Minutes of meeting
5th Air Quality IPR Technical Meeting

European Environment Agency
Kongens Nytorv 6 – 1050 Copenhagen
6th & 7th November 2018

Conclusions

Main discussion items at the fifth IPR Technical Meeting included:

(1) New workflows introduced for September submission,
(2) Overview of submission status,
(3) Organising the verification of September submission in sub-groups,
(4) Verification of the September submissions,
(5) Reporting natural sources contribution through E1b,
(6) Preparing December submission, new Q checks on H to K,
(7) Activities planned for 2019,
(8) Advancing deadline for reporting (recommendation from the Court of Auditors),
(9) Support provided by the EEA.

- The submissions this year have been very effective and streamlined due improved data quality, improved QC, good submission monitoring and automation of the data processing.
- The verification process (splitting into sub-groups) was highly successful.
- Regarding advancing the reporting deadline, several countries did indicate that this would require significant modifications of their internal processes. It could also impact the quality of the data.
- Most of the countries informed that they were satisfied with the viewers functionalities and that the viewers are meeting their needs.

Action points for EEA and ETC/ACM

- Reported issues with the viewers need to be fixed.
- If possible, implement URLs for the different tabs in the viewers.
- Extend the air quality portal by:
    - providing links to Air Quality report if possible,
    - including information from the Commission related to air quality (meetings etc.).
- If possible, change the air quality portal URL with a "friendlier" URL.
- Check with NILU the possibility to develop a mechanism between AQ e-reporting system and EBAS (for instance export of NASA Ames format).
- Provide list of blockers for H to K as soon as possible.

Action point for countries

- Some countries still need to resubmit some of the September deliverables.

Tuesday, 6th November

Welcome and adoption of minutes of the 4th TIPR meeting

Catherine Ganzleben (EEA)

The meeting was chaired by Michel Houssiau (EEA).

- Minutes of the 4th TIPR meeting were formally adopted without comments.

(1) New workflows and quality checks introduced for September submission

Michel Houssiau (EEA)

The second part of the presentation on "quality checks" was presented together with the presentation "Preparing December submission, new Q checks on H to K" (day2).

<<presentation>>

The countries were reminded about
- the deadlines for:
    o submission 30th of September,
    o resubmission deadline 15th of December,
    o resubmission after 15th of December is allowed if justification is provided to and accepted by DG ENV.
- Only the data transmitted before 15th of December will be used for the Annual Air Quality report and CSI4.
- Submission data flows: work flows.
- Resubmission data flows: work flows.

(2) Overview of submission status

Artur Gsella (EEA)

<<presentation>>

- Status of data reporting was presented and in particular on the following:
    o extra QC rules were implemented by mid-September,
    o selected harvesting issues in August/September,
    o crash and restart of CDR database (9/11)

- o due to improved data quality, automated QC & feedback combined with good data monitoring, ~95 % feedback was completed in October,
  - o two countries are still in process of reporting,
  - o five countries have not reported E1b while D1b was reported,
  - o some correction requests are still pending.
- Data reporting and its impact on air quality data products:
  - o due to good quality of data, automation of processing and proper technology, most of the data loading, aggregations and data updates were completed in October.

(3) Organising the verification of September submission in sub-groups
<div align="right">Michel Houssiau (EEA)</div>

<<presentation>>

- The verification process was presented.
- The countries were divided into three sub-groups.

<div align="center">Tuesday, 7th November</div>

(4) Verification of September submissions: wrap up
<div align="right">Michel Houssiau (EEA), Artur Gsella (EEA), Jaume Targa (ETC/ACM) Rune Ødegård (ETC/ACM)</div>

The countries were divided into three sub-groups with the aim to verify the submissions, with focus on E1a of the September deliverable.

Summary from sub-group 1:

Countries: Italy (IT), Austria (AT), Malta (MT), Ireland (IE), Spain (ES), France (FR), United Kingdom (GB), Germany (DE), Portugal (PT), Bulgaria (BG)

Italy
E1a for PM10 & PM2.5 is not fully aggregated due to usage of /n-hour. This is a particularity which needs fixing at EEA side to create an exception for reporting PM data which is not hourly nor daily.

Austria
The country has minor issues with BaP (example: SPO.02.VKUI.64082.5029_1)

Malta
E1a on BaP and heavy metals are not yet submitted.

Ireland
E1a data look fine. Minor issues, such as SPO.IE.IE0028A.Sample1_20 need further checks.

Spain
Some issues were detected on the aggregation of benzene. However, this was related to some data being submitted as /var like SP_02003001_20_I.

France
Revision of E1a was good. Majority of missing aggregations could be related to data supplied as invalid. Some issues included:
- CO, 6 missing,
- O3, 22 P1Y-wa-avg,
- C6H6: 35 valid; 36 aggregates.

United Kingdom
Some PM10 & PM2.5 was not uploaded (likely to be due to SPP changes). Two PM10 and one O3 were not aggregated.

Germany
No major issues were identified in the E1a.

Portugal
No major issues were identified in the E1a.

Bulgaria
E1a displayed uploading problems. However, this was due to some E1a data files with empty arrays.

Summary from group 2:

Countries: Croatia (HR), Slovenia (SI), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia MK, Serbia (RS), Kosovo* (XK), Albania (AL), Luxembourg (LU)

All countries have delivered data correctly and no corrections are required. The missing time series or aggregation is basically due to empty or invalid values in the data array.

Croatia
SPOs for AEI is to be declared in C.

Slovenia
UOM for Pb in PM10 is to be verified (and resubmitted if necessary).

