



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
15 September 2022

Original: English

Advance
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Economic Commission for Europe

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

Twelfth meeting

Geneva, 29 November–1 December 2022

Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Workplan and resource requirements for the Convention for 2023–2024

Draft decision on guiding principles for financial assistance

Prepared by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties

Summary

At its eleventh meeting (Geneva (online), 7-9 December 2020), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents adopted decision 2020/3 on guiding principles for financial assistance to allow for the participation of experts and representatives of Parties, beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme that are not Parties, and other developing and least developed countries outside the ECE region in meetings under the Convention, subject to the availability of funds (ECE/CP.TEIA/42/Add.1).

On this basis, a similar draft decision has been prepared by the Bureau, with the support of the secretariat, setting out guiding principles for financial assistance for the biennium 2023–2024.

Parties are invited to share any comment on the draft decision with the Chair and the secretariat four weeks in advance of the meeting (via email to ece-teia.conv@un.org), i.e. by 1 November 2022.

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

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling 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 activities of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, whether intergovernmental or assistance-related,¹

Recalling also 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 following Parties are eligible, subject to the availability of funds, to receive financial assistance to support the participation of their experts and representatives² in activities organized within the framework of the Convention and under its Assistance and Cooperation Programme:

- (a) From Eastern Europe: Belarus, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova;
- (b) From South-Eastern Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia;
- (c) From the Caucasus: Armenia and Azerbaijan;
- (d) From Central Asia: Kazakhstan;

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

- (a) From the Caucasus: Georgia;
- (b) From Central Asia: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan;

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 workplan priorities and to apply these guiding principles for financial assistance in the biennium 2023–2024.

¹ ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1, decision 2018/2.

² The secretariat may provide financial support to help cover the expenses related to the participation of such experts and representatives, including, if possible, accommodation and air tickets.