



Structure of the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution - update on recent and planned activities

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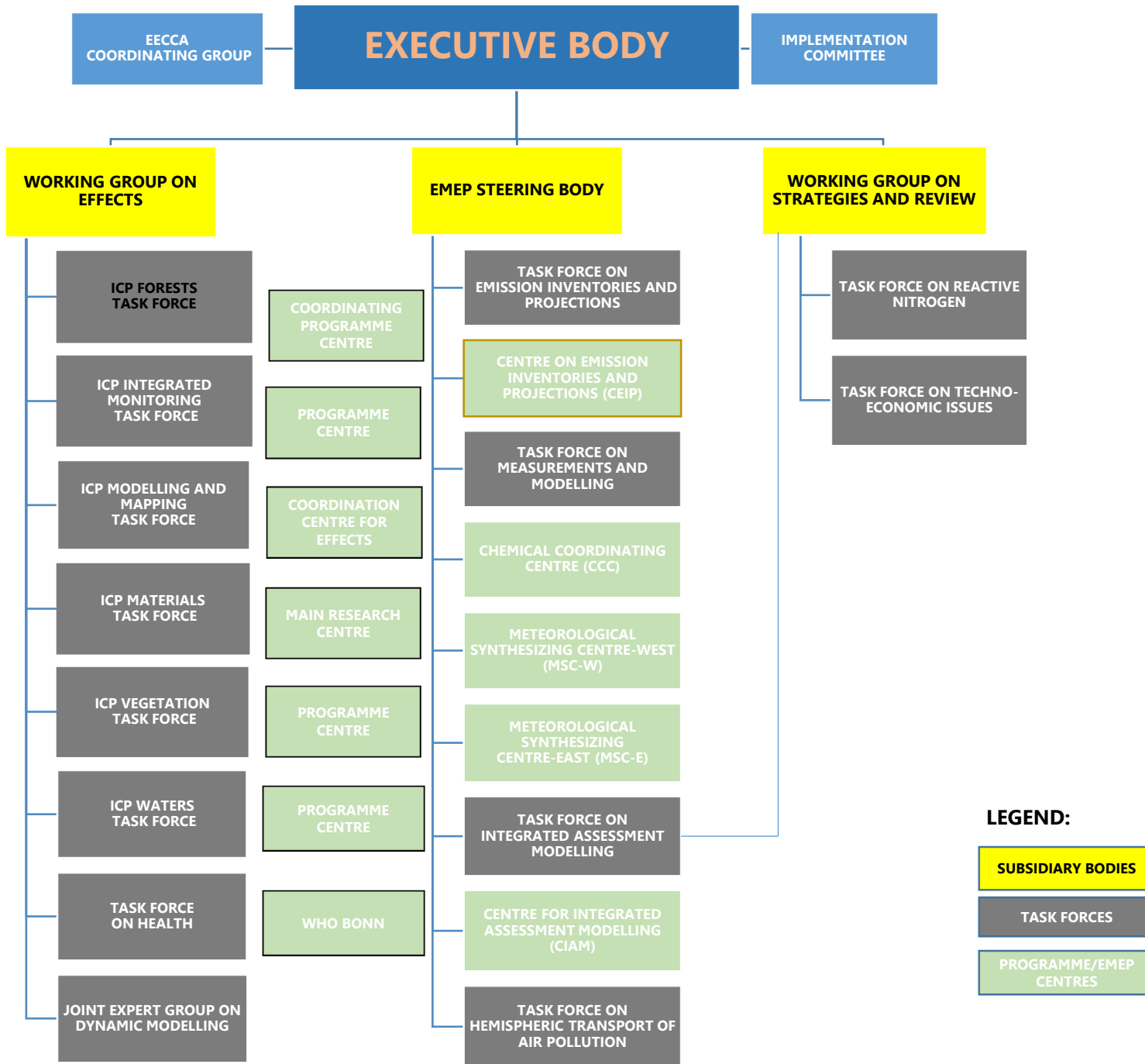
- Convention – key facts and its structure
- Status of ratification of protocols
- Update on capacity building
- Outreach: global event on Clean Air '18
- 40th Anniversary of the Convention and launch of a global forum in Dec 2019

