

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION
AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY
WATERCOURSES AND
INTERNATIONAL LAKES**

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO
THE CONVENTION ON THE
TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF
INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS**

**Intergovernmental Working Group
on Civil Liability**

Second meeting

Geneva, 4-6 February 2002

Working paper
MP.WAT/AC.3/2002/WP.5
CP.TEIA/AC.1/2002/WP.5

ENGLISH ONLY
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TERMINOLOGY

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat has received several working papers that use the terms “damage” and “damages”, respectively. The Working Group is invited to note the different meaning of these terms.

According to the Concise Oxford Dictionary:

damage means: "harm or injury impairing the value or usefulness of something, or the health or normal function of a person"

damages is a legal term meaning: "a sum of money claimed or awarded in compensation for a loss or an injury" (damages = compensation)