Policy Review Group to the 2016 Scientific Assessment Report

Report to the Third meeting of the Task Force on Techno-Economic Issues

20 October 2017

Jennifer Kerr – Chair WGSR

Outline

- Background
- Response by PRG to SAR Key Findings
- Recommendations in PRG Report
 - A. Enabling Sound Policy Decisions
 - B. Maximizing the Impact of Protocols
 - C. Improving the Technical and Scientific Basis
 - D. Improving Communication, Outreach & Cooperation
- Next Steps

Background

- EB Decision 2016/1 established the Ad Hoc Policy Review Group
- The Ad Hoc Group tasks were to:
 - Make proposals for a policy response to the 2016 Assessment Report as to whether and how the convention should take action in the short and long term based on the findings in the report.
 - Review the priorities for work and action in the long-term strategy in the light of the 2016 Assessment Report.
 - Propose updates and revisions to the long-term strategy for the Convention based on findings in the 2016 Assessment Report, the policy recommendations developed and taking into account the report of the ad hoc group of experts on the action plan for the implementation of the long-term strategy.
 - The EB, at its 36th session, invited the ad-hoc policy review group to highlight issues requiring further discussion with regard to the LTS, in advance of the 37th session of the EB.

Response to the SAR

Broadly, the Convention should focus on the following:

- Ratification/accession to the 3 latest, amended Protocols, and implementing the requirements of those Protocols;
- Improving emission inventories and projections;
- Harmonizing air quality and effects monitoring, assessing health and ecosystem impacts;
- Integrating environmental policy approaches;
- Further pursuing emissions reductions, especially under the Gothenburg Protocol; and
- Broadening the geographical scope of addressing air pollution.

Response to the SAR

- Group made several recommendations and indicated which group where possible, as well as timeframe
- Shorter-term recommendations will be included as possible in the 2018-19 workplans
- Longer-term recommendations to be considered in proposing updates to the LTS
- Group recommended to maintain Convention's current direction in these areas:
 - Ratification and implementation of the Convention and its Protocols
 - The Implementation Committee's work
 - Improvements to the technical and scientific basis that will maintain the Convention's scientific leadership role

Response to the SAR

- PRG made recommendations for an increased focus or a shift in approach:
 - Additional commitments for certain pollutants (e.g., ozone and its precursors including methane, black carbon and ammonia) *long-term*
 - Integrated approaches for environmental policy (e.g., multi-sectoral policies on nitrogen, air quality and climate change) *short-term to long-term*
 - Increased communication and cooperation with countries and organizations outside the ECE region *short-term to long-term*

A. Enabling Sound Policy Decisions

- Focus on work related to:
 - 1. Human health effects
 - 2. Integrated environmental policy
 - 3. Cost-effective control measures

- ST and LT policy-related action for TFTEI (and TFRN) in 2018-19 workplan for 2. and 3.
- Overview below

A. Enabling Sound Policy Decisions: Integrated Environmental Policy

- Continue developing the multi-effect, multi-pollutant framework and focus on:
 - Ozone-nitrogen-climate-biodiversity interactions
 - Convention bodies further increase their focus on reactive nitrogen emissions and their abatement, transport and effects
 - Nitrogen management
 - Policy development in cooperation with agricultural, transport, energy policies
 - Highest priority: cost-effective ammonia emission abatement
 - Integrated approach for the development of air pollution and climate change policies and measures
 - SLCPs such as black carbon and methane and ozone
 - Recommendations for TFTEI related to BAT for woodstoves and solid fuel-burning and small combustion installations (ST and LT)

A. Enabling Sound Policy Decisions: Cost-effective Control Measures

- Analyses of costs and benefits of control strategies to reduce air pollution is critical
- Need improvements and updates in our tools
- Recommendations for TFTEI (together with TFIAM)
 - undertake a review of the control costs currently used, and improve the cost-effectiveness analyses of the GAINS model, including a comparison of cost estimates from different models and improving cost estimates of impacts of air pollution on health and ecosystems (ST)
 - co-produce a report for policy-makers that clearly sets out the costs of inaction to encourage ratification and implementation of the Protocols (ST)
- TFTEI to also analyze the cost-effectiveness of additional local and regional measures as compared to additional continental measures, to reduce life years lost (ST)

B. Maximizing the Impact of the Convention and its Protocols

- 1. Ratification and implementation of the protocols
- 2. Enforcement of Protocol obligations and related support to countries
- 3. Updating the amended Protocols (GP, HMs, POPs) after entry into force and review. When updating GP consider:
 - Emission reduction commitments for black carbon
 - Strengthened ammonia abatement measures
 - Methane as a priority pollutant
 - Further reduction requirements for PM2.5 and acid rain precursors

• TFTEI to:

- Explore to what extent the POPs Protocol could be further developed with respect to UPOPs especially PAHs and to look at possible additional measures to reduce POPs (LT)
- Parties to:
 - Tighten emission standards for ammonia according to BAT, particularly for large farms.
 - Establish emission standards based on BAT and energy efficiency requirements and small-scale appliances, including solid-fuel burning and implement standards under the current emission reduction commitments for PM2.5.

