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CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

**Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context**

**REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING
held in Oslo from 18 to 20 May 1998
at the invitation of the Government of Norway**

1. The first meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context took place in Oslo (Norway) from 18 to 20 May 1998 at the invitation of the Government of Norway.

2. The meeting was attended by delegations from the following Parties to the Convention and ECE member countries: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.

3. The Commission of the European Communities was also represented.

4. The meeting was attended by a representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

5. Representatives of the Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization (WHO/EURO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) also attended.

6. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: CEE Earthwatch Network, Centre for Environmental Projects, Ecologia, International Association for Impact Assessment, International Public Network for Environmental Impact Assessment, Regional Environmental Center (REC), as well as the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

7. The following documents were prepared for the meeting: the rules of procedure (MP.EIA/1998/1); mechanisms for the implementation of the Convention (MP.EIA/1998/2); the points of contact under the Convention (MP.EIA/1998/3); the format for notification (MP.EIA/1998/4); the establishment of the database on environmental impact assessment (MP.EIA/1998/5); the work-plan covering the period up to its second meeting (MP.EIA/1998/6); arrangement to support the participation of experts from countries in transition (MP.EIA/1998/7); the budget for the period until its second meeting (MP.EIA/1998/8) and the Oslo Ministerial declaration (MP.EIA/1998/9).

8. The Senior Officials' session was opened by Ms. A. Saeterdal on behalf of the Norwegian Government.

9. The secretariat informed the Meeting of the Parties about the status of the Convention, declarations made by Parties upon deposit of their instruments of ratification, the representation at the first meeting and the credentials submitted by the Parties.

10. Mr. T. Lind (Norway) and Ms. Rawska (Poland) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively.

11. The Meeting adopted its agenda as set out in document ECE/MP.EIA/1.
12. The Meeting of the Parties agreed to apply ad interim the draft rules of procedure (MP.EIA/1998/1) until it had formally adopted them under agenda item 6.
13. Following the discussion on agenda item 2, the Meeting finalized the discussion on outstanding issues and submitted the decisions as amended to the Ministerial session for formal adoption. In this respect the Meeting, inter alia, considered the need for a subsidiary body and set a timetable for its work. The Meeting requested the secretariat to make the necessary arrangements in order to issue the rules of procedure, the decisions of the first meeting of the Parties and the Oslo Ministerial declaration as a separate document in the three ECE languages.
14. The Minister of the Environment of Norway, Ms. Guro Fjellanger, opened the Ministerial session of the first meeting of the Parties and welcomed the delegations on behalf of the Government of Norway.
15. The Executive Secretary of ECE, Mr. Yves Berthelot, made an opening statement.
16. The delegations from the following Parties delivered a statement: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, European Community. Delegations from the following ECE member countries and organizations also delivered a statement: Azerbaijan, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, WHO/EURO, IAEA, CEE Earthwatch Network and Ecologia (joint statement), International Association for Impact Assessment, Regional Environmental Center (REC), and Centre for Environmental Projects and International Public Network for Environmental Impact Assessment (joint statement).
17. The delegation of the United Kingdom requested colleagues who wished to participate in the work on non-compliance guidelines to contact Mr. McGlone as soon as possible. The delegation of Hungary also invited delegations to indicate their interest in the work on the evaluation of the ENIMPAS database.
18. The delegation of Armenia delivered a statement as included in annex X.
19. The Meeting of the Parties adopted its decisions as included in annexes I to IX to the present report.
20. The Meeting thanked Mr. Lind (Norway) for his work in preparing the meeting. The Meeting also expressed its appreciation to the Government of Norway for the excellent organization and the extensive support provided to delegations.

21. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure, the Meeting decided that the second meeting of the Parties would be convened in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the kind invitation of the Government of Bulgaria. The Meeting also elected the following officers for its next meeting:

Ms. Grigorova (Bulgaria), President; and Messrs. Mikulic (Croatia), Lind (Norway), Kraszewski (Poland), Ruchti (Switzerland) and McGlone (United Kingdom), Vice-Presidents. Mr. McGlone was also elected President of its subsidiary body, the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment.

22. The Meeting adopted its report on 20 May 1998.

Annex I

DECISION I/1

RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Meeting,

Recalling Article 11, paragraph 2 (d), of the Convention stipulating that at their first meeting the Parties shall consider and by consensus adopt rules of procedure for their meetings,

Adopts the rules of procedures set out below.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT**

PURPOSES

Rule 1

These rules of procedure shall apply to any meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context convened in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention.

DEFINITIONS

Rule 2

For the purposes of these rules:

1. "Convention" means the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, adopted at Espoo (Finland) on 25 February 1991;
2. "Parties" means Contracting Parties to the Convention;
3. "Meeting of the Parties" or "Meeting" means the Meeting of the Parties established in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention;
4. "Regional economic integration organization" means an organization in accordance with Article 16 of the Convention;
5. "President" means the President elected in accordance with rule 19 of these rules of procedure;
6. "Bureau" means the President and one or more Vice-President(s) elected in accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure;

7. "Subsidiary body(ies)" means the body(ies) established by the Meeting of the Parties to work on matters determined in accordance with rule 23, paragraph 3;

8. "Secretariat" means, in accordance with Article 13 of the Convention, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe".

PLACE OF MEETINGS

Rule 3

The meetings of the Parties shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, unless other appropriate arrangements are made by the Parties in consultation with the secretariat.

DATES OF MEETINGS

Rule 4

At each meeting, the Parties, taking into account Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, shall set the indicative date for the opening and the duration of their next meeting.

Rule 5

The secretariat shall notify all Parties of the date and venue of a meeting at least two months before it is due to take place.

OBSERVERS

Rule 6

1. The secretariat shall notify the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and any State or regional economic integration organization entitled under Article 16 of the Convention to sign the Convention but which is not a Party to the Convention, of any meeting so that they may be represented as observers.

2. Such observers may, at the invitation of the President and if there is no objection from the Parties present, participate, without the right to vote, in the proceedings of any meeting in matters of direct concern to the organizations and States that they represent.

Rule 7

1. The secretariat shall notify every relevant body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, qualified in fields relating to environmental impact assessment which has informed the secretariat of its wish to be represented, of any meeting, so that they may

be represented as observers, subject to the condition that their admission to the meeting is not objected to by at least one third of the Parties present at the meeting.

2. Such observers may, at the invitation of the President and if there is no objection from the Parties present, participate, without the right to vote, in the proceedings of any meeting in matters of direct concern to the bodies or agencies that they represent.

AGENDA

Rule 8

In agreement with the Bureau, the secretariat shall prepare the provisional agenda of each meeting.

Rule 9

The provisional agenda of each meeting shall include:

- (a) The items specified in article 11 of the Convention;
- (b) The items whose inclusion was decided at a previous meeting;
- (c) The items referred to in rule 13 of these rules;
- (d) Any item proposed by the Bureau;
- (e) Any item proposed by a Party before the agenda is circulated.

Rule 10

The provisional agenda, together with available supporting documents for each meeting, shall be distributed by the secretariat to the Parties at least two months before the opening of the meeting.

Rule 11

The secretariat shall, with the agreement of the Bureau, include any question suitable for the agenda which may arise between the dispatch of the provisional agenda and the opening of the meeting, in an addendum to the provisional agenda, which the Meeting shall examine together with the provisional agenda.

Rule 12

The Meeting when adopting the agenda may add, delete, defer or amend items. Only items that the Meeting considers to be urgent and important may be added to the agenda.

Rule 13

Any item on the agenda of a meeting whose consideration has not been completed at that meeting shall automatically be included in the agenda of the next meeting unless otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties.

REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 14

Each Party participating in the meeting shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other accredited representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Rule 15

An alternate representative or an adviser may act as a representative upon designation by the head of delegation.

Rule 16

The credentials of all representatives shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat.

Rule 17

The officers of any meeting shall examine the credentials and submit their report to the Meeting.

Rule 18

Pending a decision of the Meeting upon their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the meeting.

OFFICERS

Rule 19

1. At the commencement of each meeting, a President and one or more Vice-President(s) shall be elected from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. They shall serve as the officers of the Meeting and remain in office until their successors are elected. During any meeting, the Parties may elect the officers for their next meeting. The Meeting of the Parties may assign specific tasks to the officers to be carried out before its next meeting. In electing the officers due account should be taken of the need to ensure that the officers adequately represent different interests within the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

2. The President shall participate in the meeting in that capacity and shall not at the same time exercise the rights of a representative of a Party. In such a case, the President or the Party concerned shall designate another representative who shall be entitled to represent the Party in the meeting and to exercise its right to vote.

Rule 20

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the President shall:

- (a) Declare the opening and closing of the meeting;
- (b) Preside at the sessions of the meeting;
- (c) Ensure the observance of these rules;
- (d) Accord the right to speak;
- (e) Put questions to the vote and announce decisions;
- (f) Rule on points of order;
- (g) Subject to these rules, have complete control over the proceedings and maintain order.

2. The President may, moreover, propose:

- (a) The closure of the list of speakers;
- (b) A limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times each representative may speak on a question;
- (c) The adjournment or closure of debate;
- (d) The suspension or adjournment of the meeting.

3. The President, in the exercise of his functions, remains under the authority of the Meeting of the Parties.

Rule 21

If the President is temporarily absent from a meeting or any part thereof or is unable to complete his term of office or to perform his functions, a Vice-President shall act as President.

Rule 22

At the outset of each meeting, the President elected at the previous meeting or, in his absence, a Vice-President, shall preside until the Meeting has elected a new President from the representatives of the Parties.

SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Rule 23

1. These rules of procedure shall apply mutatis mutandis to the proceedings of subsidiary bodies established by the Meeting of the Parties, save as otherwise specified in this paragraph and paragraphs 3 to 9 below.
2. The Meeting of the Parties may establish such subsidiary bodies as are deemed necessary for the performance of its functions.
3. The Meeting of the Parties shall determine the matters to be considered by its subsidiary bodies.
4. Any supporting documents for a meeting of a subsidiary body shall be distributed at least one month before the opening of the meeting.
5. One quarter of the Parties shall constitute a quorum.
6. The Meeting of the Parties may decide that any subsidiary bodies may meet in the period between ordinary meetings.
7. Unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise, the President of any subsidiary body shall be elected by that subsidiary body from among the representatives of the Parties that will be present at the session.
8. Each subsidiary body shall elect its own Vice-President.
9. Rules 14 to 18 shall not apply to the proceedings of subsidiary bodies.