Key facts

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- Signed in 1979, entry into force in 1983
- First international treaty to deal with air pollution on a broad regional basis
- 51 Parties in the UNECE region
- Framework Convention, has been extended by 8 protocols (legally binding instruments) covering a number of pollutants
- Emission targets agreed for the following pollutants: sulphur, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals, and particulate matter, including black carbon
- Results: Emission reductions by 40 to 80 per cent since 1990 in Europe (sulphur: 70%, nitrogen oxides: 40%)
- More info: <http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/welcome.html>



Status of ratifications



- Amendments to 3 most recent protocols were approved by Parties by consensus at the sessions of the Executive Body: 2009 POPs; 2012 Gothenburg Protocol and 2012 Heavy Metals Protocols; see http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/status/lrtap_s.html
- Status of ratification: 1 missing ratification (acceptance) for the Gothenburg Protocol to go into force; It is expected that all three amended protocols will go into force by the end of 2019

Protocols

The Convention has been extended by eight protocols:

Title	Entry into force	Status of ratification
1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone and its 2012 amended version	17 May 2005	Original protocol Amended version
1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and its 2009 amended version	23 October 2003	Original protocol Amended version, annex I and II Amended version, annex I, II, III, IV, VI, VIII
1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and its 2012 amended version	29 December 2003	Original protocol Amended version
1994 Protocol on Further Reduction of Sulphur Emissions	5 August 1998	Status
1991 Protocol concerning the Control of Emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds or their Transboundary Fluxes	29 September 1997	Status
1988 Protocol concerning the Control of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes	14 February 1991	Status
1985 Protocol on the Reduction of Sulphur Emissions or their Transboundary Fluxes by at least 30 per cent	2 September 1987	Status
1984 Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)	28 January 1988	Status

Review process for the amended Gothenburg Protocol

ENVIRONMENT



- Once the amended GP goes into force – a (multi-year) review process may start (decision to be made by the Executive Body)
- Initial discussions on the scope of the review were held at 57th session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (21-24 May 2019)
- What will the review mean for WGE/EMEP: to be decided by Parties (Executive Body)

Role of WGE

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- Since 1981, WGE has provided information on the degree and geographic extent of the impacts of major air pollutants
- The six ICPs and the Task Force on Health identify the most endangered areas, ecosystems and other receptors by considering damage to human health, terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and materials
- An important part of this work is long-term monitoring. The work is underpinned by scientific research on dose-response, critical loads and levels and damage evaluation
- WGE provides the key input to integrated assessment modelling (GAINS)

Role of WGE continued

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- Since 2015, by the decision of the EB, WGE and Steering Body to EMEP meet jointly as well as their Bureaux.
- “Trends in Ecosystem and health responses to long-range transported atmospheric pollutants (May 2016)” – major contribution to Towards Cleaner Air - Scientific Assessment Report 2016 (May 2016)
- Assessment report and Policy Review Group provided the basis for the update of the Long-term Strategy for the implementation of the Convention

Priority areas for the Convention



ENVIRONMENT

- Updated Long-term Strategy for the Convention
- ...
- ozone and PM and their precursors; impacts on health
- linkages between the scales: from urban to global
- links of air pollution with climate change and biodiversity
- outreach: links with other organizations, conventions and projects
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Update on capacity building

ENVIRONMENT



2018

- Workshops on the development of national emission inventories in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan
- Roundtable discussions on national legislation analyses Georgia and Ukraine
- UNECE Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP): workshop in Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Subregional workshop on the GAINS model for EECCA countries

2019

- High-level awareness-raising meetings in Armenia and Azerbaijan; roundtable discussions on national legislation analyses (national action plans)
- Workshops on the development of national emission inventories
- Workshop to Promote the Ratification of Protocols of the UNECE Air Convention with Focus on Countries in the EECCA Region (TFTEI/secretariat), Berlin 14-16 May)

Outreach: global event on Clean Air



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- To discuss cooperation on clean air globally
- To share experience in reducing air pollution with a focus on technological measures, policy instruments and best practices
- 20 organizations and countries from outside the UNECE region
- Needs expressed by countries: monitoring, inventories, awareness raising, communication and further information and knowledge sharing
- Discussion on the idea to launch a global forum on clean air as a response to the need for further cooperation with countries outside the UNECE region

40th Anniversary and the launch of a global forum

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- To raise awareness of the achievements of the Convention and the tools and benefits it has to offer
- To discuss progress in the EECCA region
- Ministerial declaration to be adopted
- To discuss cooperation on clean air
- Global forum on clean air to be launched



Thank you!

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<http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/welcome.html>

