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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention  
on Environmental Impact Assessment  
in a Transboundary Context  
Second meeting  
(Sofia, 26-27 February 2001)  
(Item 4 (xii) of the provisional agenda)

DRAFT DECISION TO BE TAKEN AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE PARTIES  
Submitted by the Working Group

**DECISION II/12  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE COUNTRIES  
WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION**

The Meeting,

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

Aware also of the need to facilitate the participation of certain countries with economies in transition that would otherwise not be able to take part,

1. Calls upon 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;

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2. Urges 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 (TFACT) and to provide the secretariat with information on other financial support given on a bilateral basis to enable countries with economies in transition to participate in the meetings under the Convention;

3. Recommends that there should be no differentiation between Parties and non-Parties for the purposes of providing financial assistance;

4. Requests the secretariat to grant, subject to the resources available in TFACT, a lump sum for the participation in meetings under the Convention 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.