ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Meeting of the Parties to the
Convention on Access to Information,
Public Participation in Decision-making and
Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
(First meeting, Lucca, Italy, 21-23 October 2002)
(Item 7 (a) of the provisional agenda)

DRAFT DECISION I/11
PROCEDURES FOR THE PREPARATION, ADOPTION AND
MONITORING OF WORK PROGRAMMES

The Meeting,

Recalling article 10, paragraph 2 (g), of the Convention, requiring Parties to consider and undertake any additional action that may be required for the achievement of the purposes of the Convention,

Recalling also its decision I/14 on the establishment of the Working Group of the Parties,

Believing that a work programme is necessary to identify and set priorities for activities to be undertaken under the auspices of the Convention, and that the procedures of preparing, adopting and monitoring the work programme should be clear and transparent,

Acknowledging the usefulness of identifying as far as possible all proposed activities for the forthcoming intersessional period and their objectives, estimated costs, time frames and expected outcomes at each ordinary meeting of the Parties,

Recognizing the need for flexibility in the implementation of the work programme and for the Working Group of the Parties to have the possibility of adjusting the work programme to changing circumstances within the framework of the budget agreed,
Recognizing also that, in case of unforeseen events and minor changes, this possibility of adjusting the work programme is extended to the Bureau,

Recognizing further that the procedures which are the subject of this decision are closely linked with the financial arrangements and that they should be reviewed at the latest in connection with the review of the financial arrangements envisaged in decision I/13, paragraph 10,

Believing that a long-term strategic plan for the Convention should eventually be adopted,

1. Decides that a work programme of activities under the auspices of the Convention should be prepared for adoption at each ordinary meeting of the Parties to provide a framework guiding the undertaking of such activities during the intersessional period following that meeting;

2. Also decides that for each activity in the work programme, the following details should be indicated:

   (a) Objective(s) and expected output;

   (b) Lead country, body or organization;

   (c) Method of work;

   (d) Time frame;

   (e) Estimated budget and expected sources of funding, if other than the Convention’s budget, indicating the core requirements.

Core requirements shall have priority in the allocation of the budgetary resources made available under the voluntary scheme of contributions adopted by decision I/13 on financial arrangements. Parties, Signatories and other States are encouraged to contribute to activities not covered by these resources as the need arises;

3. Agrees to review the procedures for the preparation, adoption and monitoring of work programmes at its second meeting in connection with the review of the financial arrangements and on the basis of any proposals from the Working Group of the Parties; and

4. Requests the Working Group of the Parties to take steps to prepare a long-term strategic plan for the Convention for possible adoption at the second meeting of the Parties.