

**Economic Commission for Europe**

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

**Sixth session**

Geneva, 2–5 June 2014

Items 3 (a) and 11 of the provisional agenda

**Outstanding issues: draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention**

**Adoption of decisions**

## **Comments to the list of proposed corrections to the Convention – in annex to draft decision VI/6 on aligning the authentic language versions (ECE/MP.EIA/2014/L.1)**

### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **Introduction**

1. Further to the deliberation and proposals by the ad hoc task force to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, established with the aim of reviewing identified inconsistencies in the three authentic texts of the Convention, the Bureau, at its meeting in January 2014, reviewed the proposals and agreed to submit them for consideration by the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (2–5 June 2014) as an annex to **draft decision VI/6** on aligning the authentic language versions of the Convention. To this end, the secretariat prepared document ECE/MP.EIA/2014/L.1 containing draft decision VI/6 and other draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, as an official document and submitted it for processing to the documentation services of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG).

2. During the scrutiny of the document by the professional editors and translators of the UN, the Russian translator identified a few technical inaccuracies in the list of proposed corrections to the Russian text of the Convention that should be rectified (see section II below). In addition, three more substantive points were pointed out, namely with respect to the proposed corrections no. 22, 24 and 42, to be brought to the Parties' attention. These are outlined in section I below.

3. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention is invited to take into account and address the comments by the UN language services when finalizing draft decision VI and agreeing on the list of proposed corrections to be submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the depositary of the Convention, with a view to their being addressed accordingly

### **I. Proposed revisions**

#### **22. Article 4, paragraph 2, first sentence, Russian text**

2. Сторона происхождения представляет затрагиваемой Стороне **соответствующим образом** через совместный орган, если таковой существует, документацию об оценке воздействия на окружающую среду.”

(2. *The Party of origin shall furnish the affected Party, as appropriate through a joint body where one exists, with the environmental impact assessment documentation.*)

*For* затрагиваемой Стороне **соответствующим образом** через совместный орган *read* затрагиваемой Стороне, **при необходимости**, через совместный орган

**UNOG translator:** instead of **при необходимости** (which is stronger than the English *as appropriate*), use **при целесообразности**

**24. Article 5, last paragraph, second sentence, Russian text**

Любые такие консультации могут проводиться через соответствующий совместный орган там, где таковой существует.  
(*Any such consultations may be conducted through an appropriate joint body, where one exists.*)

*For* там, где таковой *read* там, если таковой

**UNOG translator:** The change is not grammatically correct in Russian, the text should **not** be changed.

**42. Appendix III, title, Russian text**

ДОБАВЛЕНИЕ III  
ОБЩИЕ КРИТЕРИИ, ПОМОГАЮЩИЕ В ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИИ ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКОГО ЗНАЧЕНИЯ  
ВИДОВ ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТИ, НЕ ВКЛЮЧЕННЫХ В ДОБАВЛЕНИЕ I.  
(*APPENDIX III*  
*GENERAL CRITERIA TO ASSIST IN THE DETERMINATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL*  
*SIGNIFICANCE OF ACTIVITIES NOT LISTED IN APPENDIX I.*)

*For* экологического значения *read* экологической значительности

**UNOG translator:** The change is not correct in the Russian language; it is misleading because «экологическое значение» и «экологическая значительность» have a positive connotation and do not reflect the nature of the Convention and the Appendix III that is related to the adverse significant environmental impacts. In addition, the term ‘environmental’ is translated in the Convention as «окружающая среда» when it is related to the impact, but not as “экологическая/кий/кое”. Propose to change as follows (taking into consideration the French authentic text):

ДОБАВЛЕНИЕ III  
ОБЩИЕ КРИТЕРИИ, ПОМОГАЮЩИЕ В ОПРЕДЕЛЕНИИ **ЗНАЧИТЕЛЬНОСТИ**  
**ВОЗДЕЙСТВИЯ НА ОКРУЖАЮЩУЮ СРЕДУ** ВИДОВ ДЕЯТЕЛЬНОСТИ, НЕ  
ВКЛЮЧЕННЫХ В ДОБАВЛЕНИЕ I”

**II. Technical inaccuracies identified**

**11. Article 3, paragraph 2 (a), Russian text**

*For* информацию *read* Информацию

**13. Article 3, paragraph 2 (b), Russian text**

*For* информацию *read* Информацию

**14. Article 3, paragraph 2 (c), Russian text**

*For* указание *read* Указание

**UNOG translator:** The proposed change is not grammatically correct, because unlike English, in Russian colon (:) is followed by lower case, unless there are proper nouns.