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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE**

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the
Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses
and International Lakes

and

Meeting of the Signatories to the Protocol on Water
and Health to the Convention

Working Group on Water and Health

Sixth meeting

Geneva, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Item 4 (e) of the provisional agenda

**MAINSTREAMING ACTIVITIES AND PRIORITIES OF WORK UNDER THE
PROTOCOL INTO THE POLICYMAKING OF
THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) ***

Prepared by the secretariat

1. At its fifth meeting, the Working Group entrusted the secretariat with the preparation of the text of a draft decision of the Meeting of the Parties to mainstream activities under the Protocol into the policymaking of WHO (see annex).
2. The Working Group is expected to finalize the text and submit it to the first meeting of the Parties.

* This document was submitted on the above date owing to a lack of human resources in the secretariat.

Annex

**DRAFT DECISION ON MAINSTREAMING ACTIVITIES AND PRIORITIES OF
WORK UNDER THE PROTOCOL INTO THE POLICYMAKING OF WHO**

The Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health,

Noting the recognition of the cross-cutting importance of water as a determinant of health in the WHO global programmes on communicable disease prevention and control, malaria prevention and control, health promotion and nutrition,

Appreciating the issues challenges identified in the WHO global programme 2006–2007 concerning the health impact of reduced availability and degradation of water quality, and the added impact of extreme weather events,

Taking cognizance of the work on the development of evidence-based normative and good-practice guidance on water quality, in-country capacity development to manage environmental health information and intersectoral policy development, as well as efforts to address environmental health concerns of vulnerable and high-risk population groups, particularly children,

Being aware of the work done under subsequent Ministerial Conferences on Environment and Health, particularly the adoption of the Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE) and its Regional Priority Goal 1 aimed at providing all children of the European region with sustainable access to safe water and adequate sanitation,

Heeding the importance given to the provision of detailed information on the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals within the terms of WHO's core mandate in the Organization's eleventh general programme of work 2006–2015 and the relationship between our work and Millennium Development Goals 7 (water supply and sanitation), 1 (eradication of poverty), 4 (reduce child mortality) and 8 (Global partnership for development),

Recalling that the Regional Director, WHO Regional Office for Europe, serves as co-Secretary to the Protocol on Water and Health,

1. *Requests* the Regional Director, WHO Regional Office for Europe, to inform the policymaking bodies of the WHO Regional Office for Europe, particularly its Regional Committee, of the decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties; and
2. *Invites* the Regional Committee of the WHO Regional Office for Europe to take cognizance of the work plan adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, and to provide appropriate support during the definition of the programme of work and budget of the WHO Regional Office for Europe.