SECRETARIAT

Rule 24

The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe may delegate his functions to a member of his staff. He, or his representative, shall act as secretariat for all meetings of the Parties and for all meetings of the subsidiary bodies.

Rule 25

For all meetings of the Parties and for all meetings of the subsidiary bodies and in accordance with Article 13 of the Convention, the secretariat shall:

- (a) Prepare, in consultation with the Bureau, the documents requested by the Meeting of the Parties or by the subsidiary bodies;
- (b) Arrange for interpretation at the meeting and the translation, reproduction and distribution of the documents;

(c) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents in the archives of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 26

The meetings of the Parties and the meetings of the subsidiary bodies established by the Meeting shall be held in public unless the Meeting decides otherwise.

Rule 27

The President may declare a meeting open and permit debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the Parties are present. The presence of a majority of the Parties shall be required for any decision to be taken.

Rule 28

1. No one may speak at a meeting without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Without prejudice to rules 29, 30, 31 and 33, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The secretariat shall be in charge of drawing up a list of such speakers. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
2. The Meeting may, on a proposal from the President or from any Party, limit the time allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on a question. Before a decision is taken, two representatives may speak in favour of and two against a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him to order without delay.

Rule 29

An officer of a subsidiary body may be accorded precedence by the President of the Meeting of the Parties for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by this subsidiary body.

Rule 30

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be put to the vote immediately and the ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the Parties present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 31

Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Meeting to discuss any matter or to adopt a proposal or an amendment to a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before the matter is discussed or a vote is taken on the proposal or amendment in question.

Rule 32

1. Without prejudice to paragraph 2 to this rule, proposals and amendments to proposals shall normally be presented in writing and handed to the secretariat, which shall circulate copies to the Parties. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put to the vote at any meeting unless copies of it have been circulated to delegations not later than 24 hours in advance. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments to proposals or of procedural motions even though those amendments or motions have not been circulated or have been circulated only the same day.

2. Proposals for amending the Convention, including its appendices, shall, in accordance with Article 14 of the Convention, be communicated to the Parties by the secretariat at least 90 days before the meeting of the Parties at which they are proposed for adoption.

Rule 33

1. Subject to rule 30, the following motions shall have precedence, in the order indicated below, over all other proposals or motions:

- (a) To suspend the meeting;
- (b) To adjourn the meeting;
- (c) To adjourn debate on a question under discussion;
- (d) For closure of the debate on a question under discussion.

2. Permission to speak on a motion falling within (a) to (d) above shall be granted only to the proposer and, in addition, to one speaker in favour of and two against the motion, after which it shall immediately be put to the vote.

Rule 34

A proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before voting on it has begun, provided that the proposal or motion has not been amended. A proposal or proposal or motion that is withdrawn may be reintroduced by any other Party.

Rule 35

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same meeting, unless the Meeting, by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting, decides in favour of reconsideration. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to the mover and one other supporter, after which it shall immediately be put to the vote.

VOTINGRule 36

1. Except as provided for in paragraph 2 of this rule, each Party shall have one vote.
2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States which are Parties. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs, and vice versa.

Rule 37

1. Save as otherwise provided by the Convention and by paragraph 2 of this rule, the Meeting of the Parties shall make every effort to reach its decisions by consensus. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted, and no agreement reached, the decision shall, as a last resort, be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote of the Parties present and voting at the meeting.
2. Decisions of the Meeting of the Parties on procedural matters shall be taken by a simple majority vote of the Parties present and voting at the meeting.
3. If the question arises whether a matter is one of a procedural or substantive nature, the President shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall immediately be put to the vote and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the Parties present and voting.
4. For the purposes of this rule, "Parties present and voting" means Parties present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Parties abstaining from voting shall be considered as not voting.

Rule 38

If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Meeting of the Parties, unless it decides otherwise, shall vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The Meeting may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether or not to vote on the next proposal.

Rule 39

Any representative may request that any part of a proposal or of an amendment to a proposal be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for division, the President shall permit two representatives to speak, one in favour of and the other against the motion, after which it shall immediately be put to the vote.

Rule 40

If the motion referred to in rule 39 is adopted, those parts of a proposal or of an amendment to a proposal which have been approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole. If all the operative parts of a proposal or amendment have been rejected, the proposal or amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Rule 41

A motion is considered to be an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from, or revises that proposal. An amendment shall be voted on before the proposal to which it relates is put to the vote, and if the amendment is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

Rule 42

If two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Meeting shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on, until all amendments have been put to the vote. The President shall determine the order of voting under this rule.

Rule 43

Except for elections, voting shall normally be by show of hands. A roll call shall be taken if one is requested by any Party. It shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the Parties participating in the meeting, beginning with the Party whose name is drawn by lots by the President. However, if at any time a Party requests a secret ballot, that shall be the method of voting on the issue in question.

Rule 44

The vote of each Party participating in a vote by roll call shall be recorded in the report of the meeting.

Rule 45

After the President has announced the beginning of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of voting. The President may permit the Parties to explain their votes, either before or after the voting, and may

limit the time allowed for such explanations. He shall not permit the proposer of a proposal or an amendment to a proposal to explain his vote on his own proposal or amendment, unless it has been amended.

Rule 46

In the absence of consensus, elections shall be decided by means of a secret ballot.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Rule 47

The official languages of the Meeting of the Parties shall be English, French and Russian.

Rule 48

1. Statements made in an official language of the Meeting shall be interpreted into the other official languages.
2. A representative may speak in a language other than an official language of the Meeting, if he provides for interpretation into one of the official languages.

Rule 49

Official documents of the meetings shall be drawn up in one of the official languages and translated into the other official languages.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 50

Amendments to these rules of procedure shall be adopted by consensus of the Meeting of the Parties.

OVERRIDING AUTHORITY OF THE CONVENTION

Rule 51

In the event of a conflict between any provision of these rules and any provision of the Convention, the provision of the Convention shall prevail.

Annex II

DECISION I/2

MECHANISMS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

The Meeting,

Having considered the most appropriate ways of effectively implementing the Convention and successfully taking forward its work-plan,

1. Establishes a subsidiary body, called the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment, to assist in the implementation of the Convention and the management of the work-plan;
2. Requests this subsidiary body to take the necessary steps to implement the work-plan agreed at the first meeting of the Parties, and to report to them at their second and subsequent meetings on progress in implementing the work-plan, and to ensure the efficient management of any work-plan which may from time to time be agreed by them;
3. Invites the subsidiary body, in the light of its experience with implementing the work-plan, to make recommendations for consideration at the second and subsequent meetings of the Parties on further work on, inter alia, legal, administrative and technical aspects, necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention and international cooperation in environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, bearing in mind the special needs of countries in transition;
4. Invites ECE member countries non-Parties to the Convention, governmental, non-governmental and other relevant international organizations and institutions to contribute fully as observers to the work undertaken by the subsidiary body to implement the Convention.

Annex III

DECISION I/3

POINTS OF CONTACT

The Meeting,

Recalling Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Convention and the relevant decision taken at the second meeting of the Signatories in 1992,

1. Agrees that notifications of proposed activities likely to cause significant adverse transboundary impact shall be transmitted to the relevant points of contact as appended unless otherwise provided for in bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements. Where no point of contact has been nominated, the notification shall be transmitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the affected Party or Parties;

2. Calls on Parties to submit information on modifications or additions to the list of points of contact to the secretariat immediately;

3. Also calls on Parties which have not yet informed the secretariat of their point of contact to do so as soon as possible;

4. Invites non-Parties to implement this decision in order to ensure a region-wide application of the Convention in the light of the 1991 Resolution on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context;

5. Requests the secretariat to update this list continuously in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the Convention.

Appendix

POINTS OF CONTACT REGARDING NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context sets a specific notification procedure regarding proposed activities listed in Appendix I that are likely to cause a significant adverse transboundary impact. This procedure relates, inter alia, to the content and acknowledgment of receipt of the notification, and to the exchange of relevant information between the concerned Parties. To facilitate the implementation of the Convention to the maximum extent possible, the Signatories decided at their first meeting, to prepare a list of points of contact regarding notification in accordance with this article (ENVWA/WG.3/2, para. 21).

REVISED LIST OF POINTS OF CONTACT REGARDING NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH
ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT
(as of 23 June 1998)

- **Albania**

Committee of Environmental Preservation and Protection
Ministry of Health and Environmental Protection
Blvd. B. Curri No. 5
Tirana
Telephone: (35542) 25 486
Fax: (35542) 65 229

- **Andorra**

Ministère des Affaires étrangères de la Principauté d'Andorre
Andorre-la-Vieille

- **Armenia**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Republic Square, Government Bldg 2
375010 Erevan
Telephone: (3742) 52 19 61 or 52 98 66
Fax: (3742) 52 70 22 or 52 69 50

- **Austria**

Ms. W. PETEK
Federal Ministry of Environment,
Youth and Family
Dep. I/1
Stubenbastei 5
A-1010 Vienna
Telephone: (431) 51522/2123
Fax: (431) 51522/7122
E-mail: weltraud.petek@bmu.gv.at

- **Azerbaijan**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
2 Kontrolnyi Pereulok
370005 Baku
Telephone: (99412) 93 82 31
Fax: (99412) 93 56 43

- **Belarus**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Leninski Prospect 8
Minsk
Fax: (375172) 27 45 21

- **Belgium**

Ministère de la Santé publique et de l'Environnement
Cité Administrative de l'Etat
Quartier Vésale, étage 2/3
B - 1010 Brussels
Telephone: (322) 210 46 20
Fax: (322) 210 47 04

Ministry of Flanders
AMINAL - Environment Administration
E. Jacqmainlaan 156, Bus 8
B - 1000 Brussels
Telephone: (322) 553 80 77
Fax: (322) 553 80 75

Ministry of Wallonia
DGRNE - Environment Administration
Av. Prince de Liège 15
B - 5100 Jambes (Namur)
Telephone: (3281) 32 12 11
Fax: (3281) 32 59 82

- **Belgium** (cont'd)

Ministry of Brussels
BIM - Environment Administration
Gulledelle 100
B - 1200 Brussels
Telephone:
Fax: (322) 775 77 25

