



## Economic and Social Council

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### Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention  
on Environmental Impact Assessment in  
a Transboundary Context serving as the  
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on  
Strategic Environmental Assessment

#### First session

Geneva, 20–23 June 2011

Items 1, 3 (e) and (d) and 7 (a) of the provisional agenda

#### Opening of the session

**Outstanding issues: accession by Member States of the United  
Nations not members of the Economic Commission for Europe;  
other draft decisions**

**Adoption of decisions: decisions to be taken by the  
Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving  
as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol**

### **Compendium of draft decisions forwarded for adoption by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment**

#### **Proposal by the Bureau**

#### *Summary*

This compendium of draft decisions was prepared by the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, with the support of the Convention secretariat, as requested by the Meeting of the Signatories to the Protocol at its third session. Draft decision I/1 was initially prepared by a small group comprising Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

## **Draft decision I/1**

(to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its first session)

### **Rules of procedure**

*The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment,*

*Recalling* article 14, paragraph 5, of the Protocol, which provides that the rules of procedure of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention shall be applied *mutatis mutandis* under the Protocol, except as may otherwise be decided by consensus by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol,

*Also recalling* article 14, paragraph 3, of the Protocol, which addresses the composition of the Bureau,

*Having reviewed* the application of the rules of procedure of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention under the Protocol,

1. *Decides*, by consensus, that, when rule 19 of the rules of procedure of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention is applied to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, this rule shall be supplemented by the following paragraph:

“A member of the Bureau of the Meeting of Parties to the Convention that represents a Party to the Protocol, having replaced a member representing a Party to the Convention, shall serve a term of office that expires at the same time as the term of office of the member of the Bureau whom he or she replaces.”;

2. *Also decides*, by consensus, that when the rules of procedure of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention are amended by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, those amendments shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, unless otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

## Draft decision I/2

(to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its first session)

### Points of contact, format for notification and focal points

*The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment,*

*Recalling article 10 of the Protocol,*

1. *Agrees* that notifications of proposed plans and programmes, the implementation of which are likely to cause significant transboundary environmental, including health, effects shall be transmitted to the relevant points of contact listed on the website of the Convention unless otherwise provided for in bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements. Where no point of contact has been nominated, the notification shall be transmitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the affected Party or Parties;

2. *Recommends* Parties to use the format for notification appended to decision I/4 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, *mutatis mutandis*, to the extent possible when transmitting a notification according to article 10 of the Protocol, and invites the subsidiary body, responsible for assisting in the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol and the management of their joint workplan,<sup>1</sup> to prepare a revised format for notification to be presented at the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;

3. *Establishes* a network of focal points, listed on the website of the Convention, with the aim of strengthening links between Parties and facilitating a systematic exchange of relevant information;

4. *Calls on* Parties to submit information on modifications or additions to the list of points of contact and the list of focal points to the secretariat immediately;

5. *Also calls on* Parties which have not yet informed the secretariat of their point of contact or focal point to do so as soon as possible;

6. *Requests* the secretariat to update these lists continuously in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the Protocol.

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<sup>1</sup> *Note by the secretariat:* This phrase originally referred to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, which is expected to be established through a decision taken later in the sessional period.

## Draft decision I/3

(to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its first session)

### Capacity development

*The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment,*

*Having considered* the draft resource manual to support the application of the Protocol,

*Recognizing* that capacity-development activities, such as training and pilot projects, improve the practical application of the Protocol,

1. *Welcomes* the resource manual, including its health annex, as a flexible document;

2. *Also welcomes* the work done by, among others, the secretariat and the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, and by the members of the small editorial group on the draft resource manual;

3. *Further welcomes* the work done by the above-mentioned bodies, together with the World Health Organization, on the production of a supplement to the draft resource manual addressing the consideration of health concerns;

4. *Requests* the secretariat to continue maintenance of the version of the resource manual on the Internet;

5. *Proposes* to include in the Protocol workplan the elaboration of a compact and simplified version of the resource manual that focuses on the practical application of the Protocol;

6. *Proposes also* that capacity-development activities be included in the workplan;

7. *Invites* users to submit comments to the secretariat on the usefulness of the resource manual and requests the secretariat to facilitate the submission of such comments.

## Draft Decision I/4

(to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its first session)

### Public participation in strategic decision-making

*The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment,*

*Recalling* the workshop on public participation in strategic decision-making, held in Sofia on 3 and 4 December 2007,

*Noting* the work programme for the period 2009–2011 adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention),

1. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the ad hoc expert group and the task force on public participation under the Aarhus Convention;
2. *Decides* to explore further synergies and possibilities for cooperation with relevant bodies under the Aarhus Convention;
3. *Proposes* that a joint workshop on public participation in strategic environmental assessment in accordance with the Protocol and with article 7 of the Aarhus Convention should be included in the workplan.

## Draft decision I/11

(to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its first session)

### Accession by ...

*The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment,*

*Recalling* article 23, paragraph 3, of the Protocol, which concerns the accession upon approval of a State that is a Member of the United Nations but that is not a member of the Economic Commission for Europe,

*Having received* a copy of a letter addressed to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of ... expressing that State's desire to accede to the Protocol,

*Having also received* a copy of the legislation of ... in one of the official languages of the United Nations, establishing clear, transparent and effective procedures for strategic environmental assessment in accordance with the objective of the Protocol,

1. *Approves* the accession of ... to the Protocol;
2. *Instructs* the secretariat to inform the Depositary of this decision.

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