Bosnia I Herzegovina
PM10 outliers limits have to be adapted to local conditions.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
PM10 outliers limits have to be adapted to local conditions.

Summary from sub-group 3

Countries: Romania (RO), Sweden (SE), Norway (NO), Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Estonia (EE), Finland (FI), Iceland (IC), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), the Netherlands (NL), Poland (PO), Slovakia (SK)

Most of the countries have delivered data correctly and no corrections are required. The missing time series or aggregation is basically due to empty or invalid values in the data array, except Romania and Sweden.

Romania
- Resubmit new B (missing zone for combination O3/health) is requested.
- Corrections on data flows D and C are requested.

Sweden
- Correction on data flow D is requested.
- Correction on data flow G is requested.

General feedback/issues that needs to be fixed by EEA/ETC:

- Outliers are to be fixed according to local conditions.
- Data integration for attainment viewers is needed.
- Changing QC C0 and D0 into information is needed.
- P1Y- daysAbove50 calculation for PM10 (viewer).
- Weird sums are displayed when selecting a record (viewer attainment tables).
- Numbers of time series are not consistent across different viewers.
- There is an issue with missing time series or/and ratios between years (E1a Tier2 viewer).
- AIDE F is missing some of the aggregations (e.g. P1Y-day_min and P1Y-day_max).
- Some data monitor improvements are needed (e.g.: excluding invalid time series from the number of expected aggregations, clearer indication of cases where all time series are invalid, indication of empty data arrays in the import bar).

(5) Reporting natural sources contribution through E1b: proposal and discussion
<div align="right">Jaume Targa (ETC/ACM)</div>

<<presentation>>

- Ways of how to calculate the contribution and how to report were presented:
  - Calculation can be performed based on direct measurement, modelling or a combination,
  - Depending on the calculation, meta data is needed in D/D1b and E1a/E1b,

o Whatever the calculation methodology, it is expected that the **correction values** are provided, and not the **corrected** values**.**

- Reporting examples were presented (from simple to more complex combination using both measurement and modelling).

(6) Preparing December submission, new QC checks on H to K

Jaume Targa (ETC/ACM)

<<presentation>>

- The importance of QA/QC was highlighted.
- A range of different categories was presented (e.g. blockers, errors, warnings, info, ok, skipped)
- Status of the on-going improvements on QA was presented, including:
  o bugfix,
  o improvement on data flow D to ensure continuity,
  o improvement automatic QA on E1a to catch error/bugs before further processing, including statistical checks,
  o (if possible) implementation of check of geometries for zones that will be possible to check in DRAFT,
  o (if possible) compare assessment regime with preliminary assessment regime for same year,
  o (if possible) check in attainment G that E1a & E1b has been submitted according to latest C,
  o checks for H-K have been identified, registered in vocabulary and implemented for test in cdrtest.

Comments from participants
- Would it be possible to set the H-K QAs with category blocker to error at least for the coming December deliverable?
  Answer: EEA: Yes, we will be considered to set the H-K QA blockers to errors for the coming December deliverable.

(7) Activities planned for 2019: implementation of super SPO and changes of SPO local IDs, cleaning and gap filling for D/E1a, airbase migration, E1b processing

Artur Gsella (EEA)

<<presentation>>

The presentation covered the following points:
- **Implementation of SPO mapping.**
- Gap filling of D/E1a data.
- Final AirBase mapping and migration.
- Processing of E1b data.

(8) Advancing deadline for reporting (recommendation from the Court of Auditors): roundtable

Vanda Jakir (EC/DG ENV)

<<presentation>>

The proposal of advancing deadline (end of June) for reporting E1a was presented followed by an unofficial round-table discussion, asking the countries attending the meeting about their opinion. From the discussion, the countries can be divided into three groups of equal importance:

- to report quality assured E1a data end of June will be OK,
- to report quality assured E1a data from automatic stations will be OK, but not for data that needs to be analysed in laboratories ,
- to report quality assured E1a data would not be feasible and would compromise the data quality.

Furthermore, several countries did indicate that advancing deadline would require significant modification of their internal processes and resources.

(9) Support provided by EEA (viewers, AQ IPR helpdesk, AQ portal etc)

Michel Houssiau (EEA), Rune Ødegård (ETC/ACM)

<<presentation>>

Viewers
The results from the survey of the viewers were presented. Few countries had answered the survey but made suggestions for further improvements. It appears from the survey that the countries were in general satisfied with the functionalities, look and feel of the viewers.

Some improvements of the viewers, based on countries input from the survey, were presented (access to google street and google map, download of raw data: all functionalities accessible from the tooltip).
The download service of E1a and E2a was also presented:
(http://discomap.eea.europa.eu/map/fme/AirQualityExport.htm)

AQ portal

Comments from participants
- Several countries expressed their satisfaction with the portal.
- Some improvement could include:
  - links to Air Quality report if possible,
  - information from DG ENV (ex. info from air quality meetings/workshops),
  - more user-friendly URL - if possible, implement URLs for the different tabs.

- A question was raised regarding the process around the new planned CDR (Reportnet-3)
  Answer: EEA answered that the Reportnet-3 is at a very early stage. No changes are foreseen for the coming years (not before 2021) and in any case backwards compatibility will be ensured.
- Will there be a possibility to implement NASA Ames data exchange format for importing air quality data to EBAS?
  Answer: ETC/EEA answered that it will be discussed with NILU which is responsible for the EBAS database.
- A concern regarding duplication of work with the coming INSPIRE implementation was raised.

(10) AOB

Michel Houssiau (EEA)

The next TIPR will take place second half of March or first half of April 2019. Exact dates and venue will be communicated beginning of January 2019 at the latest.