WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ **ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО**

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

28th meeting of the Joint Convention/WHO Task Force on the Health Aspects of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

EUCDE2422605/2.1/2

Bonn, Germany (virtual meeting) 20–21 May 2025 06 March 2025

Scope and purpose

The health effects of air pollution drive policies to improve air quality. This is reflected in global policy documents, such as the World Health Assembly resolution on air pollution and health, the Sustainable Development Goals, the WHO Global Strategy on Health, Environment and Climate Change, and by the recognition of air pollution as a risk factor for noncommunicable diseases by the United Nations. The new World Health Assembly resolution on climate change and health highlights the worsening of air quality driven by climate change and its health impacts, disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups. An updated roadmap for an enhanced global response to the adverse health effects of air pollution is expected to be adopted at the forthcoming World Health Assembly. In the WHO European Region, the Declaration of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Budapest, Hungary in 2023, reaffirmed air quality and health as a regional priority, and the need for wide-ranging actions to improve air quality and reduce its health impacts, including through existing platforms, such as the Task Force on Health.

The Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution supports the work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. It provides evidence-informed assessment of the risks to health posed by air pollution and attribution of such risks to long-range transport of air pollution.

The 28th meeting of the Task Force on Health will gather representatives of the Parties to the Convention as well as experts and stakeholders. The meeting will provide an opportunity to take stock of international policies and processes for air quality and health, discuss progress in research on health risk assessment of air pollution, including HRAPIE2 project, and the new evidence related to the good practice statements of the WHO global air quality guidelines. Examples of country experiences will be presented, as well as updates on the WHO tools (AirQ+ and CLIMAQ-H) and their application. In addition, the draft Task Force on Health workplan for 2026-2027 will be discussed.