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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE**

MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH  
TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION  
AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY  
WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL  
LAKES

First meeting  
Geneva, 17–19 January 2007  
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

**DESIGNATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF FOCAL POINTS**

Draft decision proposed by the Working Group on Water and Health

The following draft decision, which was discussed and endorsed by the Working Group on Water and Health at its sixth meeting (Geneva, 31 May – 2 June 2006), is recommended for adoption by the Meeting of the Parties.

## DRAFT DECISION

### DESIGNATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF FOCAL POINTS

The Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health,

*Recognizing* the important interlinkages between water and health issues,

*Wishing* to promote synergy between environment and health,

1. *Calls on* Parties to designate one or more national focal points for the Protocol and, as appropriate, contact persons for specific topics under its auspices, if they have not already done so, and to submit the relevant contact information to the secretariat, including any modifications or additions as they occur;
2. *Invites* non-Parties and interested organizations to designate one or more focal points for the Protocol and, as appropriate, contact persons for specific topics under its auspices, if they have not already done so, and to submit the relevant contact information to the secretariat, including any modifications or additions as they occur;
3. *Requests* the secretariat to keep the list of focal points and contact persons for specific issues within the scope of the Protocol up to date and to post it on the Protocol's website to facilitate the sharing of information; and
4. *Calls on* Parties to make appropriate internal arrangements so that the nominated focal points can carry out the required tasks to promote and support activities related to the Protocol within their countries/organizations. Focal points should facilitate and/or coordinate, *inter alia*:
  - (a) Dissemination of information related to the Protocol to other concerned national authorities, organizations and the general public, as applicable;
  - (b) Provision to the secretariat of relevant information that could be of use for other Parties and non-Parties in their implementation of the Protocol; and
  - (c) Information requests from the public, where appropriate.

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