

Meeting notes from the  
INTERNATIONAL SESSION  
of the  
SAINT PETERSBURG  
INTERNATIONAL AIR CONGRESS

SEMINAR WITHIN THE RUSSIAN-SWEDISH PROJECT:  
“DEVELOPMENT OF THE CO-OPERATION WITHIN THE  
CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY  
AIR POLLUTION”

17 March 2011

**Improving air quality in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)  
and prospective implementation of the GAINS (Greenhouse Gas and Air  
Pollution Interactions and Synergies) model in the Russian Federation.**

The meeting was attended by 40 persons. Participants and representatives from the following countries were represented: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Representatives from the UNECE secretariat, CLRTAP EGTEI and the City of St. Petersburg were present.

- 1.** The C.E.O of JSC SRI Atmosfera (SRI) opened the meeting and welcomed the meeting participants.
- 2.** The representative of the Ministry for Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation (MNRE) presented the current work with improved environmental legislation in Russia. The meeting appreciated that much work is currently being done in many environmental areas, with focus on adaptation to the OECD requirements. Of special relevance for the CLRTAP is the anticipated update of Environmental (emission) Limit Values (ELV) for certain air pollutants in the Russian Federation.
- 3.** The representative from the City administration of Saint-Petersburg in Russia presented the activities related to monitoring and modeling of air pollution in the city of Saint-Petersburg. The meeting noted that the city of Saint-Petersburg has a developed monitoring and modeling system which enables the city of Saint-Petersburg to develop information based local environmental policies.
- 4.** An expert from SRI Atmosphere presented the current work within the Swedish/Russian co-operation project. The work is focused on collation of GAINS model input data, GAINS Model capacity building and usage, as well as on developing policy guidance document. The policy guidance documents can aid policy development with regards to air pollution problems within the Russian Federation. Furthermore, the meeting noted that the project also identifies a need for a GAINS

model expert group consisting of Ministry representatives, which can aid the MNRE in its work under CLRTAP and domestically.

**5.** An expert from IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute (IVL) presented examples of GAINS model work performed by national expert groups in Europe. The meeting noted that many different areas of research are being performed under the framework of GAINS modeling, and that there is an opportunity for capacity sharing between countries. The web page [www.rusaco.se](http://www.rusaco.se) will provide more information on the current co-operation activities.

**6.** The co-chair of EGTEI presents the latest developments in the efforts to harmonize the efforts made by EGTEI to the GAINS model input data. The meeting noted that the EGTEI has developed a tool that allows the technologies represented in the technical annexes to the GBG protocol to be presented in the GAINS model. The applicability of these developments on EECCA countries and Russia was discussed.

**7.** An expert from IVL presents the work in Sweden with emission inventories, which is performed annually in accordance with the Swedish obligations under the CLRTAP and UNFCCC. The meeting noted that a systematic approach and extensive collaboration between agencies and experts has been beneficial for Sweden in its work with performing emission inventories and reporting them to international bodies.

**8.** The Russian National Focal point of the CLRTAP Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen (TFRN) presented the work within TFRN to reduce emissions of nitrogen. TFRN has inter alia identified measures that are important to consider during the revision of the CLRTAP Gothenburg protocol. The meeting noted that the TFRN has identified that the identification of best available technologies for reducing nitrogen emissions are important for the process of reviewing the Gothenburg protocol. Currently, the most important task for the TFRN is the updating of the documents supporting the review. It is also important to reach an international consensus regarding methodology and data used when calculating and reporting nitrogen emissions. Other important areas are the translation of key documents and increased participation of Russian experts in the TFRN. More information can be found on the web page, [www.spb.sznii.ru](http://www.spb.sznii.ru).

**9.** The representative from the UNECE secretariat gave the meeting an overview of the activities oriented towards countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) performed by the secretariat. The meeting noted that the EB has established a Coordinating group for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, led by SRI. This group aims at providing an EECCA position on the revision of the Gothenburg and Heavy Metal protocols, including the potential for using the flexible mechanisms as included in the protocol amendments. Comments to the revision of the protocols are urgent. After 2011, the next opportunity to review the Gothenburg and Heavy Metals protocol will sometime during 2015. The next WGSR meeting will take place on the 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2011 in Geneva. The secretariat also informs the meeting on the ongoing EECCA country and Balkan country projects. It is recognized that the projects funded by the UNECE secretariat are larger co-operation projects with participants from several countries.

