

MP.EIA/2003/2



FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

**ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE**

KIEV, UKRAINE  
21-23 May 2003

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**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE PROTOCOL ON  
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO THE  
CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT**

submitted by

the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Protocol on  
Strategic Environmental Assessment



UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE





**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

MP.EIA/2003/2  
14 February 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**Meeting of the Parties to the Convention  
on Environmental Impact Assessment  
in a Transboundary Context**

**(Extraordinary meeting, Kiev, 21 May 2003)  
(Item 2 of the provisional agenda)**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION ON  
THE PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT<sup>1</sup>**

We, the Signatories to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,

1. Acknowledge that the Protocol will further integrate environmental, including health, considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans, programmes, and, to the extent appropriate, policies and legislation, as part of the process towards achieving sustainable development;
2. Resolve to strive for the entry into force of the Protocol as soon as possible and to seek to apply the principles of the Protocol to the maximum extent possible pending its entry into force, and to continue to cooperate in progressively developing policies and strategies related to matters within the scope of this Protocol;
3. Request the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention to actively promote and keep under review the process of ratification of the Protocol pending its entry into force by inter alia:
  - (a) Establishing the Meeting of the Signatories to the Protocol, open to all members of ECE and to observers:
    - (i) To identify activities that need to be undertaken pending the entry into force of the Protocol ;

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<sup>1</sup>Prepared by the Ad hoc Working Group on the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment for adoption at the extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Convention.

- (ii) To report on progress made in respect of the ratification of the Protocol to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention; and
    - (iii) To prepare for the first meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;
  - (b) Establishing an open-ended task force to prepare for the first meeting of the Signatories;
  - (c) Reflecting the activities identified by the Meeting of the Signatories within the work programme of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention; and
  - (d) Encouraging Governments to make contributions within the framework of the financial arrangements of the Convention, or otherwise, to support these activities;
4. Invite the Executive Secretary to provide secretariat support for the tasks related to the implementation of the Protocol;
5. Emphasize that parliaments, Governments and environmental, health and other authorities at all levels, as well as the public and non-governmental organizations, have a key role to play in the legal implementation and practical application of the Protocol;
6. Call upon the Meeting of the Signatories to promote public awareness of the Protocol, with particular reference to the opportunities that it provides to the public;
7. Emphasize the importance of capacity building for the effective implementation and application of the provisions of this Protocol;
8. Call for close cooperation between the Meeting of the Signatories and relevant international governmental and non-governmental organizations on the issues of this Protocol.