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Sarajevo
c/o Permanent Mission of Bosnia and
Herzegovina
22 bis, rue Lamartine
CH - 1203 Geneva
Switzerland
Telephone: (4122) 345 88 44 / 58
Fax: (4122) 345 88 89

- **Bulgaria**

Ms. V. GRIGOROVA
Head of EIA Department
Ministry of Environment and Waters
67, W. Gladstone St.
1000 Sofia
Telephone: (3592) 8472 22 27
Fax: (3592) 810 509 or 981 11 85
E-mail: moew@mb.bia-bg.com

- **Canada**

Mr. S. GERSHBERG
President
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
200 Sacré Coeur Blvd.
14th floor, Fontaine Building
Hull, Québec K1A 0H3
Telephone: (1819) 953 9556
Fax: (1819) 953 1469 or 953 2666

- **Croatia**

Mr. N. MIKULIC
EIA Department Head
State Directorate for Environment
Ulica Grada Vukovar 78
10000 Zagreb
Telephone: (3851) 611 07 97
Fax: (3851) 537 203
E-mail: nmikulic@duzo.tel.hr

- **Cyprus**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Nicosia
c/o The Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Case postale 113
Switzerland
CH - 1218 Grand-Saconnex
Telephone: (4122) 798 21 50
Fax: (4122) 791 00 84

- **Czech Republic**

Mr. V. OBLUK
Director of the EIA Department
Ministry of the Environment
Vrsoviccka 65
10010 Prague
Telephone: (4202) 671 22 429
Fax: (4202) 673 10 308 or 671 22 509
E-mail: Obluk_Vaclav@env.cz

- **Denmark**

Ministry of Environment and Energy
Spatial Planning Department
HNjbro Plads 4
DK-1200 Copenhagen K
Telephone: (45) 33 92 76 00
Fax: (45) 33 32 22 27

- **Estonia**

Ministry of the Environment
24, Toompuiestee
EE-0100 Tallinn
Telephone: (372)
Fax: (372) 62 62 801 or (372) 64 66 041

- **Finland**

Ms. Ulla-Riitta SOVERI
Special Adviser
Ministry of the Environment
Land Use Department
Ratakatu 3
FIN-00120 Helsinki
Telephone: (3589) 1991 94 42
Fax: (3589) 1991 94 53
E-mail: Ulla-Riitta.Soveri@vyh.fi

- **France**

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
37, quai d'Orsay
F-75007 Paris
Telephone: (331) 47 53 53 53
Fax: (331) 47 53 47 53

- **Georgia**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
4, Chitadze Str.
380018 Tbilisi
Telephone: (99532) 98 94 11
Fax: (99532) 98 94 56

- **Germany**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
D-5300 Bonn
Telephone: (49228) 170
Fax: (49228) 17 34 02

- **Greece**

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
B3 Directorate
Akadimias 1
GR - Athens
Telephone: (301) 361 05 81 or 363 16 94
Telegraphic address: ETRANGERES ATHENES
Telex: 216594

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
B3 Department
Akadimias 3
GR - Athens
Telephone: (301) 363 23 07
Telefax: (301) 360 07 55

- **Hungary**

Ms. A. RADNAI
Deputy Head of Department
Department of Environmental Strategy
Strategy Office
Ministry of Environment and Regional Policy
P.O. Box 351
H-1394 Budapest
Telephone: (361) 457 33 34
Fax: (361) 201 23 61
E-mail: aniko.radnai@ktm.x400gw.itb.hu

- **Iceland**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Raudarárstíg 25
150 Reykjavik
Fax: (354) 562 2386/562 2373

- **Ireland**

Ms. M. MOYLAN
Principal Officer
Planning and Land Section
Department of the Environment and Local Government
Custom House
Dublin 1
Telephone: (3531) 67 93 377
Fax: (3531) 87 48 312

- **Israel**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Hakiria Romema
Jerusalem
Telex: 25223 HUTZ IL

- **Italy**

Mr. F. LA CAMERA
Servizio V.I.A.
Ministero dell'Ambiente
Via della Ferratella in Laterano, 33
I - 00184 Rome
Telephone: (396) 703 62 279
Fax: (396) 703 62 274

- **Kazakhstan**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
167 Jeltoksan Street
480064 Almaty
Telephone: (73272) 63 13 65
Fax: (73272) 63 13 87

Mr. B. ESEKIN
Director
National Environmental Center for
Sustainable Development (NEC/SD)
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
85, Dostyk av.
Almaty
Telephone: (73272) - 608 538 or 608 537
Fax.: (73272) - 50 77 84
E-mail: Besekin@ncapsd.kz

- **Kyrgyzstan**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Abdumanunov ul. 205
720050 Bishkek
Telephone: (9963312) 26 36 42
Fax: (9963312) 22 57 35

- **Latvia**

Mr. I. BARKĀNS
Ministry of Environmental Protection
and Regional Development of Latvia
25, Peldu str. 25
LV - 1494 Riga
Telephone: (371) 702 65 03
Fax: (371) 782 04 42
E-mail: indrikis@novell.varam.gov.lv

- **Liechtenstein**

Amt für Umweltschutz
9490 Vaduz
Telephone: (4175) 236 61 91
Fax: (4175) 236 61 99

- **Lithuania**

Mr. A. DAUBARAS
Vice-Minister
Ministry of Environment
A. Jaksto str. 4/9
LT - 2694 Vilnius
Tel: (3702)
Fax: (3702) 62 35 29

- **Luxembourg**

Mr. J-P. FELTGEN
Attaché de Gouvernement
Ministère de l'Environnement
18, Montée de la Pêtrusse
L - 2918 Luxembourg
Telephone: (352) 478 68 13
Fax: (352) 478 68 35
E-mail: jean-paul.feltgen@mev.etat.lu

- **Malta**

Mr. J. CALLUS
Head
Pollution Control Co-ordinating Unit
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Environment
Starkey Annexe
Vittoriosa
Telephone: (356) 676 395
Fax: (356) 660 108

- **Netherlands**

Ms. J. RATELBAND
Directorate of Policy Development and Administrative Affairs
Directorate-General for Environmental Protection
Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment
P.O. Box 30945
NL - 2500 GX The Hague
Telephone: (3170) 339 41 03
Fax: (3170) 339 13 02

- **Norway**

Mr. T. LIND
Deputy Director General
Ministry of Environment
P.O. Box 8013 Dep.
N - 0030 Oslo
Telephone: (4722) 245 922
Fax: (4722) 242 759
E-mail: terje.lind@mdpost.md.telemax.no or TLI@md.dep.no

- **Poland**

Mr. S. GARLICKI
Director of the Department
Ministry of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources
and Forestry
ul. Wawelska 52/54
PL - 02-922 Warsaw
Telephone: (4822) 25 84 73
Fax: (4822) 25 39 72

- **Portugal**

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
Lisbon
Telegraphic address: ESTRANGEIROS LISBONNE
Telex: 040412276 12276 ESTRAN P

- **Republic of Moldova**

Mr. P. VLADIMIR
Head of Division
Department for Environmental Protection
73 Stefan cel Mare Avenue
277001 Chisinau
Telephone: (3732) 22 61 61 or 22 95 31 or 22 74 23
Fax: (3732) 23 38 06

- **Romania**

Mr. G. NICULA
Senior Expert, Strategy Legislation,
Environment Economy and Sustainable
Development Directorate
Ministry of Waters, Forests and Environmental Protection
12, bd. Libertatii, P.C-70005
Bucharest
Telephone: (401) 410 02 66, extensions 1208, 1209 or direct 410 02 48
Fax: (401) 410 02 82 or 335 56 62
Telex: (06500) 11457 MAPPM

- **Russian Federation**

Mr. S. TVERITINOV
Deputy Director, Department for International Cooperation
State Committee for Environmental Protection
ul. B. Gruzinskaya 4/6
123812 Moscow GSP
Telephone: (7095) 254 67 33
Fax: (7095) 254 82 83
Telex: 411692 BOREI RF

- **San Marino**

Secrétariat d'Etat aux Affaires étrangères
Telegraphic address: SECRETARIAT AFFAIRES ETRANGERES
Telex: 043550330 550330 ESTER SM

- **Slovakia**

Mrs. Viera HUSKOVÁ
Deputy Director of EIA Department
Ministry of the Environment
Nám L'. Štúra 1
81235 Bratislava
Telephone: (4217) 516 11 11 or 516 21 64 or 516 21 12
Fax: (4217) 516 20 31 or 516 25 33

- **Slovenia**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Gregorciceva 25
SI - 1000 Ljubljana
Telephone: (38661) 15 03 00
Fax: (38661) 21 33 57

- **Spain**

Mr. E. HERRANZ
Jefe Area Impacto Ambiental
Dirección General de Calidad y Evaluación Ambiental
Ministerio Medio Ambiente
Plaza de San Juan de la Cruz S/N
SP - 28071 Madrid
Telephone: (341) 597 57 84
Fax: (341) 597 58 16

- **Sweden**

Environmental Protection Agency
Miljörättsavdelningen
S-106 48 Stockholm
Telephone (468) 698 10 00
Fax: (468) 799 12 22

- **Switzerland**

Mr. V.P. GIANELLA
Division Développement durable
Office fédéral de l'environnement,
des forêts et du paysage
CH - 3003 Bern
Telephone: (4131) 322 93 25
Fax: (4131) 323 03 67

- **Tajikistan**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
42, Rudaki Prospekt
374051 Dushanbe
Telephone: (73772) 29 47 09
Fax: (73772) 25 14 63

- **The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

Ministry for Foreign Relations
Multilateral Department
Dame Gruev 4
Skopje
Telephone: (38991) 211 241
Fax: (38991) 115 790

- **Turkey**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Ankara
c/o The Permanent Representative of Turkey
to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Case postale
CH - 1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland
Telephone: (4122) 734 39 38 / 39
Fax: (4122) 734 52 09

- **Turkmenistan**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Magtumduly Str. 83
744 000 Ashgabat
Telephone: (73632) 29 47 09
Fax: (73632) 25 14 63

Ministry of the Use of Natural Resources
and Environmental Protection
102, Kemine str.
744 000 Ashgabat
Turkmenistan
Telephone: (99 312) 35 36 70
Fax: (99 312) 51 16 13

- **Ukraine**

Ministry for Environmental Protection and
Nuclear Safety
5 Khreschatyk str.
Kyiv - 1
Telephone: (38044) 228 34 82
Fax: (38044) 228 77 98

- **United Kingdom**

Ms. R. GAUDOIN
Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions
4th Floor
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU
Telephone: (44171) 890 38 92
Fax: (44171) 890 38 99
E-mail: 101571.1104@compuserve.com
(**Note:** Existing arrangements for contact between Northern Ireland and the
Republic of Ireland are unaffected.)

