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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 delegations of Norway and Poland

**DECISION I/8**

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

The Meeting,

Recalling the adoption of the decision on the work-plan covering the activities under the Convention during the period up to its second meeting,

Recalling also the adoption of the decision on arrangements to support the participation of experts from countries in transition, as set out in document MP.EIA/1998/7,

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

GE.98-30809

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 shall contribute to the budget of the Convention on a voluntary basis;
2. Approves the budget of the Convention for the period up to the second meeting of the Parties as annexed to this decision;
3. Calls upon Parties and non-Parties 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 document MP.EIA/1998/6;
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;
6. Calls on Parties to pay their contributions as soon as possible.

Annex

**BUDGET FOR THE CONVENTION AND ITS SECRETARIAT FOR  
THE PERIOD 1998-2000 1/**

Database <u>2/</u>	Total budget (1998-2000) US\$	Estimated yearly budget		
		1998	1999	2000
Hardware/software	800.-	800.-		
Staff support, yearly costs (US\$ 18,000.-)	36,000.-	9,000.-	18,000.-	9,000.-
Evaluation <u>3/</u>	10,000.-	2,500.-	2,500.-	5,000.-
Meetings (2) of the subsidiary body				
Meeting 1999 (CIT support)	42,000.-		42,000.-	
Meeting 2000 (CIT support)	42,000.-			42,000.-
Second meeting of the Parties 2000 <u>4/</u>				
CIT support	42,000.-			42,000.-
Meetings (4) of the Bureau	8,000.-	2,000.-	4,000.-	2,000.-
Secretariat <u>5/</u>				
Travel	20,000.-	5,000.-	10,000.-	5,000.-
Promotional material	10,000.-	2,500.-	5,000.-	2,500.-
Consultants	15,000.-	3,000.-	8,000.-	4,000.-
Office equipment	10,000.-	2,500.-	5,000.-	2,500.-
Administrative support 13%	7,150.-	1,690.-	3,640.-	1,820.-
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TOTAL:	242,950.-	28,990.-	98,140.-	115,820.-

Notes:

1/ Cost estimates are to be understood as costs to the Convention (not actual costs. The costs of the various activities that are borne by the lead countries or the secretariat do not therefore appear in this table. More detailed information on resources is found in document MP.EIA/1998/6.

With regard to the outstanding questions, discussed at the preparatory meeting in January 1998, on the financing of especially the participation of countries in transition (CITs), it has subsequently been confirmed that the cost of the activities led by the Netherlands (bi- and multilateral agreements), Finland, Sweden and the European Commission (practical application of the Convention), the United Kingdom (non-compliance mechanism) (to be confirmed) and Bulgaria and Norway (pilot subregional workshop), the cost of participation of CITs will be covered. The Russian Federation and Italy confirmed at the meeting in January 1998 that they would cover all the costs associated with the workshop on public participation in a transboundary context, as did the secretariat with regard to the activities associated with support to countries in transition on networking and partnerships.

The budget period is the period between the first and second meeting of the Parties, e.g. the 2 ½ 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 Finland and Switzerland will cover the expenses associated with the development of the networking element of the database (to be confirmed).

3/ At this stage, it is not yet decided which lead country will perform this task and cover these costs.

4/ It is understood that other expenses associated with organizing the second meeting of the Parties are to be borne by the host country, which may also consider covering the participation of delegations from CITs.

5/ 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.