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Meeting of the Parties to the
Convention on Access to Information,
Public Participation in Decision-making and
Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Working Group of the Parties to the Convention
(Fourth meeting, Geneva, 1-4 February 2005)
Item 14 of the provisional agenda

ELEMENTS FOR A DRAFT DECISION ON LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE CONVENTION¹

Prepared by the Bureau with the assistance of the secretariat

The Meeting,

Recalling its decision I/11 on the procedures for the preparation, adoption and monitoring of work programmes, which recognized a need for the adoption of a long-term strategic plan for the Convention and requested the Working Group of the Parties to prepare a plan for possible adoption at the second meeting of the Parties,

Noting with appreciation the document on strategic planning prepared by the secretariat for the third meeting of the Working Group of the Parties, which analysed the possible scope and format of strategic plans and outlined possible further steps to be taken by the Working Group of the Parties in order to prepare the draft plan for consideration and adoption by the Meeting of the Parties,

¹ The elements presented here could either be part of a free-standing decision on strategic planning or could be incorporated into the decision on the work programme for 2006 to 2008.

Recognizing that a strategic plan for the Convention would also cover the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs), while acknowledging the future role that the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol will have in shaping the activities under the Protocol,

Believing that a strategic plan will provide a valuable framework for the preparation of future work programmes under the Convention and will thus serve as a useful tool to guide the further development and implementation of the Convention throughout the UNECE region and beyond,

1. Requests the Working Group of the Parties, with the assistance of the secretariat and appropriate involvement of the public, to develop a strategic plan for the Convention covering the period from the third to the [fifth][sixth] meeting of the Parties and containing the following main elements:

- (a) Vision or mission;
- (b) Focal areas and their specific goals and objectives;
- (c) Indicative types of activity;
- (d) Implementing partners;
- (e) Framework for implementation of the strategic plan;

2. Calls on Parties and invites Signatories, other States and relevant intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to the development of the strategic plan; and

3. Requests the Working Group of the Parties to establish a procedure for the preparation of the strategic plan and to regularly monitor its preparation in order for it to be ready for consideration and adoption at the third ordinary meeting of the Parties.