- **United States of America**

Assistant Secretary for Oceans, International Environmental
and Scientific Affairs
Department of State
Washington D.C. 20520
Telephone: (1202) 647 15 54
Fax: (1202) 647 02 17

- **Uzbekistan**

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

5, Mustakkilik Maidony

700029 Tashkent

Telephone: (73712) 39 15 17

Fax: (73712) 39 43 48

State Committee for Nature Protection

5a, A. Kadiry Str.

700128 Tashkent

Telephone: (73712) 41 04 42

Fax: (73712) 41 39 90 or 41 56 33

Annex IV

DECISION I/4

FORMAT FOR NOTIFICATION

The Meeting,

Recalling Article 3 of the Convention stipulating that a notification on a proposed project likely to have transboundary impact shall be transmitted to the affected Parties,

Having considered document CEP/WG.3/R.26 on the format for notification prepared by the delegation of Canada,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the delegation of Canada for the work undertaken;
2. Adopts the format for notification as appended to this decision; and
3. Recommends Parties to use the format to the extent possible when transmitting a notification according to Article 3 of the Convention.

Appendix

**FORMAT FOR NOTIFICATION UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF
THE ECE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT**

I. BACKGROUND

1. The scope of information required in the notification process goes well beyond the minimum information requirements set out in Article 3 of the Convention. The information requirements fall into three main categories:

- (i) Information needed for the affected Party to make a decision on its participation in the EIA process;
- (ii) Information needed from the affected Party to assist in the assessment of transboundary environmental impacts and information needed to facilitate its participation and input to the EIA process; and
- (iii) Information needed by the public and authorities in the potentially affected country to participate in the process.

2. Given these types of information, a three-stage notification procedure may be appropriate to ensure all of the information needed by each Party is conveyed to that Party. The notification procedure can be divided into three stages:

- (i) Stage one: Notification of the proposed activity to the affected Party;
- (ii) Stage two: Request for and transfer of information from the affected Party;
- (iii) Stage three: Public notification of the proposed activity, EIA process and opportunities for public participation and consultation.

3. These stages correspond to the procedural steps of the Convention set out in the report on Bilateral and multilateral cooperation on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context (CEP/WG.3/R.4, annex, figure 1) with the exception of "confirmation of participation". The format for the response to a request is included below.

4. The Party of origin initiates each of the stages either by providing or requesting information and may combine the stages to expedite the process. The request for information from the affected Party does not have to be delayed until a decision is made on whether or not it will participate. However, some of the information provided by the affected Party is needed prior to notifying the public in stage three, such as the affected Party's

decision on whether it intends to participate and an agreed upon method of carrying out the public notification.

5. One option is to proceed with stages one and two concurrently. The request for information may be a part of stage one and assumes that the affected Party wishes to participate in the EIA process. The time period designated for providing information requested in stage two may be extended beyond the time-frame for response to stage one.

6. Given the time-frames for response suggested in the final report of the Task Force on Legal and Administrative Aspects (ENVWA/WG.3/R.12), it may be appropriate for stages one and two to proceed at the same time. The time-frame for stage two may commence after the response for stage one is given. This would allow affected Parties more time to gather the information requested in stage two.

II. SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

A. Stage one: Notification of the proposed activity to the affected Party

7. The first stage of notification is prepared by the designated authority in the country where the activity is proposed. The notification should contain sufficient specific information to enable the affected Party to make an informed decision on its participation.

1. Information on the proposed activity

8. The information requirements suggested in the Convention pointed to the idea that specific details of the activity, not just a brief description, were needed in the initial notification to enable the affected Party to make an informed decision on whether or not to participate in the EIA process. This has resulted in information requirements for the proposed activity which are quite detailed. The information elements (i.e. notification documentation) are:

(i) **Information on the nature of the proposed activity:**

- Whether the activity is listed in Appendix I to the Convention;
- Type of activity;
- Scope of activity (e.g. main activity and any/all peripheral activities requiring assessment);
- Scale of activity (e.g. size, production capacity, etc.);
- Description of the activity (e.g. technology used);
- Description of the purpose of the activity;
- Rationale for proposed activity (e.g. socio-economic, physical-geographic basis);

(ii) Information on the spatial and temporal boundaries of the proposed activity:

- Location and description of the location (e.g. physical-geographic, socio-economic characteristics);
- Rationale for location of proposed activity (e.g. socio-economic, physical-geographic basis);
- Maps and other pictorial documents connected with the information on the proposed activity;
- Time-frame for proposed activity (e.g. start and duration of construction and operation);

(iii) Information on expected environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures:

- Scope of assessment (e.g. consideration of cumulative impacts, alternatives, sustainable development, associated activities, etc.);
- Expected environmental impacts of the activity (e.g. types, locations, magnitudes);
- Inputs (e.g. land, water, raw materials, power sources);
- Outputs (e.g. amounts and types of: emissions into the atmosphere, discharges into the water system, solid waste);
- Available information on the activity's possible significant transboundary environmental impacts (e.g. types, locations, magnitudes);
- Measures to prevent, eliminate, minimize or compensate for environmental effects;

(iv) Name, address and telephone/fax numbers of proponent (developer);

(v) EIA documentation (e.g. EIA report or environmental impact statement (EIS)), if available.

9. The type of information included in the notification will vary from one proposed activity to the next and from country to country depending on the information available at the time of notification and the EIA process in each country. In some cases, EIA documentation (e.g. an EIA report or EIS) is required at the time when a proponent seeks government approval for an activity. If this information is available at the time of notification, it should be included with the initial notification.

2. Points of contact for the Party of origin

10. The name, address and telephone/fax numbers of the authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA should be provided (see decision I/3) together with a name, address and telephone/fax numbers for further information.

11. The name, address and telephone/fax numbers of the decision-making authority for the proposed activity (i.e. competent authority) should also be provided, if different from the above authority.

3. Points of contact for the possible affected Party or Parties

12. The name, address, and telephone/fax numbers of the authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA should be provided (see decision I/3, appendix, for points of contact).

13. The list of affected Parties to which notification is being sent should also be provided.

4. Information on the EIA process in the country where the proposed activity is located

14. The following should be provided:

- Information on the EIA process that will be applied to the proposed activity, including an indication of the time schedule, and opportunities for the affected Party or Parties to be involved in the EIA process and to review and comment on the notification and the EIA documentation;
- The nature and timing of the decision that may be applied to the proposed activity;
- Process for approval of the proposed activity.

5. Information on the public participation process

15. Information on the Party of origin's public participation process and the anticipated schedule for public consultation should be included.

6. Request for a response

16. A deadline should be included for providing a response as to whether or not the affected Party will participate.

17. The time-frame for a response on whether an affected Party would participate must be long enough to allow the affected Party to inform decision makers, consult with experts on the type of proposed activity, discuss the potential effects of the proposed activity and take a decision on its participation.

18. Short response times have led to problems and a minimum of six weeks for a response has been suggested. A time-frame of one to four months was suggested in the final report of the Task Force on Legal and Administrative Aspects (ENVWA/WG.3/R.12, para. 15). Given previous findings, the minimum time-frame for response could be one month and a half with a maximum of four months from the date of notification.

B. Stage two: Request for and transfer of information from the affected Party

19. The second stage of notification is the request for information from the affected Party assuming that the response by the affected Party is such that it intends to participate in the EIA.

1. Information on the potentially affected environment

20. The Party of origin may request:

- Reasonably obtainable information from the affected country relating to the potentially affected environment;
- Reasonably obtainable information on the activities within the potentially affected environment which may influence the potential transboundary environmental effects caused by the proposed activity;
- Points of contact for this information.

The Party of origin will indicate the deadline for the submission of this information.

21. The quality of information provided by the affected Party is dependent on the information on the proposed activity that was provided by the Party of origin in stage one. If the Party of origin has provided sufficient information in stage one, the affected Party will be in a better position to know which information that it should provide.

22. The time-frame for the provision of this information has been addressed in the final report of the Task Force on Legal and Administrative Aspects (ENVWA/WG.3/R.12, para. 18), which suggests that up to four months might be sufficient for the provision of this information. If the request for information is included in stage one, the time-frame for response may be adjusted to reflect this early request or to reflect the date on which the affected Party responded to the notification. For example, the time-frame for providing stage two information may not start until a positive response from the affected Party is received.

2. Request for a proposal to solicit public participation in the EIA

23. The Convention requires that the public of the affected Party should be informed of the proposed activity and the EIA process that will be applied to it, and be given an opportunity to participate in the EIA process and make comments on or raise objections to the proposed activity. It was suggested in the report on Bilateral and multilateral cooperation on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context (CEP/WG.3/R.4, annex, para. 40) that the notification of the public should be given as a public advertisement or a special information brochure. This document also suggested that the detailed arrangements to inform the public of the affected Party may be made through bilateral or multilateral agreements.

24. In the absence of such an agreement, the Party of origin may request a proposal from the affected Party to arrange for the publication of the notice and make copies of the EIA documentation available to the public. The Party of origin may request information on the procedure for making documents available to the public of the affected country, the language in which the affected Party prefers the notification and documents, and the location where they should be made available. In this request, the Party of origin could again state the public participation process in the country of origin. Such information could assist the affected Party to tailor its proposal so that its own public participation process, when appropriate, can be harmonized with that of the Party of origin's. Such coordination could help enhance and facilitate the overall public participation process for a proposed activity.

25. Details which need to be decided on include:

- Who will notify the public and/or distribute the EIA documentation?
- Who will conduct the public participation process and receive comments from the public?
- The names, addresses and telephone/fax numbers of the newspapers and/or other news media in which the public notices should appear;
- Details to be included in the advertisement including where, and in what language(s), the EIA documentation may be inspected;
- The names, addresses and telephone/fax numbers of the authorities to which the EIA documentation should be sent and the number of copies required for each;
- Public locations where EIA documentation should be sent and the number of copies required at each location.

26. It may be beneficial to request a proposal at the time of stage one, assuming that a positive response is expected from the affected Party on its participation in the EIA.

