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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

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

**Third meeting**

**(Cavtat, Croatia, 1-4 June 2004)**

**(Items 2 (a) and 7 (i) of the provisional agenda)**

**DRAFT DECISION III/9 TO BE TAKEN AT THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
Submitted by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment**

**DECISION III/9  
ADOPTION OF THE WORK PLAN  
UP TO THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

The Meeting,

Recalling Article 11, paragraph 2 (f), of the Convention, stipulating that additional action that may be required to achieve the purposes of the Convention shall be undertaken,

Recognizing that it is essential for Parties to meet fully their legal obligations arising under the Convention,

Recognizing also that Parties should take action to maximize the effectiveness of their application of the Convention so that the best possible practical results are achieved,

1. Adopts the work plan for the period up to its fourth meeting, as appended to this decision, including activities to assist the Signatories to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in preparing for its entry into force;

2. Suggests that lead countries that carry out the relevant activities should consult each other in order to benefit from each other's experience and to avoid unnecessary overlap;

3. Calls on the Parties and invites non-Parties to arrange, host and participate actively in seminars, workshops and meetings 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

### WORK PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION FOR THE PERIOD UP TO THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

Activity	Objective(s)	Method of work (sub-activities)	Organizational arrangements	Expected outcome	Time schedule	Budget
<b>TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)</b>						
Exchange of best practice	Improved implementation of the Convention by learning from Parties' experiences	<p>The convening of meetings of experts (including practitioners) on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transboundary projects;</li> <li>• Post-project analysis and monitoring; and</li> <li>• Transboundary EIA methodologies.</li> </ul> <p>Meetings to be held during or back to back with Working Group on EIA meetings, or a one- or two-day (stand-alone) thematic workshops.</p>	<p>Lead countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Switzerland (for transboundary projects);</li> <li>• [...] (for post-project analysis and monitoring);</li> <li>• [...] (for transboundary EIA methodologies).</li> </ul> <p>Coordination by and support from the secretariat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting reports for consideration by the Working Group on EIA.</li> <li>• Posting on Convention web site of best practice guidance, meeting reports and meeting presentations.</li> </ul>	Annual meetings in the period 2004-2006	6 lunchtime meetings each costing approx. US\$1,000, or 3 back-to-back meetings each approx. US\$5,000, or 3 thematic workshops each approx. US\$30,000
Subregional cooperation to strengthen contacts between the Parties	Improved and developed application of the Convention within subregions	<p>The holding of subregional meetings supported by virtual networks (information exchange), for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Mediterranean countries to review specific transboundary issues and effects;</li> <li>• To discuss key elements of practical application of the Convention, including public participation;</li> <li>• To review specific transboundary issues and effects (regional seas, transboundary watercourses, etc.).</li> </ul>	<p>Lead countries to organize and provide venue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Croatia, with financial support from UNEP/MAP (Mediterranean);</li> <li>• Bulgaria (May 2005);</li> <li>• [...].</li> </ul> <p>Reporting country: [...].</p> <p>Coordination and support by the secretariat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting outcomes to be posted on web sites of participating countries.</li> <li>• Meeting reports for consideration by the Working Group on EIA.</li> </ul>	<p>First workshop by October 2004</p> <p>Second workshop in May 2005</p>	Participants cover own travel and accommodation costs, while lead countries cover organizational and venue costs (approx. US\$ 20,000 per sub-regional meeting)

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Capacity-building in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)	Increased awareness and professional skills of officials and of the public in relation to transboundary EIA and to the application of the Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation and dissemination of guidance               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drafting of guidance on the practical application of the Convention for specific needs of the subregion (for cases of transboundary EIA in relation to, inter alia, transboundary watercourses) by a consultant;</li> <li>• Carrying-out of workshops in Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan), in the Caucasus (Armenia) and in Eastern Europe (Ukraine) to finalize the guidance;</li> <li>• Active dissemination of the guidance in the participating countries (through, for example, national workshops).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Training course in transboundary EIA – methodology.</li> <li>• Supporting knowledge of the Convention and of transboundary EIA in Russian-speaking countries through the dissemination of a relevant Russian-language journal (<i>Environmental Expertise and EIA</i>, with 6 issues a year).</li> </ul>	<p>Lead countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kyrgyzstan for the guidance, including workshop;</li> <li>• Armenia for Caucasian workshop;</li> <li>• Ukraine for East European workshop;</li> <li>• Tajikistan for training course;</li> <li>• Russian Federation with NGO Ecoterra for journal.</li> </ul> <p>Financial support from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [... for the guidance, including workshop in Kyrgyzstan];</li> <li>• [... for Caucasian workshop];</li> <li>• [... for East European workshop];</li> <li>• [... for training courses];</li> <li>• [... for journal].</li> </ul> <p>Undertaken with the support of the secretariat.</p>	<p>Guidance, workshop and training course reports for consideration by the Working Group on EIA.</p> <p>Reports from EECCA countries on improved capacity.</p>	<p>Draft guidance available in 2004</p> <p>Guidance workshops in 2004-2005</p> <p>Dissemination of final guidance 2006</p> <p>EECCA reports in 2006</p> <p>Training course (Tajikistan) 2005</p>	<p>Consultancy for preparation of guidance US\$20,000</p> <p>3 workshops, each costing US\$30,000</p> <p>Contributions in kind, for national workshops for dissemination of the guidance, from the 12 countries in the region, each costing US\$5,000</p> <p>Training course approx. \$60,000, including costs for 2 participants from each of the 12 countries</p> <p>Journal subscription US\$ 17,000 a year</p>

