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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Meeting of the parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment (Third meeting, 9- 12 October 2000) (Item 2, c (ii) of the provisional agenda)

Decision II/12 Financial Assistance to the Countries with Economies in Transition */ Submitted by the Bureau

The Meeting,

Aware of the importance of broad participation by Parties in their activities in order to ensure progress,

<u>Aware also</u> of the need to facilitate the participation of certain countries with economies in transition which would otherwise not be able to take part,

- 1. <u>Calls upon</u> countries in transition to finance to the extent possible their own participation in the activities under the Convention in order to ensure that the limited funds available are used efficiently;
- 2. <u>Urges</u> Parties and encourages non-Parties and relevant international organizations to contribute financial resources in accordance with decision II/13. On the budget, earmarked for the activities under the Convention, to the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition
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(TFACT) and provide the secretariat with information on supplementary financial support given on a bilateral basis to enable countries with economies in transition to participate in the meetings under the Convention;

- 3. <u>Recommends</u> that there should be no differentiation between Parties and non-Parties for the purposes of providing financial assistance;
- 4. <u>Aware</u> of the fact that this assistance leads to a heavy administrative burden for the secretariat, requests the secretariat to fund, subject to available resources in TFACT, only a lumpsum for the participation of one governmentally designated expert from each of the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, to meetings under the Convention.