27. The final report of the Task Force on Legal and Administrative Aspects (ENVWA/WG.3/R.12, para. 36) concluded that "... translation is required in any case where language differences exist and where the language in a document ... may not be understood by those who read it". This report also concluded that "... the Party of origin should be responsible for translations and bear the related costs, unless the concerned Parties have agreed otherwise" (ENVWA/WG.3/R.12, para. 41). This leaves the option of bilateral agreements on the issue of translation open to the Parties.

C. Stage three: Public notification of the proposed activity, EIA process and opportunities for public participation and consultation

28. Once the Party of origin has received the proposal from the affected Party to solicit participation from the public and authorities, the notification is published in the affected country.

1. Information on the proposed activity

29. The public notification should include a brief description of the proposed activity, including its location, the time-frame for the proposed activity, potential transboundary impacts, and brief information on the EIA process that will be applied to the proposal.

2. Point of contact for public participation/consultation

30. The Party of origin should ensure that this notification contains the name, address and telephone/fax numbers of the authority to which members of the public are invited to submit comments.

3. Information on the participation process

31. The notification should also:

- Give a timetable for participation, consultation, comments;
- Specify where, and in which language(s), the EIA documentation may be inspected.

III. FORM OF NOTIFICATION

32. Notification samples can exist in two forms, letter and tabular/list. The predominant form is the tabular or list form. This form has an advantage since it may be scanned quickly to ensure all information requirements have been included. Specific information is easily retrieved since the information in each box is clearly identified by a heading.

33. The tabular or list format also lends itself to being made available electronically. For example, a registry system for the Convention may be established as part of the ECE database on EIA, in which all notifications are filed electronically and made available through the Internet.

34. The letter form of notification is less clear and requires closer scrutiny to retrieve specific information, but is more suitable when a request for information is being made.

35. A combination of these two forms may be appropriate in stage one. A brief cover note may be written indicating that an activity with significant transboundary effects is being proposed in a specific country and this is the notification specified under Article 3 of the Convention. The note would then refer to the attached table or list that contains the specific information for the notification. The response to the stage one notification from the affected Party could be in the form of a letter. An example of a table that may be used in stage one is given in table 1 below.

36. The request for information for stage two may be made in letter form. The Party of origin may choose to provide a table for the affected Party to complete. The response from the affected Party could take a tabular form to ensure that all of the components of the request have been considered. A sample response table is provided in table 2 below.

37. The notification of the public (stage three) could also be in tabular form. A sample tabular form for stage three is given in table 3 below.

Table 1

**NOTIFICATION TO AN AFFECTED PARTY OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY
UNDER ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION**

1. INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY		
(i) Information on the nature of the proposed activity		
Type of activity proposed		
Is the proposed activity listed in Appendix I to the Convention?	Yes	No
Scope of proposed activity (e.g. main activity and any/all peripheral activities requiring assessment)		
Scale of proposed activity (e.g. size, production capacity, etc.)		
Description of proposed activity (e.g. technology used)		
Description of purpose of proposed activity		
Rationale for proposed activity (e.g. socio-economic, physical geographic basis)		
Additional information/comments		
(ii) Information on the spatial and temporal boundaries of the proposed activity		
Location		
Description of the location (e.g. physical-geographic, socio-economic characteristics)		
Rationale for location of proposed activity (e.g. socio-economic, physical-geographic basis)		

Table 1 (cont'd)

1. INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY	
Time-frame for proposed activity (e.g. start and duration of construction and operation)	
Maps and other pictorial documents connected with the information on the proposed activity	
Additional information/comments	
(iii) Information on expected environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures	
Scope of assessment (e.g. consideration of: cumulative impacts, evaluation of alternatives, sustainable development issues, impact of peripheral activities, etc.)	
Expected environmental impacts of proposed activity (e.g. types, locations, magnitudes)	
Inputs (e.g. raw material, power sources, etc.)	
Outputs (e.g. amounts and types of: emissions into the atmosphere, discharges into the water system, solid waste)	
Transboundary impacts (e.g. types, locations, magnitudes)	
Proposed mitigation measures (e.g. if known, mitigation measures to prevent, eliminate, minimize, compensate for environmental effects)	
Additional information/comments	
(iv) Proponent/developer	
Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	
(v) EIA documentation	
Is the EIA documentation (e.g. EIA report or EIS) included in the notification?	Yes No Partial
If no/partial, description of additional documentation to be forwarded and (approximate) date(s) when documentation will be available	
Additional information/comments	

Table 1 (cont'd)

2. POINTS OF CONTACT	
(i) Points of contact for the possible affected Party or Parties	
Authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA (refer to decision I/3, appendix) - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	
List of affected Parties to which notification is being sent	
(ii) Points of contact for the Party of origin	
Authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA (refer to decision I/3, appendix) - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	
Decision-making authority if different than authority responsible for coordinating activities relating to the EIA - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	
3. INFORMATION ON THE EIA PROCESS IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY IS LOCATED	
(i) Information on the EIA process that will be applied to the proposed activity	
Time schedule	
Opportunities for the affected Party or Parties to be involved in the EIA process	
Opportunities for the affected Party or Parties to review and comment on the notification and the EIA documentation	
Nature and timing of the possible decision	
Process for approval of the proposed activity	
Additional information/comments	
4. INFORMATION ON THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS IN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	
Public participation procedures	
Expected start and duration of public consultation	
Additional information/comments	
5. DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE	
Date	

Table 2

**REPLY TO A NOTIFICATION OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY UNDER ARTICLE 3
OF THE CONVENTION**

1. INFORMATION ON THE POTENTIALLY AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	
(i) Information relating to the potentially affected environment	
Protected areas	
Geographic features	
Archaeologically sensitive areas	
Ecology of the region	
Additional information/comments	
(ii) Information on activities within the potentially affected region	
Activities which may influence the transboundary environmental effects caused by the proposed activity	
Additional information/comments	
(iii) Points of contact	
Points of contact where above information may be obtained - Names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers	
2. RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR A PROPOSAL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
(i) Language(s)	
Language(s) of the EIA documentation	
Language(s) of the publications	
(ii) Responsible Parties	
Party responsible for public notification and/or distribution of EIA documentation	
If different than above, Party responsible for conducting the public participation process and for receiving comments from the public	
(iii) Advertisements	
Names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers of the newspapers or other media in which the public notices should appear	

Table 2 (cont'd)

2. RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR A PROPOSAL FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
Details to be included in the advertisements (e.g. brief description of proposed activity, where comments can be forwarded, time-table for public participation, where EIA documentation can be inspected, language of EIA documentation, etc.)	
(iv) Distribution of EIA documentation	
Public locations where EIA documentation should be sent (e.g. libraries) including the number of copies required at each location	
Authorities (i.e. governmental, scientific, etc.) to which the EIA documentation should be sent, including the number of copies for each authority	
(v) Additional information regarding proposal for public participation	
Additional information/comments/suggestions	

Table 3

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY, EIA PROCESS, AND PARTICIPATION AND CONSULTATION PROCESS

1. INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY	
(i) Brief description of the proposed activity	
Location	
Potential transboundary impacts	
Time-frame for proposed activity	
Information on the EIA process that will be applied to the proposal	
Additional information/comments	
2. POINT OF CONTACT FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/CONSULTATION	
Authority to which members of the public are invited to submit comments - Name, address, telephone and fax numbers	
3. INFORMATION ON THE PARTICIPATION PROCESS	
Time-table for participation, consultation, comments	
Where, and in which language(s), the EIA documentation may be inspected	

Annex V

DECISION I/5

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DATABASE ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Meeting,

Having considered the report of the June 1995 Workshop on the database on EIA in a transboundary context, the Enimpas, and the report of the open-ended information meeting on the Database in Warsaw, 19-20 February 1998,

Taking note of and expressing its gratitude to Norway and Poland for developing, improving and strengthening the Database in order to make it operational both through the Internet and as a stand-alone version,

1. Establishes under the auspices of the Convention, for a trial period of two years between the first and second meeting of the Parties, the Database on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, to support the implementation of the Convention;

2. Welcomes and accepts the generous offer of the Government of Poland to locate the Database on their server and to provide the technical as well as staff support necessary for running the Database, and, accordingly, decides that during the trial period the Database server should be located in Poland, and that the coordination of the Database should be ensured by the Government of Poland, with the support of the secretariat;

3. Recommends that during the trial period the database, available to the public via the Internet, shall be expanded in the three official languages of ECE, and that the secretariat should arrange for translation;

4. Calls on Parties to update the information included in the Database on a regular basis, and recommends that information be submitted as soon as possible after the time of notification;

5. Invites non-Parties to update the information in the Database in order to broaden its applicability;

6. Decides that, throughout the trial period, the operation of the Database will be monitored and evaluated, and with that in mind, establishes an Evaluation Group to develop, implement and oversee an evaluation strategy so that a recommendation on the question of the need for a database and its continuation beyond the trial period can be presented at the second meeting of the Parties; and

7. Recommends that an-open ended user panel be established to ensure that continuous feedback from the user's point of view is given to the Government of Poland as well as to the Evaluation Group.

Annex VI

DECISION I/6

ADOPTION OF THE WORK-PLAN

The Meeting,

Recalling Articles 9 and 11, paragraph (f), of the Convention stipulating that further research as well as additional action that may be required shall be undertaken to achieve the purposes of the Convention,

1. Adopts the work-plan for the period up to its second meeting, as included in appendix I to this decision;
2. Suggests that lead countries which carry out the relevant activities should consider the time schedule indicated in appendix II to this decision;
3. Calls on the Parties and invites non-Parties to arrange, host and participate actively in task forces in order to facilitate the implementation of the Convention;
4. Invites every relevant body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, to participate actively in the activities included in the work-plan.

Appendix I

**WORK-PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION
FOR THE PERIOD 1998 TO 2000**

1. REVIEWS OF STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

Objective: Parties and non-Parties will submit information biennially on recent developments in their national strategies and policies for applying environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context.

Method of work: A draft biennial review will be considered at the second meeting of the Parties. In the interest of uniformity, national presentations of information on strategies and policies should follow the agreed guidelines (ENVWA/WG.3/4, annex II).

Organizational aspects: The secretariat will prepare a draft biennial review based on the information provided by Parties and non-Parties for discussion and possible adoption at the second meeting of the Parties.

