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**MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY
WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES**

Fourth meeting
Bonn (Germany), 20–22 November 2006
Item 6(a) of the provisional agenda

**MODEL PROVISIONS ON TRANSBOUNDARY FLOOD MANAGEMENT
Revised version**

Submitted by the Chairperson of the Flood Task Force

1. On 18 October 2006, Bulgaria formally proposed some amendments to the Model Provisions on Transboundary Flood Management as included in the annex of document ECE/MP.WAT/2006/4. The proposed amendments referred to provisions 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Model Provisions on Transboundary Flood Management. Taking these proposals into consideration and after consultation with the Flood Task Force and the Legal Board, the chairperson of the Flood Task Force proposes a revision of the Model Provisions on Transboundary Flood Management introducing amendments to provisions 2 and 4.
2. The revised provisions 2 and 4 should read as follows.*

Provision 2

1. **The Parties shall without delay inform each other about any critical situation likely to cause flooding in the other Parties' territory. The Riparian Parties shall set up and operate coordinated or joint communication, warning and alarm systems with the aim of obtaining and transmitting information. These systems shall operate on the basis of**

* For easy reference, amendments to the Model Provisions on Transboundary Flood Management as they appear in the annex of document ECE/MP.WAT/2006/4 are highlighted in the text.

compatible data transmission and processing procedures and facilities to be agreed upon by the Riparian Parties. The Riparian Parties shall designate competent authorities and points of contact at all appropriate levels and inform each other thereof.

2. Whenever one Party ascertains the existence of a situation likely to cause flooding in the other Parties' territory or in the process of flooding the other Parties' territory, it shall:

(a) Immediately convey this information to the competent authorities and points of contact of the other Parties following the agreed-on procedure. Such information shall contain, *inter alia*, the available data on precipitation, run-off and water level;

(b) Adopt, to the extent possible, all appropriate measures to prevent or mitigate the adverse impact of the flood in the other Parties' territory;

(c) Notify and consult the other Parties without delay in order to arrive at ~~common~~ co-ordinated remedial action.

Provision 4

1. The Parties shall strive to incorporate environmental requirements into their flood management strategy. In particular, they shall take, to the extent possible, all appropriate measures to maintain, improve and restore the natural function of the watercourse and the natural potential of the water resources; protect and restore water-related ecosystems; ensure that flow management takes into account the natural flow of solid matter; enhance interactions between river, groundwater and alluvial areas; and conserve, protect and reactivate alluvial areas as natural floodplains.

2. The Parties shall also promote, to the extent possible, measures to maintain, improve and restore the retention capacity of small watercourses, wetlands, forests, soils and grasslands throughout the river basin. To this end, they shall pursue an active policy against deforestation; support good agricultural practice; and promote schemes for payment for ecosystem services, where appropriate.