



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

MP.EIA/1998/7
27 March 1998

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

**Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment in a
Transboundary Context
First meeting
(Oslo, 18-20 May 1998)
(Item 6 of the provisional agenda)**

DRAFT DECISION TO BE TAKEN AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PARTIES

Submitted by the preparatory meeting

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, 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.