Time schedule: The draft 1998-2000 biennial review will be prepared in 2000 and incorporate the information received by the end of 1999 for consideration at the second meeting of the Parties.

2. ASPECTS OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

Objective: To share information and experience on what Parties and non-Parties have achieved through bilateral and/or multilateral agreements or arrangements to implement their obligations under the Convention.

Method of work: On the basis of a compendium of existing bi- and/or multilateral agreements or arrangements, a workshop will be held to develop a report containing further guidance for bi- and/or multilateral agreements or arrangements to apply the obligations under the Convention.

Organizational aspects: The Netherlands will act as lead country, with the assistance of the secretariat, especially in preparing the compendium. The report containing guidance will be presented to the Working Group and thereafter to the Meeting of the Parties for possible adoption.

Time schedule: The compendium will be presented to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment before the workshop takes place. The report containing the guidance will be presented to the Working Group for consideration and thereafter to the Parties for possible adoption at their second meeting.

3. PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION

Objective: To collect and analyse information on the application of EIA in a transboundary context with a view to preparing relevant guidance.

Method of work: The lead countries will prepare a questionnaire to be sent to countries and will analyse the replies. The analysis, together with draft guidance, will be discussed at a workshop.

Organizational aspects: Finland and Sweden will act as lead countries, supported by the Commission of the European Communities and with the assistance of the secretariat. The report containing relevant guidance will be presented to the Working Group for consideration and thereafter to the Meeting of the Parties for possible adoption.

Time schedule: A summary of case studies will be presented to the participants before the workshop. The draft report based on the evaluation by the workshop will be presented to the Working Group for consideration and thereafter to the Parties at their second meeting for possible adoption.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

Objective: To strengthen the application of public participation in environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

Method of work: On the basis of existing legislation, guidelines and research documents, including a report on international and national documents and experiences with public participation, draft guidance in this respect will be prepared with the participation of non-governmental organizations of different countries so that it can be discussed and further developed at a meeting of experts, with wide participation of representatives of countries in transition and NGOS, which will prepare a report on this issue.

Organizational aspects: The Russian Federation will act as lead country, with the financial support of Italy and possible support from other countries and with the assistance of the secretariat, to prepare a workshop as well as draft guidance. The report containing guidance will be presented to the Working Group for consideration and thereafter to the Meeting of the Parties for possible adoption.

Time schedule: (to be specified).

5. NON-COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES

Objective: To collect and analyse relevant experience with existing non-compliance procedures under international agreements with a view to considering the advisability of establishing non-compliance guidelines and to preparing relevant recommendations.

Method of work: On the basis of a discussion paper outlining the possible framework and options for a non-compliance system under the Convention, based on relevant experience under other international agreements, two meetings will be convened to develop a report containing possible approaches for non-compliance guidelines.

Organizational aspects: The United Kingdom will act as lead country. The report containing approaches for non-compliance guidelines will be submitted to the Working Group for discussion and thereafter to the Meeting of the Parties for possible adoption.

Time schedule: The report containing possible approaches for non-compliance guidelines will be presented at the second meeting of the Working Group for discussion and finalization and thereafter to the Meeting of the Parties for possible adoption.

6. RECENT EIA DEVELOPMENTS AND LINKS WITH OTHER ECE CONVENTIONS

Objective: To collect and analyse information on recent experiences in the application of environmental impact assessment as well as to study the links between this Convention and other ECE conventions with a view to further strengthening the application of the Convention.

Method of work: On the basis of a report analysing recent developments in environmental impact assessment as well as links with other conventions, a meeting will be convened to develop a report containing proposals for future work.

Organizational aspects: Italy will act as lead country, with the assistance of Canada, the European Community and the secretariat, and prepare a report on this issue. The report containing the analysis of possible future developments and recommendations for future work will be presented to the Working Group for discussion and thereafter to the Parties for possible adoption at their second meeting.

Time schedule: (to be specified).

7. DATABASE ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Objective: To allow an exchange of information on matters related to EIA in a transboundary context and to provide support to Parties and non-Parties in the establishment and maintenance of a system of networking, by setting up, as a central resource, a computer database, accessible to users through the Internet and as a "stand-alone facility" in order to strengthen the application of EIA in a transboundary context in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

Method of work: The lead country will maintain the database on environmental impact assessment for a trial period up to the second meeting of the Parties.

Organizational aspects: Poland will act as lead country, with the assistance of the secretariat, in particular in relation to the translation of information. The Parties will monitor and review the use of the database at their second meeting.

Time schedule: For the next meeting of the Parties, Poland will prepare a report analysing the use of the database, with the assistance of a user panel.

8. EVALUATION OF THE DATABASE

Objective: To review the effectiveness of the database so that a recommendation on its need and its continuation can be presented at the second meeting of Parties.

Method of work: The Evaluation Group will develop, implement and oversee an evaluation strategy and prepare recommendations.

Organizational aspects: Hungary will act as lead country in close cooperation with Denmark and the United Kingdom. The lead country will establish the Evaluation Group, identify criteria and an outline for the evaluation. The Evaluation Group will conduct the evaluation and prepare interim reports. It will submit its final evaluation and recommendations to the Parties at their second meeting.

Time schedule: For the second meeting of the Parties, the Evaluation Group will prepare its final evaluation report.

9. PARTNERSHIPS

Objective: To provide support to countries in transition through the exchange of information on matters related to EIA in a transboundary context by establishing bi- and multilateral partnerships between Parties and non-Parties.

Method of work: To strengthen the capabilities of countries in transition, partnerships between these countries and possible donors will be promoted and set up.

Organizational aspects: The secretariat will act as a clearing house and promote and set up partnerships between countries in transition and possible donors.

Time schedule: The secretariat will prepare a report analysing all relevant issues in relation to the establishment of partnerships for consideration at the second meeting of the Parties.

10. SUBREGIONAL PILOT WORKSHOP

Objective: To organize a subregional workshop to discuss the practical implementation of the Convention and the specific needs of countries in transition in the Balkan region and the Black Sea region. To strengthen their efforts to ratify and enforce the Convention. As a result of the workshop, draft action plans will be prepared to strengthen the capabilities of the countries in the region.

Method of work: Bulgaria will organize a two-day workshop analysing the necessary steps to meet the requirements of the Convention for projects undertaken in two or more countries in the region. Special attention will be given to the national EIA systems; the needs of the countries in transition will be discussed on the basis of case studies on EIA in a transboundary context in developed countries (e.g. Norway).

Organizational aspects: Bulgaria will act as lead country, with the support of Norway and the assistance of the secretariat. It is expected that two or three experts from the following countries in transition will be invited: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Ukraine, as well as from some of Bulgaria's neighbours, with which it has signed bilateral agreements for cooperation on environmental protection.

Time schedule: The pilot workshop is scheduled to take place in the first quarter of 1999. The report of the workshop, including proposals for action plans, will be submitted for discussion at the annual meeting of the Working Group, and thereafter to the Parties for possible adoption at their second meeting.

Appendix II

Further details to the work-plan

This appendix provides an indication of the resources likely to be required to undertake the activities included in the work-plan adopted at the first meeting of the Parties, and to complete them successfully before the second meeting of the Parties, expected to be held in approximately two years' time.

The resources allocated and the timescales for action shown against each element of the work-plan are simply indicative. They are intended as a guide to provide those likely to be involved in an activity with a broad indication of the resources they might need to dedicate to the activity, and when. This will help them better plan the contribution they can make to delivering the work-plan.

The actual resources required, and the time-table for action, will, however, ultimately depend on how the Parties taking responsibility as lead countries choose to organize and execute the work of the individual activities. However they choose to do this, an important consideration will be to ensure the active involvement in the work programme of as many countries as possible.

While the proposed time-table shown against each element of the work programme is not immovable, it is hoped that lead countries which propose different time-tables will coordinate activities through the secretariat. This will ensure that the work-plan is spread evenly over the period between the meetings of the Parties, and will enable more countries to take part in the activities. It also recognizes the important part the secretariat has to play in achieving the work-plan, both as a participant and as a progress chaser with responsibility for contributing to the efficient implementation of the work-plan and the preparation of reports on the activities for the subsidiary body and the Meeting of the Parties.

1. REVIEWS OF STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

Actions and outline time schedule:

(a) Parties and non-Parties to send their information conforming to the agreed guidelines (ENVWA/WG.3/4, annex II) to the secretariat **10 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(b) Secretariat to draft synthesis report and submit it to the subsidiary body **9 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(c) Synthesis report to be sent to Parties and non-Parties **4 months** before the second meeting of the Parties.

Participation: All Parties and non-Parties and the secretariat.

Resource estimate:

Secretariat: 20 days costs from regular UN/ECE budget
Parties/non-Parties: 2-4 days from normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction: costs from UNOG budget

2. ASPECTS OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATIONActions and outline time schedule:

- (a) Parties and non-Parties to send information to the secretariat **21 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (b) Secretariat and lead country to prepare a compendium and a report on the need for, and draft objectives of, a workshop **19 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (c) Secretariat to send compendium, etc. to subsidiary body **18 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (d) Subsidiary body to evaluate the compendium; decide on the need for a workshop, and consider the draft objectives **16 months** before the second meeting of the Parties. If the workshop is agreed to, mandate for a workshop given to lead country with the task of refining the key elements of the existing guidelines:
- (i) Lead country to organize and hold the workshop **13 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (ii) Lead country to prepare report on outcome of the workshop and send it to the secretariat **12 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (iii) Secretariat to arrange translation and distribution of the report for the subsidiary body **9 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (iv) Secretariat to arrange for report to the second meeting of the Parties **4 months** beforehand.

Participation:

On compendium: Parties, non-Parties, lead country and the secretariat;

On workshop: lead country, the secretariat, Parties and non-Parties.

