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Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on
Access to Information, Public Participation
in Decision-making and Access to Justice
in Environmental Matters

Working Group of the Parties

Thirteenth meeting

Geneva, 9–11 February 2011

Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Preparations for the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties:
Future Strategic Plan**

Draft decision on strategic planning

Prepared by the Bureau with the assistance of the secretariat

Summary

This document contains a proposed draft decision on strategic planning prepared by the Bureau of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) with the assistance of the Convention secretariat, with a view to facilitating discussion on this topic by the Working Group of the Parties at its thirteenth session. The document is submitted to the Working Group in view of its mandate to “make such proposals and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties as it considers necessary for the achievement of the purposes of the Convention” (ECE/MP.PP/2/Add.15, para. 2 (d)), and further to a decision by the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties, taken at its twenty-sixth meeting (9 November 2010).

The Working Group may wish to consider the present draft decision with a view of submitting it for consideration and adoption by the Meeting of the Parties at its fourth session, which will be held in Chisinau from 15 to 17 June 2011.

The Meeting of the Parties,

Welcoming the efforts made by Parties, Signatories, international organizations and other stakeholders to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Plan 2009–2014 and to implement its envisaged activities,

Recognizing the need for continued strategic direction to guide implementation and further development of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters beyond 2014,

Recalling the document on strategic planning for the Convention (MP.PP/WG.1/2004/16), which analysed the possible scope and format of strategic plans and outlined possible steps to be taken in order to prepare a draft plan,

1. *Requests* the Working Group of the Parties, with the assistance of the secretariat and appropriate involvement of the public, to develop a strategic plan for the Convention covering the period [2015–2020];

2. *Calls on* Parties and invites Signatories, other States and relevant intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to the development of the strategic plan;

3. *Requests* the Working Group of the Parties to establish a procedure for the preparation of the strategic plan and to regularly monitor its preparation in order for it to be ready for consideration and adoption at the fifth ordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.
