

DRAFT DECISION IV/8 TO BE TAKEN AT THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES
Submitted by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment

DECISION IV/8
**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES WITH
ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND
COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE UNECE REGION**

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

The Meeting,

Aware of the importance of wide participation by the Parties in its activities in order to ensure progress,

Aware also of the need to facilitate the participation of certain countries with economies in transition that may otherwise not be able to take part,

1. Calls upon countries in transition to finance to the extent possible their own participation in the activities under the Convention and its Protocol in order to ensure that the limited funds available are used efficiently;
2. Urges Parties and encourages non-Parties and relevant international organizations to contribute financial resources to enable countries with economies in transition and non-governmental organizations to participate in the meetings under the Convention and its Protocol;
3. Recommends that there should be no differentiation between Parties and non-Parties within the UNECE region for the purposes of providing financial assistance;
4. Also recommends that the Convention and its Protocol should [seek to]¹ apply the guiding criteria established and periodically updated by the Committee on Environmental Policy for financial assistance to support the participation of experts and representatives from countries with economies in transition in meetings and workshops organized within the framework of the Convention and its Protocol and other relevant activities, depending upon the availability of funds;
5. Requests the secretariat to grant, subject to the availability of funds, financial assistance for the participation in meetings under the Convention and under its Protocol of designated experts from non-governmental organizations identified in a list to be drawn up by its Bureau, subject to a maximum of five (5) such experts for each instrument, unless otherwise decided by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment [or a subsidiary body established under the Protocol to assist in the management of the workplan, respectively];
6. Recalling the amendment to the Convention (decision II/14) which allows United Nations Member States not members of UNECE to accede to the Convention and recalling article 23, paragraph 3, of its Protocol which allows United Nations Member States not members of UNECE to accede to the Protocol, decides that its Bureau shall, depending on the availability of funding, and subject to priority being given to funding (i) the workplan and (ii) the participation of experts and representatives referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5, examine requests for possible financial assistance for the participation in meetings under the Convention and its Protocol by representatives and experts from States outside the UNECE region.

¹ Bureau proposes deletion of 'seek to'.