



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

#### Eleventh meeting

Geneva, 7–9 December 2020

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

#### Plan of action for the Convention for the biennium 2021–2022 and its financing

## Updated draft decision on guiding principles for financial assistance

Prepared by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties

### *Summary*

At its tenth meeting (Geneva, 4–6 December 2018), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents adopted decision 2018/3 on guiding principles for financial assistance (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1) to allow for the participation of experts in meetings under the Convention, in particular from countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, depending on the availability of funds. It agreed to review them at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2020 (Geneva and online, 7–9 December 2020).

The updated draft decision contained in the present document is based on the original draft, prepared by the Bureau, with the support of the secretariat (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/10). The present document includes comments received from the European Union, following informal discussions with the Chair, Vice-Chairs and the secretariat, in accordance with the advance circulation procedure provided in the draft operating procedures (updated version contained in ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/L.5 based on the original draft ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/11). The first two newly inserted paragraphs recall previously agreed text from decision 2018/2 on fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism under the Convention (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1), taken by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting (Geneva, 4–6 December 2018).

The Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt this decision.



*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalls* that it has invited Parties to, where possible and appropriate, provide dedicated financing to support the participation of representatives of countries with economies in transition and of developing and least developed countries that have expressed an interest in the Convention's activities, whether intergovernmental or assistance-related,

*Also recalls* that, subject to the availability of funding for this purpose and in accordance with the budget adopted by the Conference of the Parties, the secretariat shall examine requests for financial assistance for eligible countries, giving priority – in descending order – to Parties; non-Parties in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region; and representatives of developing and least developed countries beyond that region,

*Decides* that the Parties from Eastern Europe (Belarus and the Republic of Moldova), South-Eastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia), the Caucasus (Armenia and Azerbaijan) and Central Asia (Kazakhstan) may be eligible, subject to the availability of funds, to receive financial assistance to support the participation of their experts and representatives in activities organized within the framework of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and under its Assistance and Cooperation Programme, as follows: the secretariat may provide financial support to help cover the expenses related to their participation, including if possible accommodation and air tickets,

*Also decides* that countries which are benefiting from the Convention's Assistance and Cooperation Programme, which are not Parties may also be eligible, subject to the availability of dedicated funds,

*Further decides* that developing and least developed countries outside the ECE region having expressed an interest in the Convention may also be eligible to receive financial assistance to support the participation of their experts and representatives in activities organized within the framework of the Convention, subject to the availability of dedicated funds,

*Agrees* that such financial support shall be supportive of the work plan priorities and to apply these guiding principles for financial assistance in the biennium 2021–2022.

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