

Decision II/6

Decisions adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol

Aligning the authentic language versions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment,

Aware that discrepancies between the three authentic language versions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment have been identified in the course of the implementation of the Protocol,

Concerned that such discrepancies might lead to different interpretations and inconsistencies in the application of the Protocol by its Parties,

Determined to ensure the full alignment of the three authentic texts of the Protocol,

1. *Invites* the secretariat to arrange for a review of the text of the three authentic language versions of the Protocol by the United Nations, which would list all the inconsistencies;
2. *Establishes* an ad hoc task force with a mandate:
 - (a) To consider the possible inconsistencies;
 - (b) To determine whether each possible inconsistency merely reflects technical errors or may raise issues of interpretation;
 - (c) To elaborate proposals for consideration by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment on how to address such inconsistencies;
3. *Decides* that the task force should work electronically and deliver its proposals for consideration to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment by 2016;
4. *Requests* that, based on the findings of the task force, the Working Group suggest appropriate ways for addressing the identified inconsistencies by end of 2016.