



Under the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution

Tasks concerning Heavy Metals

1st Annual Meeting of the Task Force on Techno-Economic Issues

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Overview

- 1 Status of the Heavy Metals Protocol**
- 2 Works**
 - 1 Clearing House
 - 2 Minamata Convention
 - 3 Possible Future Work

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Status of the Heavy Metals Protocol (1)

- **Amended: 13 December 2012**

- decision [2012/5](#) to amend the Protocol to include more stringent controls of heavy metals emissions but also to introduce flexibilities
- decision [2012/6](#) to update [guidance](#) on best available technologies (BAT), as contained in annex III
- The amendments to the text of the Protocol and its annexes other than III and VII require ratifications by two thirds of the Parties. These amendments have not yet entered into force.

- **Amendment to annex III entered into force on 9 January 2014**

- **New elements:**

- More flexibility for new ratifying Parties (flexibility for timelines, base years)
- Expedited procedure for amendments of the protocol
- Up-to-date technical annexes (BAT, ELVs)
- New Guidance Document (former Annex III)

- **Outstanding issues:**

- Proposals for inclusion of updated products list
- Dental amalgam
- ELVs for HM for several industrial sectors



Status of the Heavy Metals Protocol (2)

- **Flexibility**

- Article 3; para 2 bis and 2 ter
 - continuation permit (grandfathering), application of „old“ limit values for stationary sources which are commenced within 2 years after entry into force of that amendment for that Party (unless substantial modification)
 - max. 4 stationary source categories can be granted extended time to implement BAT and ELVs
- Article 3; para 6
 - When applied all measures of para 2 and 3 (BAT, ELV, product control) and no overall reduction (para1), the Party is exempted from its obligation in para 1
- Additionally
 - Flexible transitional arrangements

- **Ratifications**

Two thirds of Parties need to ratify before entering into force.
Barrier for EECCA countries for ratification of amended Protocol.

Works

- **TFTEI is not tasked with work on HM by WGSR or EB**
- **Information on workshops (e.g Oslo 2014) available**
- **Articles and Links with regard to HM**
 - WHO documents addressing health impact of air pollution
 - Economic benefits of methyl mercury exposure control in Europe: Monetary value of neurotoxicity prevention (www.ehjournal.net/content/12/1/3)
- **Clearing House**
 - Active contribution when requests arise
 - Contact data of the members of TF HM transferred to TFTEI
 - Several members are involved in work on BREFs (Seville process)



Works

- **Minamata Convention**
 - Guidance document for Art. 8
 - Overlap of 5 sectors
 - Coal-fired power plants;
 - Coal-fired industrial boilers;
 - Smelting and roasting processes used in the production of lead, zinc, copper and industrial gold, referred to in the Convention as 'non-ferrous metals';
 - Waste incineration facilities; and
 - Cement clinker production facilities.
- Active participation of TFTEI members in the expert group
- Advanced draft since 18 June online for comments



Consultation phase until 1 August

[HTTP://WWW.MERCURYCONVENTION.ORG/NEGOTIATIONS/BATBEPEXPERTGROU
P/COMMENTSONBATBEPGUIDANCE/TABID/4545/DEFAULT.ASPX](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/negotiations/batbepexpertgroup/comments-on-batbepguidance/tabid/4545/default.aspx)

Possible Fields for Future Work

- **When data are available from other conventions or processes, make data available for information of the Parties with regards to**
 - Technical work on industrial sectors
 - Technical work on products
 - Work on costs
 - Information on studies with regard to health effects from HM
- **Support for EECCA countries**
 - Availability of information in Russian language (e.g. translation of TFTEI website and Clearing House information into Russian)
 - Projects and workshops in cooperation with EECCA group
- **Why should we continue to work on HM Emissions ?**
 - Emissions of heavy metals are still of major concern
 - The concentrations in the environment are decreasing but still exceed acceptable levels for lengthy periods
 - Technical reduction measures for emissions from sectors and products as substitutes become available
 - There are possibilities for technical support
 - Driving forces to reduce air pollution/implement protocols
 - Improved health of population
 - Improved environment
 - Safer food



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Questions?

Thank you!

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