**10.** An expert from SRI presented an overview of the project “*Facilitating the implementation and ratification of the protocols of the CLRTAP in EECCA*”. The project is aimed at preparing the member countries for the ratification of the POP, HM and Gothenburg protocol. The project participants are currently Belarus, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation. The meeting noted that the project also aims at increasing the co-operation with the EGTEI. More information about the project and project developments will be available at [www.eecca.org](http://www.eecca.org).

### **Conclusions from the meeting**

<p><b>11.</b> The presentations and discussions at the meeting confirmed that many activities are going on in the field of air protection on several administrative levels in the Russian Federation.</p>	<p>Представленные на семинаре доклады и возникшие дискуссии подтвердили тот факт, что в настоящее время в области охраны атмосферного воздуха в Российской Федерации проводятся различные мероприятия на разных административных уровнях.</p>
<p><b>12.</b> Recently, co-ordination efforts between different Russian governmental agencies and different organizations have been extended, both nationally and internationally. Further development of these co-ordination efforts are recognized as key element for a successful implementation of the increased Russian ambition levels in the field of environmental protection.</p>	<p>В последнее время усилия по координации деятельности между различными государственными органами Российской Федерации и другими организациями были значительно расширены как в национальном, так и в международном масштабе. Дальнейшее развитие этих усилий признано ключевым элементом, необходимым для успешной реализации возросшего уровня амбиций Российской Федерации в области охраны окружающей среды.</p>
<p><b>13.</b> It was also clear the GAINS-model is useful as a tool for analysis and that results calculated can be useful as support for policy purposes. It was however also clear that more work is needed to achieve reliable and solid results, especially regarding input data to the model, such as completeness of inventory data, on technical abatement measures implementation and efficiency and costs.</p>	<p>Очевидно, что модель GAINS является полезным инструментом анализа и что полученные результаты целесообразно использовать в качестве обоснования стратегических целей. Не менее очевидна необходимость дальнейшей работы в целях достижения достоверных и убедительных результатов, особенно в части входных данных (например, такая работа как обеспечение полноты данных инвентаризации), эффективности и внедрения технических мер снижения выбросов, а также затрат.</p>
<p><b>14.</b> The work performed by EGTEI is recognized as an important contribution to provide additional information</p>	<p>Работа, выполненная Экспертной Группой по Техничко-экономическим Вопросам, признана ценным вкладом</p>

supporting the negotiations of a revised Gothenburg protocol.	в предоставление дополнительной информационной поддержки для переговоров по пересматриваемому Гетеборгскому протоколу.
<b>15.</b> The meeting also recognizes the importance of scientific collaboration between different scientific communities; examples are emission inventory, GAINS modeling and EGTEI technical expertise. The importance of established national data collection systems and processes in the emission inventory needs to be stressed.	Осознана важность сотрудничества между различными научными сообществами, например, в части инвентаризации эмиссий и работы с моделью GAINS, а также с Экспертной Группой по Техно-экономическим Вопросам. Необходимо подчеркнуть важность организации национальной системы и процесса сбора данных.
<b>16.</b> The dedicated activities presented as going on to raise the activity and participation in the LRTAP Convention work from the EECCA countries was welcomed.	Представленная деятельность, способствующая росту активности и участия в Конвенции о трансграничном загрязнении воздуха на большие расстояния стран ВЕКЦА, получила одобрение и поддержку.
<b>17.</b> The success of the meeting has resulted from the effective Swedish-Russian bilateral cooperation on scientific and technical knowledge and expertise exchange, and similar cooperation projects can be encouraged.	Результативность семинара во многом обоснована эффективным шведско-российским сотрудничеством и обменом научным и техническим опытом. Подобные проекты сотрудничества будут поощряться.