispheric transport of air pollution
7. Adjustment procedure
8. **Improve functioning of WGE and EMEP and their subsidiary bodies (ISPs, TFs)**
9. **Science-policy assessments**

Assessment Report 2015/16 (ECE/EB.AIR/122, item 27.) on the Convention's achievements and future prospects

- **Objective**: state of the art document for experts, Parties and scientists
- Draft **Outline** presented at 32 EB by chairs of EB, WGSR, EMEP SB and WGE (informal doc. No 13)
- ... discussed and updated at the Bureau meetings in March 2014. A list of policy questions to be answered was drafted
- discussion on the content and outline still ongoing (by summer 2014?)
- final outline and organisation of work to be discussed at the meetings of WGSR, EMEP, WGE later this year
- **Funding** from EMEP and effects-related activities + funding by Parties.

Presentation of WGE at the 32 EB 12/2013

There had been 3 presentations in addition to the report by the WGE chairman:

- **Guidance document** on health and environmental benefits (J. P. Hettelingh, CCE)
- Recent evidence of **health aspects** of air Pollution (M. E. Heroux, TF Health/WHO)
- **Biodiversity and ecosystem services** (H. Harmens, ICP Vegetation)

ICP IM contributed to reporting - Thank you!

You can find the presentations on the CLRTAP Website (Meetings → 32. EB 2013, → „presentations“)

32 Working Group on Effects,

12 - 13 September 2013, in Geneva

II. Matters arising from recent meetings of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies

31. EB, 37. EMEP SB, 51. WGSR, WGE Bureau

An update to these matters has been provided in the first part of this presentation.

The WGE

... recommended seeking further **guidance from the EB on information required** so that **effects-based indicators could be of greater use** in the future development of effects-based scenarios and related policy support, in accordance with the LTS (EB decision 2010/18, annex).

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III. Recent results and updating of scientific and technical knowledge

Selected highlights from the ICPs have been nicely summarised in the explanatory notes to the agenda of this meeting

III. Recent results and updating of scientific and technical knowledge

The WGE took note of the results from its subsidiary programmes and i.a.

- requested **ICP Forests** to provide their results on CL and background data to ICP M&M for potential inclusion in the European CL database
- noted **ICP Waters'** results, that biodiversity in rivers and lakes was increasing in 5 countries and was likely associated with chemical recovery
- Encouraged **ICP Materials** to continue its plan for issuing a call for data on inventory and condition of stock materials at UNESCO cultural heritage sites
- Noted **ICP Vegetation's** results and decided to forward the report on moss survey and on the benefits of AP control for biodiversity and ES as official documents to EB 32

III. Recent results and updating of scientific and technical knowledge

The WGE took note of the results from its subsidiary programmes and i.a.

- took note of the work of **ICP IM**, in particular its work on priority work items (biodiversity indicators, CL, ...). It noted the identified increasing risk of HM for biological systems and the negative impacts of N on biodiversity
- invited **ICP M&M** to update the CL Manual and make it available on the CLRTAP website, requested CCE to check with NFCs the use of the European background database in effects assessments
- Noted the results of **TF Health**, e.g. its work for the revision of EU air quality legislation
- took note of the significant progress in model development supported by the **JEG**

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IV Further development of the effects-oriented activities:

- **Impact assessment in the context of hemispheric transport of air pollution: increase cooperation WGE - TF HTAP**
- **Joint Session with EMEP SB:**
 - Presentations on: Saltsjöbaden V / GAINS and IAM / the draft guidance document to GP, atmospheric modelling of HM, POPs, PM and O₃ relevant for effects work, benefits of AP control for biodiversity and ES, past and planned assessment reports by EMEP and WGE
 - Discussion on common issues of WGE and EMEP: continue organising joint workshops and produce joint reports aimed at national and international policy makers

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V Information on the review of the ICPs

The WGE provided comments and recommendations to the draft report.

The workplan 2014/15 (item 1.8) considers tasks to improve the functioning of the WGE and EMEP groups:

- foster integrated/thematic assessments
- common standards for all ICPs; portal approach to improve data access via the web
- explore ways to combine/merge activities of some ICPs, joint reporting and meetings
- explore a more stable long-term funding mechanism for effects related activities

Report on ICP Review to the 32 EB: ECE/EB.AIR/2013/2

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- VI Information sharing from Parties on their national effects-oriented activities
- VII Draft 2014/15 workplan for the implementation of the Convention
- VIII Financing of effects-oriented activities
- IX Election of officers
- X Other business
- XI Adoption of the decisions of the WGE meeting

Thank you for all your valuable work !

And thank you for your attention!