

# UNECE AIR CONVENTION

**Executive Body**

**11 - 14 December 2023**

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**New approaches  
for EECCA, WB and TR**

# Structure AGP

AGP	Description	Applicable amendment procedure
<b>Text - key articles</b>		
Article 3	Basic obligations (ERC, LV, BAT, measures, EI, projections effects)	Amendments to text: ratification procedure Amendments to annexes: see below Adjustments: adopted by consensus
Article 7	Reporting (emissions, concentrations, depositions, effects)	
Article 13	Adjustments (new to Annex II / III, change in Annex II / III)	
Article 13 bis	Amendments (to text, to annexes)	
<b>Annexes</b>		
Annex I	Critical loads and levels	Expedited procedure
Annex III	Designated PEMA	Expedited procedure
Annex II	Emission reduction commitments	Ratification procedure
Annex IV	Stationary sources      limit values SO <sub>2</sub>	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex V	Stationary sources      limit values NO <sub>x</sub>	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex VI	Stationary sources      limit values VOC	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex X	Stationary sources      limit values PM	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex IX	Agricultural sources      control measures NH <sub>3</sub>	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex VIII	Mobile sources and fuels      limit values	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex XI	Products      limit values VOC content of products	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure
Annex VII	Timescales under article 3	Expedited procedure / ratification procedure

# New approaches

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**How to incorporate new approaches into a revised version of the amended Gothenburg Protocol.**

**The present adjustment/amendment procedures of the Gothenburg Protocol as amended in 2012 are set out in Articles 13 and 13bis:**

- i. Adoption by consensus for adjustments to annexes II and III, (article 13)
- ii. Regular ratification procedure for amendments to text and annex II (paragraph 3 of Article 13bis),
- iii. Expedited amendment procedure for amendments to annexes I and III (paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 13bis),
- iv. Option to apply the expedited amendment procedure for annexes IV–XI (paragraphs 6 and 7 of Article 13bis)  
Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 15 a Party can declare in its ratification instrument not to be bound by this option

# New approaches

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**The paper examines in detail the following new approaches**

- i. Staged ratification approach
- ii. Phased commitment approach
- iii. Separate section approach
- iv. Sector-based approach
- v. Individual commitment approach

# New approaches

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**New approaches can be used as stand-alone approaches or in combination, and considered together with, among others**

- i. Maintaining or removing (parts of) the technical annexes,
- ii. Targeted changes to the technical annexes (e.g., simplifications),
- iii. Maintaining sets of minimum standards in the technical annexes,
- iv. Focussing on / prioritizing key categories / new installations,
- v. Adding new flexibilities, removal of time limits for flexible provisions,
- vi. Allowing alternative base years for emission reduction commitments.

# Staged ratification approach

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Within a staged approach to ratification technical annexes are accepted and ratified gradually with one annex at a time, or in bundles.

A staged ratification could be accomplished by a series of separate EB amendment decisions to the 2012 AGP, as follows

## Option 1

- Separate EB decision amending the **text and annex II**
- Separate EB decision amending **annexes I and III**
- Separate EB decisions amending **annexes IV-XI**  
(a separate decision for each annex or bundling two or more annexes)  
(potentially with separate sections for EECCA/WB/TR)
- Separate EB decisions for adding **new annexes**

# Staged ratification approach

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## Option 2

- Separate EB decision amending the **text and annex II**
- Separate EB decision amending **annexes I and III**
- Separate EB decision amending **annexes IV-XI** (for other than EECCA/WB/TR)
- Separate EB decisions for adding **new annexes** (for EECCA/WB/TR)

**Staged ratification requires amendments to article 3 (basic obligations) and, depending on the variant, to articles 12, 13bis, 14 and 15.**

**Option 2 would allow combining staged ratification with a sector-based approach for EECCA, WB and TR.**

**Staged ratification of ERCs (annex II): could be achieved by using the adjustment procedure pursuant to article 13(1)**

# Phased commitment approach

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Within a phased approach the Protocol is ratified at one time, with the basic obligations [and reporting obligations] phased in over time (with increasing ambition) and explicitly described in the Protocol itself.

This approach would require setting different phases, with different target years: e.g. a first phase for 2030-2035, a second phase for 2035-2040 ( or more phases, different timing ...)

- Phased approach to emission reduction commitments (annex II) (use of adjustment procedure)
- Phased approach to emission limit values / measures (annexes IV-VI / VIII-XI) (first phase → minimum set of the 2012 requirements)
- Alternative approach: use annex VII (timescales) but modified (≈phased application approach). The timescales for application of the limit values could be set differently for new incoming Parties per annex (per pollutant)



# Separate section approach

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Currently, the technical annexes IV, V, VI, VIII, X and XI are divided into three sections: one for the EMEP region, one for Canada and one for the United States of America.

One option is to also provide separate section(s), with their own requirements, for the EECCA countries, WB countries and TR.

**Possible options are i.a. (can be combined with other approaches):**

- Adding one separate section for EECCA, WB and TR (considered as one group) in each or some of the technical annexes
- Adding more than one separate section for EECCA, WB and TR (more than one group) in each or some of the technical annexes (more than one group)
- Adding a new technical annex specific to EECCA, WB and TR, possibly with separate sections for sub-regions / groups of countries

# Sector-based approach

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**A sector-based approach could be achieved by reorganizing the technical annexes by sector (source category) instead of by pollutant.**

- Currently, technical annexes IV, V, VI, IX and X contain emission limit values and standards by pollutant (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, VOC, NH<sub>3</sub> and PM respectively), covering different sectors per annex, although annex IX currently only covers agricultural sources.
- These five technical annexes are limited to stationary sources
- Mobile sources are addressed separately in technical annex VIII
- Technical annex XI is a separate case and deals with limit values for the VOC content of products

**A sector-based approach of the technical annexes would require a comprehensive revision of article 3, article 3bis and annex VII of the present Protocol, and possibly amendments to i.a. article 13bis. Can be combined with other approaches.**

# Individual commitment approach

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**An individual commitment approach for EECCA countries, WB countries and TR could be achieved in several ways.**

**One option is to allow each of these states to submit, upon ratification, their own emission requirements to which they can commit (supplementary to minimum requirements already included in revised GP.**

**These (supplementary) requirements could be mandatory or indicative and be subject to review/scrutiny or not.**

- Automatic incorporation of submitted ERCs upon ratification into annex II (≈ article 3(11)) (not subject to review)
- Adding names and ERCs to annex II prior to / upon ratification in accordance with article 13(2) (subject to review)
- Automatic incorporation of ELVs into the technical annexes IV-VI and VIII-XI upon ratification, (≈ article 3(11bis)) (not subject to review)

# Example

