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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

Working Group for the Preparation of the  
First Meeting of the Parties to the  
Convention on Access to Information,  
Public Participation in Decision-making and  
Access to Justice in Environmental Matters  
(Second meeting, Geneva, 21-24 May 2002)

**DRAFT DECISION I/ [..]**

**POLLUTANT RELEASE AND TRANSFER REGISTERS \*/**

The Meeting,

Recalling article 5, paragraph 9, and article 10, paragraph 2 (i), of the Convention,

Recalling also the decision taken at the seventh session of the Committee on Environmental Policy to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group charged with the preparation of a legally binding instrument on pollutant release and transfer registers, with a view to having such an instrument ready for adoption at the fifth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” in Kiev, 1/

Noting with approval the reports of this Working Group under the Committee on Environmental Policy, 2/

Bearing in mind that, since the seventh session of the Committee, the Convention has entered into force and that it is therefore appropriate for the work on pollutant release and transfer registers to be continued under the aegis of the Meeting of the Parties,

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\*/ Prepared by the secretariat following consultation with the Bureau.

Recalling rule 4, paragraph 3, of its Rules of Procedure, which provides that extraordinary meetings of the Parties shall be convened at such times as may be deemed necessary by the Meeting of the Parties,

Recalling also rule 9, paragraph 2, of its Rules of Procedure, which provides that, when the Meeting of the Parties decides to convene an extraordinary meeting, it shall also decide upon the provisional agenda for that meeting,

1. Establishes an open-ended ad hoc subsidiary body called the Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, to replace the above-mentioned Working Group under the Committee;
2. Decides that the mandate of the Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers will be to prepare a legally binding instrument in the form of a protocol on pollutant release and transfer registers, thereby finishing the work of the first Working Group;
3. Also decides that the protocol will be open to all States and regional economic integration organizations referred to in article 17 and article 19, paragraph 3, of the Convention whether or not they are a Party to the Convention;
4. Further Decides to convene an extraordinary meeting of the Parties on the occasion of the fifth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” at Kiev;
5. Decides that the provisional agenda for that meeting will consist of three items, namely the adoption of the agenda, the adoption of the protocol and any other business;
6. Calls upon the Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to complete its work so that the protocol can be adopted at the above-mentioned extraordinary meeting;
7. Calls upon the Parties to the Convention, other member States of UNECE and other States that may accede to the Convention pursuant to its article 19, paragraph 3, to participate actively in the preparation of the protocol;
8. Invites all interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations falling within the scope of article 10, paragraphs 4 and 5, of the Convention to contribute to this process.

### Notes

1/ See ECE/CEP/74, paragraph 30 (b).

2/ See CEP/WG.5/AC.2/2001/2, 5 and 9 and CEP/WG.5/AC.2/2002/2 [, ...].