Activity	Objective(s)	Method of work (sub-activities)	Organizational arrangements	Expected outcome	Time schedule	Budget
Review of the implementation of the Convention	Provide information to the Meeting of the Parties and to its Implementation Committee for it to use in examining compliance issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of a revised and simplified questionnaire by the Implementation Committee, assisted by the secretariat.</li> <li>Distribution of the questionnaire to the Parties to the Convention for them to complete and return.</li> <li>Preparation of a draft review of implementation by the secretariat.</li> </ul>	<p>Lead country: Finland.</p> <p>Undertaken by the Implementation Committee with the support of the secretariat.</p>	<p>Revised questionnaire.</p> <p>Second draft review of implementation for consideration by the Working Group on EIA.</p>	<p>Presentation of draft revised questionnaire to Working Group on EIA by end 2004</p> <p>Issue of questionnaire early 2005</p> <p>Return of questionnaires by end 2005</p> <p>Draft review by mid-2006</p>	Included in Implementation Committee and secretariat costs
Examination of the substantive relationship between the Convention and the Protocol	Clarification of the relationship between the Convention and the Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and discussion at a one-day workshop back to back with a Working Group on EIA meeting of the results of an EC study on the relationship between the EC Directives on EIA and SEA that are relevant to the Convention and the Protocol.</li> <li>Decision by the Working Group on EIA on items for further study, which may include preparation of a report on the substantive relationship between the Convention and the Protocol.</li> </ul>	<p>Lead organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European Commission (workshop);</li> <li>[...] (report).</li> </ul> <p>Undertaken with the support of the secretariat.</p>	<p>Workshop report including items for further study to be considered by the Working Group on EIA.</p> <p>Report on the substantive relationship between the Convention and the Protocol to be considered by the Working Group.</p>	<p>Workshop late 2005.</p> <p>Report late 2006.</p>	<p>Back-to-back meeting cost US\$5,000</p> <p>Report cost US\$10,000</p>

Activity	Objective(s)	Method of work (sub-activities)	Organizational arrangements	Expected outcome	Time schedule	Budget
<b>STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA)</b>						
SEA capacity-building needs analysis in EECCA	Understand national and subregional capacity for the Protocol's implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of national and subregional reports describing current capacity-building activities and capacity development needs.</li> <li>Design of framework for future capacity development action plans.</li> <li>Development of national and subregional capacity-building action plans by the countries themselves.</li> </ul>	<p>Lead country: [...].</p> <p>UNDP / RBEC – contribution in kind, related to the project of capacity-building in Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus.</p> <p>Undertaken with the support of REC (CEE) and the secretariat.</p> <p>Other countries, possibly covered by interested institutions or donors.</p>	Reports, plans and studies to be considered by the Meeting of the Signatories to the Protocol.	January 2005	US\$40,000, of which US\$ 20,000 in kind from UNDP / RBEC
Production of a capacity development manual, and provision of training, to support implementation of the SEA Protocol	Capacity development in SEA through preparation and dissemination of a capacity development manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drafting of manual (slides, notes for speakers, case studies and background documents) in English and Russian.</li> <li>Subregional workshops to review the draft manual with EC Member States, countries of South-East Europe and selected EECCA countries.</li> <li>Drafting and editing of the final first, electronic edition of the manual in English, French and Russian.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, preparation of modules on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transboundary consultations under article 10 of the Protocol;</li> <li>Health issues within SEA.</li> </ul>	<p>Lead organization: REC (CEE), supported by the secretariat.</p> <p>Assistance with translation: Ecoline (Russian), NGO Unisféra (French).</p> <p>Module on health issues, lead countries: Czech Republic, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland (public health authorities), supported by WHO/Euro.</p>	Progress reports and the final manual, including additional modules, to be considered by the Meeting of the Signatories to the Protocol.	September 2004 to July 2005	<p>For draft manual: REC contribution in kind worth US\$ 45,000</p> <p>For workshops: REC contribution in kind worth US\$ 75,000; additional funding required US\$ 40,000 (minimum) to US\$ 55,000 (optimum)</p> <p>For final manual: US\$ 35,000</p> <p>Costs for health module to be borne by</p>

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						national public health authorities and WHO/Euro
Institutional and procedural activities	Preparation for the first meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol	<p>Meetings of a small group for:</p> <p>(i) Consideration of whether any amendments are necessary to the rules of procedure of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention arising from the application of these rules to the Protocol, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 5, of the Protocol and, if necessary, the drafting of such amendments;</p> <p>(ii) If necessary, preparation for the election of substitute members of the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 3, of the Protocol;</p> <p>(iii) Consideration of the modalities for the application of the compliance procedure of the Convention to the Protocol and preparation for the adoption of modalities, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 6, of the Protocol;</p> <p>(iv) Preparation for establishing such subsidiary bodies as are considered necessary for the implementation of the Protocol, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 4 (d), of the Protocol; and</p> <p>(v) Consideration of the institutional and administrative aspects of the relationship between the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.</p>	<p>Small group members: Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom.</p> <p>Supported by the secretariat.</p>	Report to be considered by the Meeting of the Signatories.	Meetings to be held between first and second meetings of the Signatories	Costs to be covered by small group members

EC: European Community.

MAP: Mediterranean Action Plan.

REC (CEE): Regional Environmental Center (for Central and Eastern Europe).

UNDP/RBEC: United Nations Development Programme's Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme.

WHO/Euro: World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe.