

Guidance on reporting PM2.5 Average Exposure Indicator (AEI) for Exposure Concentration Obligation (ECO) and Exposure Reduction Target (ERT)

According to the AQ Directive 2008/50/EC (Annex XIV), countries are required to report in dataflow C and G one Assessment Regime and one Attainment respectively for the ERT and ECO Objectives in relation to the PM2.5 AEI metric. See also [User Guide to XML](#) pages 364 and 368.

Dataflow C should include two Assessment Regimes having the following combinations:

1. **Pollutant:** 6001, **Protection Target:** H, **Reporting Metric:** AEI, **Objective Type:** ECO
2. **Pollutant:** 6001, **Protection Target:** H, **Reporting Metric:** AEI, **Objective Type:** ERT

The two Assessment Regimes are formally identical except for the Objective Type. The list of the Sampling Points used for assessing AEI should be the same in the two Assessment Regimes and should not change over time as this will affect the baseline AEI calculation and the reduction target. Countries should contact the Commission in case of changes to the set of Sampling Points used in AEI Assessments. Additionally, the Assessment Regimes based on AEI should not reference any AQ Zone as they are expected to apply to the entire country. New QA checks (C36 to C39b) were introduced to ensure the consistency of AEI Assessment Regimes.

Similarly, dataflow G should include two Attainments corresponding to the two Assessment Regimes mentioned above. Countries are expected to report the AEI in value **as average over the last three years (i.e. in September 2022 the 2021 submission should contain the average AEI over 2019, 2020 and 2021)** in the element **aqd:numericalExceedance** regardless of the fact that its value exceeds the limits or not. No value is supposed to be in the **aqd:numberExceedance** element. New QA checks (G95, G96, G97) are now in place to verify that these values are correctly reported.

In terms of the exceedance indication reported in the element **aqd:exceedance**, countries are required to not exceed the AEI value of 20 µg/m³ for the ECO Attainment starting on reporting year 2015.

For the ERT attainment, countries are required to not exceed the threshold calculated on the basis of the baseline AEI and percentage reduction according to Directive 2008/50/EC, Annex XIV, Table B starting on 2020 (that is, with the AEI₂₀₂₀ calculated as the average AEI over 2018, 2019 and 2020).