

DRAFT DECISION IV/6 TO BE TAKEN AT THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
[Submitted by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment]

**DECISION IV/6**  
**ADOPTION OF THE WORKPLAN**  
**UP TO THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

**DRAFT SUBMITTED BY THE BUREAU FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE WORKING  
GROUP ON EIA, 21-23 NOVEMBER 2007**

The Meeting,

Recalling Article 11, paragraph 2 (f), of the Convention, stipulating that additional action that may be required to achieve the purposes of the Convention shall be undertaken,

Recognizing that it is essential for Parties to meet fully their legal obligations arising under the Convention,

Recognizing also that Parties should take action to maximize the effectiveness of their application of the Convention so that the best possible practical results are achieved,

Recognizing with appreciation the valuable work carried out under the workplan adopted at the third meeting of the Parties (decision III/9), particularly:

- (a) The steps taken by Parties and non-Parties to ensure their environmental impact assessment systems are consistent with the provisions of the Convention and to report accordingly;
- (b) The valuable guidance on Transboundary EIA in Central Asia prepared by the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, with assistance from the Government of Switzerland;
- (c) The subregional workshops organized by the Governments of Bulgaria, Denmark, [Estonia,] Finland, Italy, [Morocco,] Serbia, Sweden and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;
- (d) The workshops for the exchange of good practices organized by the Governments of Bulgaria, Switzerland and Tajikistan, in cooperation with Kyrgyzstan; and
- (e) The workshops for building capacity in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia organized by the Governments of Armenia, Kyrgyzstan [and Ukraine], with assistance from the Government of Switzerland,

Noting with satisfaction that the workplan adopted at the third meeting of the Parties was approximately 85% completed, specifically close to 100% of priority 1 activities were completed, approximately 85% of priority 2 activities were completed and approximately 60% of priority 3 activities were completed,

1. Adopts the workplan for the period up to its fifth meeting, as appended to this decision, including activities to assist the Parties and Signatories to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in its implementation;

2. Suggests that lead countries that carry out the relevant activities should consult each other in order to benefit from each other's experience and to avoid unnecessary overlap;
3. Calls on the Parties and invites non-Parties to arrange, host and participate actively in seminars, workshops and meetings to facilitate the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol;
4. Invites every relevant body or agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, to participate actively in the activities included in the work plan.

## Appendix

### WORK PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND PROTOCOL FOR THE PERIOD UP TO THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES

Activity	Objective(s)	Method of work (sub-activities)	Organizational arrangements	Expected outcome	Time schedule	Budget
<b>TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)</b>						
Compliance with and implementation of the Convention [Implementation Committee suggestion]	Enhance the implementation of and compliance with the Convention	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consideration by the Implementation Committee of received compliance submissions</li> <li>2. Report on the Committee's activities to the fifth meeting of the Parties</li> <li>3. If necessary, examination of the Committee's structure and functions [and operating rules]</li> <li>4. Examination of the outcome of the second review of implementation</li> <li>5. Modification of the questionnaire for the report on implementation</li> <li>6. Distribution of the questionnaire to the Parties to the Convention for them to complete and return</li> <li>7. Preparation of a draft review of implementation</li> <li>8. Country-specific performance reviews, in agreement with Parties wishing to strengthen their implementation of and compliance with the Convention. Review would include period in-country examining legislation, procedures and practice (case study)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-5. Undertaken by the Implementation Committee (6 meetings in 2008-2011), with the support of the Secretariat.</li> <li>6-7. Carried out by the Secretariat.</li> <li>8. Undertaken by external consultant(s) under supervision of members of the Committee, with support of the secretariat</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommendations on compliance submissions</li> <li>2. Reports of the Committee meetings and a synthesis report to fifth meeting of the Parties</li> <li>3. Possible revision of the Committee's structure and functions [and operating rules]</li> <li>4. Summary on compliance issues from the second review of implementation</li> <li>5-6. Revised and simplified questionnaire</li> <li>7. Draft third review of implementation for consideration by Working Group on EIA and fourth meeting of the</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-3. 2008-2011, presented to fifth meeting of the Parties</li> <li>4. By the end of 2008</li> <li>5. Presentation of draft revised and simplified questionnaire to Working Group by end of 2009</li> <li>6. Issue of questionnaire early 2010. Return of questionnaires by</li> </ol>	<p>Most items included in Implementation Committee and Secretariat costs. However:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Requires budget for translation of submissions: US\$10,000.</li> <li>7. Requires an external consultant, budget: US\$20,000.</li> <li>8. US\$90,000 (approx. US\$30,000 per review), plus in-kind contributions from Parties providing experts and</li> </ol>

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				Parties 8. Recommendations to the country on strengthening capacity, including amendments to legislation, procedures and institutional arrangements.	mid 2010 7. Presentation of draft review to Working Group at end of 2010 and to fifth meeting of the Parties in 2011 8. As decided by the Committee (maximum 3)	from target country providing interpretation, translation, etc.
Exchange of good practices (a)	Shared knowledge and experience in appropriate legislation for implementation of the Convention, leading to better national legislation and application	One-day seminar on “Legislation and procedures for implementation of the Convention”, back-to-back with another meeting under the Convention	Implementation Committee, with support of the secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop report</li> <li>• Translated legislation implementing the Convention, reflecting good practices in different subregions of ECE</li> </ul>	2009-2010	US\$20,000 for informal translations?
Exchange of good practices (b)	Improved implementation of the Convention by sharing the recommendations of the Implementation Committee	Two-day seminar presenting the recommendations of the Implementation Committee on (a) Notification and (b) EIA documentation.	Lead country: With support of the Implementation Committee and the secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>		