Resource estimate:

Secretariat: 20 days costs from regular UN/ECE budget
Lead country (Netherlands): 20 days costs subsumed under normal salary costs

Parties/non-Parties: 4-6 days costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction: costs from UNOG budget
Workshop costs and costs incurred by delegates from countries in transition attending the workshop: cost to be met by lead country

3. PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION

Actions and outline time schedule:

- (a) Lead countries and the secretariat to prepare terms of reference for case studies, containing key issues that case studies should address, **24 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (b) Lead countries/secretariat to request case studies **23 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (c) Parties and non-Parties to prepare case studies, and send to lead country/secretariat **23-20 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (d) Lead countries/secretariat to organize workshop **19 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (e) Workshop to take place with presentations by countries involved in the selected cases **17 to 16 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (f) Lead countries to prepare draft workshop report for comment by workshop participants **16 or 15 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (g) Lead countries to finalize workshop report **14 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (h) Lead countries to send workshop report to secretariat and workshop participants **13 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (i) Secretariat to prepare workshop report for meeting of the subsidiary body **11 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;
- (j) Subsidiary body to consider report and formulate guidance to the Meeting of the Parties **7 months** before its second meeting;
- (k) Secretariat to arrange translation and circulation of report to the Meeting of the Parties **4 months** before its second meeting.

Participation:

Secretariat:	(a), (b), (d), (i) and (k)
Lead countries (Finland/Sweden/ Economic Community):	(a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h)
Parties and non-Parties:	(c) and (e)
Subsidiary body:	(j)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat:	17 days	costs from regular UN/ECE budget
Lead countries (Finland/Sweden/EC):	63 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Parties/non-Parties:	5-8 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction: Workshop costs and costs incurred by delegations from countries in transition attending the workshop:		costs from UNOG budget costs expected to be covered by contributions from EC

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXTActions and outline time schedule:

(a) Lead countries to prepare scoping paper on public participation in a transboundary context based on the outcome of an earlier workshop held in Moscow and on a report on the experience of countries in transition with public participation produced by the Regional Environmental Center, Hungary; send to the secretariat **18 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(b) Secretariat to arrange distribution to subsidiary body **17 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(c) Subsidiary body to comment on scoping paper; expert group established **16 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(d) Lead countries to organize and hold first meeting of experts to consider discussion paper **14 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(e) Lead countries to prepare draft report; translate and circulate to experts and secretariat **13 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(f) Second meeting of experts to consider draft report **11 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(g) Lead countries to finalize draft report with expert recommendations for the Meeting of the Parties to consider, send to the secretariat **10 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(h) Secretariat to arrange translation and distribution of report for consideration by subsidiary body **9 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(i) Subsidiary body to take view on report and decide on form and content of report to go to the next meeting of the Parties **7 months** before that meeting;

(j) Secretariat to distribute paper for discussion **4 months** before the meeting of the Parties.

Participation:

Lead countries

(Russian Federation/Italy): (a), (d), (e), (f) and (g)

Secretariat: (b), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (j)

Experts: (d) and (f)

Subsidiary body: (c) and (i)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat: 20 days costs from regular UN/ECE budget

Lead countries (Russian Federation/Italy): 25 days costs subsumed under normal salary costs

Experts: 8 days costs subsumed under normal salary costs

Translation and reproduction: costs met by Italy and/or UNOG budget

Workshop costs and costs incurred by countries in transition to attend meeting of experts: costs met by Italy

5. NON-COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES

Actions and outline time schedule:

(a) Lead country to prepare initial discussion paper summarizing non-compliance procedures established in other international conventions, send to the secretariat **18 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(b) Secretariat to arrange distribution to subsidiary body **17 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(c) Subsidiary body to consider, and advise, appoint task group, **16 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(d) First meeting of task group to consider discussion paper, prepared by lead country in the light of subsidiary body's views, to be held **14 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(e) Lead country to prepare first draft report, translate and distribute to task group members and secretariat **13 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(f) Second meeting of task group to consider first draft report **11 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(g) Lead country to finalize draft report with recommendations by the task group for the Meeting of the Parties to consider, send to the secretariat **10 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(h) Secretariat to arrange translation and distribution of report for consideration by subsidiary body **9 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(i) Subsidiary body to take view on report and decide on form and content of report to go to the next meeting of the Parties **7 months** before its meeting;

(j) Secretariat to distribute paper for discussion **4 months** before the meeting of the Parties.

Participation:

Lead country (United Kingdom):	(a), (d), (e), (f) and (g)
Secretariat:	(b), (c), (d), (f), (h) and (j)
Task group:	(d) and (f)
Subsidiary body:	(c) and (i)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat:	10 days	costs from regular UN/ECE budget
Lead country (United Kingdom):	16 days	costs subsumed with normal salary costs
Task group:	8 days	costs subsumed with normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction:		costs met by United Kingdom and/or UNOG budget
Costs incurred by countries in transition to attend task group meetings in London (United Kingdom):		funding to be resolved United Kingdom will explore possibilities for funding

6. RECENT EIA DEVELOPMENTS AND LINKS WITH OTHER ECE CONVENTIONS

Actions and outline time schedule

(a) Lead countries/secretariat to prepare discussion document on latest developments in transboundary EIA and relationships between the EIA Convention and other relevant conventions, outline scope of proposed study areas for the task group **19 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(b) Secretariat to arrange distribution to subsidiary body **17 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(c) Subsidiary body to consider and advise, task group established, **16 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(d) First meeting of task group to consider discussion paper, prepared by lead countries in the light of subsidiary body's views, **14 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(e) Lead countries to prepare first draft report, translate and distribute to task group members and secretariat **13 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(f) Second meeting of task group to consider draft report **11 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(g) Lead countries to finalize draft report with task group recommendations for the Meeting of the Parties to consider, send to the secretariat **10 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(h) Secretariat to arrange translation and distribution of report for consideration by subsidiary body **9 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(i) Subsidiary body to take view on report and decide on form and content of report to go to the next meeting of the Parties **7 months** before that meeting;

(j) Secretariat to distribute paper for discussion **4 months** before the meeting of the Parties.

Participation:

Lead countries (Italy/Canada/

European Community):

(a), (d), (e), (f) and (g)

Secretariat:

(a), (b), (d), (f), (h) and (j)

Task group:

(d) and (f)

Subsidiary body:

(c) and (i)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat:	25 days	costs from regular UN/ECE budget
Lead countries (Italy/Canada/ European Community):	25 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Task group:	8 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction:		costs met by Italy and/or UNOG budget
Costs incurred by task group members to attend task group meetings:		costs met by Italy

7. DATABASE ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTActions and outline time schedule

(a) Lead country to ensure database is set up and made accessible on the Internet and as a stand-alone version **23 months** before the second meeting of the Parties, to maintain on an ongoing basis;

(b) Lead country to prepare "self-tutor guide" to make sure countries follow same format **22 months** before the second meeting of the Parties (or concurrently with (a));

(c) Lead country/secretariat to distribute self-tutor guide **22 months** before the second meeting of the Parties (or as soon as possible after (b));

(d) Parties and non-Parties to train their staff in use of database **21 months** before the second meeting of the Parties (or as soon as possible after (c));

(e) Parties and non-Parties to input case data **20 months** before the next meeting of the Parties (ongoing activity);

(f) Lead country to prepare initial report for subsidiary body on use **17 months** before the next meeting of the Parties;

(g) Subsidiary body to consider and advise on emerging issues **16 months** before the next meeting of the Parties;

(h) Lead country to carry out monitoring and evaluation study on use of database **12 months** before the next meeting of the Parties;

(i) Lead country/secretariat to prepare evaluation report for subsidiary body on use, cost-effectiveness, possible future developments **10 months** before the next meeting of the Parties;

(j) Secretariat to arrange translation and circulation of report to subsidiary body **9 months** before the meeting of the Parties;

(k) Subsidiary body to consider report and formulate recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties on next steps for database **7 months** before the next meeting of the Parties.

Participation:

Lead country (Poland): (a), (b), (c), (f), (h) and (i)
Secretariat: (a), (b), (c), (f), (h), (i) and (j)
Parties and non-Parties: (d) and (e)
Subsidiary body: (g) and (k)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat:
Lead country (Poland):

8. PARTNERSHIPS

Actions and outline time schedule

(a) Parties and non-Parties to signal willingness to participate in a partnership (indicating preferences and any present arrangements) or network to secretariat **22 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(b) Secretariat to stimulate and coordinate creation of partnerships, bringing together potential partner countries beginning **20 months** before the second meeting of the Parties (ongoing activity);

(c) Parties and non-Parties to enter into partnerships as soon as possible after (b) (ongoing activity);

(d) Participants to report on experiences of partnerships/networking to the secretariat at the latest **10 months** before the second meeting of the Parties (ongoing activity);

(e) Secretariat to prepare report for subsidiary body **9 months** before the meeting of the Parties;

(f) Subsidiary body to consider report and formulate recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties **7 months** before its second meeting;

(g) Secretariat to arrange translation and transmission of report to the Meeting of the Parties **4 months** before its meeting.

Participation:

Secretariat: (b), (e) and (g)
Parties and non-Parties: (a), (c) and (d)
Subsidiary body: (f)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat:	50 days	costs from regular UN/ECE budget
Donors:	30 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Countries in transition:	30 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction:		costs met by UNOG budget

9. SUBREGIONAL PILOT WORKSHOPActions and outline time schedule:

(a) Parties and non-Parties in Balkan and Black Sea regions to signal willingness to take part in the workshop **23 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(b) Lead countries and secretariat to prepare specific objectives and develop case-study material for the workshop **19 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(c) Subsidiary body to agree objectives **16 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(d) Lead countries and secretariat to organize and hold the workshop **15 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(e) Lead countries to prepare report of the workshop and send to the secretariat **14 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(f) Workshop participants to prepare action plans, copying to the secretariat, may also wish to post details of action plans, and any requests for help to meet elements of them, on network notice board **14 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(g) Secretariat and donor countries to attempt to "match" requests for assistance with offers; confirm offers of assistance to the secretariat on a continuing basis following receipt of action plans or posting them on network;

(h) Donor countries to submit reports to the secretariat on assistance given or offered **10 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(i) Secretariat to collate and synthesize reports; arrange translation and circulation of report to subsidiary body **9 months** before the second meeting of the Parties;

(j) Subsidiary body to consider workshop report(s) and resulting proposals for future action; formulate recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties; subsidiary body to consider report **7 months** before the meeting of the Parties;

(k) Secretariat to arrange translation and transmission of reports to the Meeting of the Parties **4 months** before its meeting.