C. Improving the Technical & Scientific Basis

- A number of recommendations submitted for further consideration by EMEP/WGE related to:
 - 1. Emission data
 - 2. Dispersion modelling
 - 3. Scope of monitoring and challenges to the existing monitoring systems
 - 4. Improving the functioning of the Working Group on Effects and EMEP and their subsidiary bodies
 - 5. Linked, multipurpose monitoring under the Convention
 - 6. Hemispheric air pollution
 - Apply cost-effective control options in modelling (including, in particular, cost-effective measures to reduce methane)

Short term PRG recommendations for TFTEI included in draft 2018-2019 workplan

- Further development of techno-economic tools for estimating costs of implementing BAT and complying with the requirements of the Gothenburg Protocol.
- Disseminate the methodology and update the related tool for the analysis of GAINS scenarios and collect and provide data for inclusion in the GAINS model.
- Continue to develop and promote the regional clearinghouse of control technology information for primary emissions of NOx, SO2, VOCs and PM, including SLCPs, heavy metals and POPs.
- Integration of additional measures in the TFTEI Clearing House for Control Technologies, and development of a code of good practice for solid-fuel burning and small combustion installations based on BAT.
- In cooperation with TFIAM, undertake a review of the control costs currently used with a view to improving, on an ongoing basis, the cost effectiveness analyses produced by the GAINS model.
- Produce a report for policymakers that clearly sets out the costs of controls versus the costs of inaction to encourage ratification and implementation of the protocols.

WGSR Recommendations to the EB

- Supported in general, the short-term recommendations and forwarded them to the EB
- WGSR took note of the longer-term recommendations to be taken into account by the EB when updating the LTS, and to:
 - Establish a mandate for the PRG to propose updates and revisions to the LTS in collaboration with the EB Bureau
 - Take account of the policy review group's longer-term recommendations (beyond 2018-2019)
- Agreed broadly on a number of areas of the PRG's report which are included in the WGSR's report of its 55th session

Long-term recommendations for TFTEI

- Update the Gothenburg Protocol with strengthened ammonia reduction measures, in line with the TFRN and guidance document for preventing ammonia emissions. (12)
- Implement/establish emissions standards based on BAT for new domestic stoves and installations for solid-fuel burning in any future revision of the Gothenburg Protocol. (19)
- That Parties implement technical measures to meet protocol obligations and not solely focus on emissions reporting obligations. Parties will have greater awareness as to the appropriate strategies, policies, and technical measures to implement to reduce emissions and meet the objectives and obligations laid out in the Protocols. (ST-LT) (36)
- Consider an integrated approach (for example combined air pollution and climate change goals and improving nitrogen management). (40)
- When reviewing the Gothenburg Protocol, consider: emissions reductions commitments for black carbon; strengthened ammonia abatement measures, in line with the findings of the TFRN and the Guidance on Ammonia Abatement; and include specific reduction measures on methane. (42)

Long-term recommendations for TFTEI cont'd

- That TFTEI explore to what extent the Protocol on POPs could be further developed with respect to UPOPs, especially on PAHs, and explore whether and which stricter measures could be recommended for the UNECE region. (48)
- Possible additional measures to reduce POPs, including: strengthened BAT on new stationary sources (waste incineration, metallurgy, energy production) and measures on domestic combustion plants as these are the main source of PAHs emissions in many countries; more specific measures of PAHs such as a target value or reduction objective. (49)
- Co-chairs of the TFRN and TFTEI continue and strengthen cooperation with the Organization for Economic Cooperation (OECD), to the extent useful for their work. (ST-LT) (130)
- Identify potential emission limit values associated with BAT on emissions of black carbon with the International Maritime Organization. (ST-LT) (132)

Next Steps

- Finalize a document for the EB 37th session that will highlight issues requiring further discussion with regard to the LTS
- Discussion of WGSR Report and recommendations at the EB's 37th session
- 15 December Meeting
 - Continue working on updating the LTS taking into account any new potential mandate/guidance from the EB

ANNEX

Policy Goal

• To improve air quality, including by reducing transboundary air pollution impacting the ECE region, and addressing, in an integrated manner, related environmental and health objectives and other policies that will continue long-term progress.