

Revision of the Gothenburg Protocol

Till Spranger, WGSR Chair



Process

up to 2022 Comprehensive Review

Sep 2023 WGSR recommendations and WGE / EMEP SB input

Dec 2023 Executive Body Decision 2023/5 to revise the GP as amended in 2012

 May / Dec 2024 Plan on how and when to deal with 8 main revision issues, keeping in mind non-Parties

■ 2024 – 26 (+x) **Negotiations**



Main negotiation items (EB Decision 2023/5, OP 2)

- (a) New **emission reduction commitments** (for current GP pollutants)
- (b) **Technical Annexes** (scope and level of ambition)
- (c) further **black carbon** emission reductions
- (d) whether and how to address **methane** emissions
- (e) additional ammonia emission reductions
- (f) new **flexibilities** etc. to facilitate ratification & implementation by non-Parties
- (g) overarching, collective risk-based target(s) (health and ecosystems/biodiversity)
- (h) integrated approaches among climate, energy and air policies





- **Policy options** to address the conclusions of the **GP review** and "**New approaches** for EECCA countries, Western Balkan countries and Türkiye" (EB43, official and informal doc.s, respectively)
- Work on revised guidance documents (GD) on stationary sources (official doc for WGSR 63 in 2025 -> EB 45) and mobile sources (official doc for WGSR 64 in 2026 -> EB 46)
- Further work on possible **technological pathways** towards the GP ratification for 6 present non-Parties (informal document for EB44)
- Preparatory work on a revision of Technical Annexes (informal documents for EB44 and WGSR63)
- -> Inter alia proposal to focus activities on present non-Parties
- Discussion of a further developed version at this meeting, with a view to an informal document for EB45 (Dec. 2025) / WGSR64 (May 2026)

GP revision in 2024

Topics Covered

Meeting

Recommendations and Decisions

		anticipated
WGSR 62 May	Draft Plan for the GPR: Discussion of full scope and priorities, gaps in knowledge, and timing. Initial discussion of	Recommendations to EB on the full scope, priorities and timeline
	 scope and indicator(s) for item (g) (Targets) base and target years for item (a) (ERCs) scope for item (d) (CH₄) scope for item (b) (TAs) combined with item (f) (Flexi) 	Report on the initial discussions
HoD Mtg. <i>October</i>	Continue informally disc. of scope, priorities and timing, including on (b) and (f)	Chairs' report to the EB
EB 44 December	negotiations inter alia on items • (a) (ERCs)	Adoption of plan for negotiations; Allocation of tasks to subsidiary bodies as needed; Possibly decision on framework for negotiations on items discussed

GP revision plan 2025

Meeting	Topics Covered (see para.s 15 & 16 for elucidation)	Recommendations and Decisions anticipated
May	Items (a) (ERCs) and (b) (TAs) in connection with (f) (flexi / new approaches); Item (d) (CH ₄)	WGSR recommendations to EB on the topics covered
Dologation		Chairs' Report including conclusions to EB on the topics covered
EB 45 December	Start negotiations on revising Protocol text and annexes	

Decisions on how to deal with items (a) to (h)

GP revision plan 2026

Meeting	Topics Covered (see para.s 17 & 18 for elucidation)	Recommendations and Decisions anticipated
WGSR 64 May	Updates to items (b) and (f) (TAs and Flexibilities) Thematic meeting on: Items (g) and (h) (Targets / Integration), also in relation to item (a) (ERCs)	WGSR recommendations to EB on the topics covered
HoD meeting? October?	Updates to Technical Annexes including Annex II, and protocol text	Chairs' Report including conclusions to EB on the topics covered
EB 46 December	Second set of revisions to text and Annexes	

(subject to previous decisions)

Informal meeting Leuven (Oct 2024) (Chairs' Summary - Party experts!)



- Change present structure of TAs
- Take into account new sources and technologies
- Mandatory emission limit values (ELVs) are seen to be static
- Varying views on the role of TAs versus GDs
- Non-parties need a pathway, TAs need a revision to address barriers
- Awareness raising and case examples on non-technical measures are needed (revise Article 6)
- Structure TAs by pollutant or by sector?



What EB44 concluded (Dec 2024)

- Took note information by breakout group on TAs and inf. doc "Preparatory work on the revision of the technical annexes to the present Gothenburg Protocol" (presented by the TFTEI Co-Chair);
- Requested TFTEI, with the WGSR Bureau, to work on potential options to revise the technical annexes, in particular taking into account the needs of non-Parties and using the proposal set out in the inf. doc to commence this work;
- Requested the WGSR to further discuss the mandatory or non-mandatory nature, status and content of the technical
 annexes taking into account any work progressed by the TFTEI;
- Invited Convention Parties, and in particular **non-Parties** to the present GP, to send nomination of **technical experts** with relevant knowledge **to support TFTEI** in this work;
- Encouraged the WGSR to further discuss the merits of the Batumi Action for Cleaner Air approach for non-Parties.



What WGSR63 concluded (May 2025)

- Took note of the progress of work of TFTEI in developing options to revise technical annexes taking into account the needs of non-Parties;
- Took note of different views expressed by delegations with respect to the nature and content of technical annexes in a future revised Protocol;
- Took note of **some delegations**' preference for moving to **a guidance approach** instead of setting technical annexes and that these should aim to facilitate current non-Parties to accede to the Protocol.

Thank you for your attention!