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Exchange of good practices (c)	Improved implementation of the Convention by learning from Parties' experiences	<p>1. Production of an update of the Convention's guidelines (<i>on practical implementation, public participation, strengthening subregional cooperation, transboundary EIA in Central Asia, legal and administrative aspects, specific methodological issues, bilateral and multilateral cooperation</i>) in the light of the reports of some activities under the <b>current</b> (MOP3-4) workplan (e.g. workshops on joint projects, post-project analysis and EIA methodology) <i>[might this not be a separate activity?]</i></p> <p>2. Meetings of experts (including practitioners) on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects with long-range transboundary impacts;</li> <li>• How to deal with risk of accidents in transboundary EIA (in collaboration with the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents);</li> <li>• Cross-border projects;</li> <li>• Non cross-border/joint projects;</li> <li>• Distinguishing projects, subject to the Convention, from plans and programmes, subject to the Protocol;</li> <li>• Enhancement of the implementation by observation/supervision of pilot projects.</li> <li>• Access to justice in transboundary EIA procedures</li> </ul>	Lead country to present a topic leading to an update of the relevant guidance			

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Subregional cooperation to strengthen contacts between the Parties and others, including States outside the ECE region	Improved and developed the application of the Convention within subregions	<p>1. Holding of (further) subregional meetings.</p> <p>2. Supported by virtual networks (information exchange)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of an update of the Convention's guidelines on strengthening subregional cooperation (appended to decision III/5) in the light of the reports of some activities under the current workplan</li> <li>• Training courses?</li> <li>• Pilot projects?</li> </ul> <p>Subregional meetings might address practical experience in the EIA-SEA relationship.</p>				<p>Participants cover their own travel and accommodation costs, while host countries cover organizational and venue costs in-kind (approx. US\$20,000 per workshop).</p> <p>Etc.</p>
Capacity-building in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA)	Increased awareness and professional skills of officials and of the public in relation to transboundary EIA and to the application of the Convention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops?</li> <li>• Training courses?</li> <li>• Pilot projects?</li> <li>• Journal?</li> </ul> <p>Subregional meetings might address practical experience in the EIA-SEA relationship.</p>				<p>Workshops costing US\$30,000 each.</p> <p>Etc.</p>

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<b>STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA)</b>						
SEA as a tool for integrating climate change adaptation into plans, programmes (and policies) [ <i>Proposal by IIED</i> ]	Greater awareness of the importance of climate change adaptation in the preparation of plans, programmes (and policies); Availability to countries of basic procedural tools for addressing climate change adaptation within SEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subregional workshops [4?]</li> <li>• Elaboration of a guidance note (supplementing the Resource Manual)</li> </ul>	Lead countries from subregions concerned [...]; consultant to elaborate guidance note with support from a small editorial group and the secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop reports</li> <li>• Guidance note</li> </ul>	Workshops and elaboration of guidance note in 2009	Workshops: US\$15,000 each Consultant / technical support US\$20,000
Promotion and maintenance of the Resource Manual [ <i>Proposal by secretariat</i> ]	Greater awareness and use of the Resource Manual to support application of the Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution of the Resource Manual</li> <li>• Development of additional support resources</li> <li>• Maintenance of the Resource Manual in English [,French] and Russian</li> </ul>	Secretariat, overseen by a small editorial group [...]	Resource Manual to be considered by the Meeting of the Signatories and the first meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol	On-going	Included in secretariat support
Capacity-building in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) [ <i>Proposal by secretariat</i> ]	Increased awareness and professional skills of officials and of the public in relation to SEA and to the application of the Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training courses using the Resource Manual</li> </ul>				Training workshops costing US\$50,000 each

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<b>SEA and TRANSBOUNDARY EIA</b>						
Espoo Convention Award Scheme [Proposal by REC]	Identification and public appreciation of good or innovative practices in the application of the Convention or Protocol	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishment of an advisory team (6-9 reputed and impartial experts – country representatives and independent experts) to develop an evaluation framework, evaluation criteria and applications forms</li> <li>2. Distribution by secretariat of applications for the award, sent to the national focal points for forwarding to authorities involved in nationally-recognized innovative or good practices.</li> <li>3. Completion and return of application forms to the evaluation team</li> <li>4. Evaluation with the help of the advisory team: (a) review of all applications to identify short-list of most promising cases; (b) detailed review of short-listed projects and decision on awards.</li> <li>5. Conference and the award ceremony, back-to-back with the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Parties.</li> </ol>	Run by the secretariat with the assistance of a support team (...) and advisory team (...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award ceremony &amp; ‘conference’</li> <li>• Information on good/innovative practices</li> </ul>	8 to 12 months to complete	US\$15-25.000 for technical support. US\$10-20.000 for meetings of advisory team. US\$25.000 for Award ‘conference’ & ceremony.  Secretariat costs?