

Decision VI/8

Adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context at its sixth session

General guidance on enhancing consistency between the Convention and environmental impact assessment within the framework of State ecological expertise in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention,

Recalling decision V/9–I/9 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on the adoption of the workplan,

Recognizing that in the past decades Parties and non-Parties to the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia have significantly developed their legislation on environmental impact assessment, in line with their obligations under the Convention,

Aware that the national legislation and systems in countries of the subregion share many commonalities, but also present distinctive features and represent various degrees of development,

Wishing to assist Parties to the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in complying fully with their obligations under the Convention, and to promote the effective application of the Convention in the subregion,

Recognizing that compliance concerns both legal implementation and practical application,

1. *Endorses* the general guidance on enhancing consistency between the Convention and environmental impact assessment within State ecological expertise in Countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Guidance), as contained in document ECE/MP.EIA/2014/2;
2. *Recommends* that the Parties in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia take into account the contents of the Guidance when implementing and applying the Convention;
3. *Calls on* these Parties to distribute the Guidance to authorities and relevant stakeholders;
4. *Proposes* that the Guidance is used in the capacity-building activities included in the workplan.