Participation:

Secretariat:	(b), (d), (g), (i) and (k)
Lead countries:	(b), (d) and (e)
Parties and non-Parties (Workshop participants):	(a) and (f)
Parties and non-Parties (donors):	(g) and (h)
Subsidiary body:	(c) and (j)

Resource estimate:

Secretariat:	30 days	costs from UN/ECE regular budget
Lead countries (Bulgaria and Norway):	30 days	costs subsumed under normal salary costs
Workshop participants:	16 days)	costs subsumed under
Donors:	10 days)	normal salary costs
Translation and reproduction:		costs met by UNOG budget
Costs incurred by countries in transition to attend workshop:		costs met by Norway

Annex VII

DECISION I/7

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

The Meeting,

Aware of the importance of broad participation by Parties in their activities in order to ensure progress,

Aware also of the need to facilitate the participation of certain countries with economies in transition which would otherwise not be able to take part,

1. Calls upon countries in transition to finance to the extent possible their own participation in the activities under the Convention in order to ensure that the limited funds available are used efficiently;
2. Invites Parties and encourages non-Parties and relevant international organizations to contribute financial resources, earmarked for the activities under the Convention, to the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) and provide the secretariat with information on supplementary financial support given on a bilateral basis to enable countries with economies in transition to participate in the meetings under the Convention;
3. Recommends that there should be no differentiation between Parties and non-Parties for the purposes of providing financial assistance;
4. Requests the secretariat to fund, subject to available resources in TFACT, the participation of one governmentally designated expert from each of the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, to meetings under the Convention.

Annex VIII

DECISION I/8

**THE BUDGET AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD UNTIL THE
SECOND MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

The Meeting,

Recalling its decision I/6 on the work-plan covering the activities under the Convention during the period up to its second meeting,

Recalling also its decision I/7 on arrangements to support the participation of experts from countries in transition,

Recalling further Article 13 of the Convention stipulating that the Executive Secretary of ECE shall carry out the secretariat functions,

Recognizing that the successful implementation of the Convention depends on adequate administrative and financial resources being made available to support and maintain the initiatives necessary to achieve its goals,

1. Decides that the Parties will contribute to the budget of the Convention on a voluntary basis and recommends them to pay their contributions as soon as possible;
2. Endorses with approval the budget of the Convention for the period up to the second meeting of the Parties as set out in the table below;
3. Calls upon Parties and non-Parties that participate in the Convention's activities to ensure that the resources necessary to meet the programme of activities which are agreed upon are provided;
4. Invites the Executive Secretary to continue to provide, strengthened with additional extrabudgetary resources, secretariat support for the tasks outlined in the work-plan, as included in decision I/6;
5. Requests the Bureau, with the support of the secretariat, to prepare a budget for adoption by consensus at the second meeting of the Parties.

ACTIVITIES	LEAD COUNTRY	SUPPORT COUNTRY	BUDGET	COVERAGE	OUTCOME	PRIORITY
1. Review	Secretariat	all	UN/ECE	100%	Review	
2. Bi-and multilateral cooperation	Netherlands		US\$ 25,000 for countries in transition US\$ 35,000 for lead country	100%	1. Compendium on agreements 2. Workshop 3. Guidance	
3 Practical application	Finland/Sweden EC		US\$ 25,000 (Finland) US\$ 20,000 (Sweden) ECU 30,000 (EC)	100%	1. Collection of case studies 2. Workshop (small) 3. Report	
4. Public participation in a trans-boundary context	Russian Federation	Italy	US\$ 30,000 (Italy)	100%	1. Draft guidelines 2. Workshop (small) 3. Report	
5. Non-compliance	United Kingdom		US\$ 25,000 for countries in transition US\$ 20,000 for lead country	100%	Non-compliance guidelines	
6. Recent EIA developments	Italy	Canada EC	US\$ 25,000 (for countries in transition) US\$ 20,000 for lead country (Italy)	100%	Task Force analysis of possible future development and recommendations for future works	
7.1 Database implementation	Poland		1998: US\$ 9,800 (Italy) 1999: US\$18,000(Germany) 2000: US\$ 9,000	Activities in 1998 & 2000 are not covered		

ACTIVITIES	LEAD COUNTRY	SUPPORT COUNTRY	BUDGET	COVERAGE	OUTCOME	PRIORITY
7.2 Networking	Switzerland	Finland	US\$ 10,000 (Switzerland)	100%	Exchange of information	
8. Evaluation of the Database	Denmark Hungary	UK	US\$ 10,000 (Denmark)			
9. Partnerships	Secretariat		UN/ECE	100%	Promote and organize partnerships donors/countries in transition to solve problems	
10. Pilot Workshop (sub-regional/countries in transition)	Bulgaria		US\$ 20,000 for lead country (Norway) US\$ 20,000 for countries in transition (Norway)	100%	Analyse and discuss subregional issues with a view to ratifying and implementing the Convention	
Meetings (2) subs. bodies	All		US\$ 42,000 US\$ 42,000		Effective management of the Convention	
Second meeting of the Parties			US\$ 42,000 US\$ 200,000		Decision-making related to the Convention	
Meetings of the Bureau (4 meetings)	2-3 countries		US\$ 2,000 US\$ 2,000 US\$ 2,000 US\$ 2,000		Administer the work under the Convention	
Secretariat travel Promotional material, etc. Consultancy			US\$ 52,150			

Notes:

1. The budget period is the period between the first and the second meeting of the Parties, e.g. the two years from May 1998 to autumn 2000. The above figures are presented as yearly estimates (generally, 25% in 1998, 50% in 1999 and 25% in 2000).

2. It is understood that other expenses associated with organizing the second meeting of the Parties are to be borne by the host country, as appropriate in cooperation with other countries. The host country may also consider covering the participation of delegations from countries in transition.

3. The delegations of Norway and Poland hold that contributions in kind by Government(s) would have to be made to second experts to the secretariat.

4. Secretariat travel to seminars and workshops should be covered by the host country.

Annex IX

OSLO MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

We, the Ministers of the Environment and the European Union Commissioner for the Environment, gathered in Oslo, Norway, from 18 to 20 May 1998 on the occasion of the first meeting of the Parties to mark the entry into force of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Convention as a key legal instrument for fostering environmentally sound and sustainable development at the regional level by promoting active and action-oriented international cooperation, taking into account the specific conditions and needs of the countries in transition, to ensure the integration of environmental considerations into the economic sectors,

Recognizing environmental impact assessment, in particular when applied in a transboundary context, as a key instrument to ensure transparency and a systematic analysis of the environmental impact of economic and sectoral activities in accordance with the 1992 Rio Declaration,

Mindful of the need to strengthen the progress made in countries to prevent, reduce and counteract the potential for adverse transboundary environmental impact,

Emphasizing the importance of coordinated international cooperation among the organizations in the region in assessing environmental impact, in particular in a transboundary context,

Noting that the Parties to the Convention:

(a) Encourage ECE member States which are currently not yet Party to the Convention to finalize their procedure for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession as soon as possible, and to participate actively in the work under the Convention so that the Convention will be implemented and complied with by as many States as possible and be translated into effective rules and regulations at the national level,

(b) Invite ECE member States non-Parties to the Convention as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and relevant international organizations to contribute fully as observers to the work undertaken under the auspices of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, and

Considering that non-Parties to the Convention:

(a) Are striving to become a Party to the Convention as soon as possible,

(b) Intend to participate actively in the work under the Convention and to strive to apply its principles to the maximum extent possible, in

order to (i) foster international cooperation on the protection of the environment, in particular through the application of environmental impact assessment (EIA) in a transboundary context, (ii) strengthen mutual support in this field, and (iii) reinforce the work undertaken in relation to the Convention,

1. Welcome the entry into force of the Convention and support the implementation of its provisions;
2. Recognize the contribution of EIA to sustainable development in the ECE region and recognize that the implementation of the Convention will lead to an integrated approach to environmental protection;
3. Emphasize that States have the responsibility to take all appropriate and effective measures to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not have a significant adverse environmental impact on the environment of other States or on areas beyond the limits of their own national jurisdiction;
4. Also emphasize the importance of developing anticipatory policies to prevent, mitigate and monitor significant adverse environmental impact, and of promoting public participation and exchange of information specifically in a transboundary context;
5. Recommend that the outcome of relevant activities undertaken before the entry into force of the Convention, in particular those related to legal, administrative and technical aspects, should be taken into account when implementing and complying with the provisions of the Convention;
6. Invite the Executive Secretary to continue to provide adequate secretariat support for the Convention;
7. Invite the secretariats of other conventions as well as relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations to participate in and support the relevant activities under the Convention and to promote the application of the Convention within their fields of competence;
8. Welcome the submission by the Committee on Environmental Policy of the new Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters for adoption and signing at the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (June 1998, Aarhus, Denmark);
9. Recognize that the successful implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context depends on adequate administrative and financial resources being made available to support and maintain the initiatives necessary to achieve its goals; in that respect and bearing in mind the special situation of countries in transition, we call upon Parties, Signatories and other institutional financing organizations to ensure that the resources necessary to meet the programme of activities which may from time to time be agreed are provided;

10. Recognize that a systematic analysis of the environmental impact of proposed policies, plans and programmes is enabled by the application of EIA principles and recommend that the principles of EIA in a transboundary context should also be applied to the strategic level; to this end invite Parties and non-Parties to introduce those principles into their national systems; and emphasize that the environmental impact of international sectoral policies, plans and programmes in areas such as transport, energy and agriculture should be assessed as a matter of priority;

11. Encourage coordination of multilateral efforts to prevent significant adverse transboundary impact, bearing in mind the relationship of the Convention with other relevant international instruments;

12. Also encourage the development of bilateral and multilateral agreements and other arrangements and of activities at the subregional level, to facilitate the implementation and application of the provisions of the Convention;

13. Invite Parties to the Convention to consider possibilities for allowing non-ECE member countries to become a Party to this Convention;

14. Welcome the Sofia initiative on environmental impact assessment under the "Environment for Europe" process, and the cooperation between that initiative and the work of the Convention, respecting their complementary character.

Annex X

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AT THE
FIRST MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

We are extremely surprised by the unfounded statement of the Azerbaijani delegation alleging that Armenia has seized 20 per cent of Azerbaijani territory. Perhaps they have in mind their conflict with Nagorny Karabakh concerning the sovereign right of the people to self-determination which is flagrantly ignored on the part of "humane Azerbaijan".

We protest against inappropriate and rude statements addressed to us and call for the assessment of the declarations made by the Azerbaijani delegation concerning the Republic of Armenia.

At the same time we consider that meetings of this kind are not the place for the solution of political and territorial questions.

(Signed): S. Shakhazizyan
Minister of Environmental Protection
of the Republic of Armenia

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