

DECISION 2000/7 ON THE PRIORITIES AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the provisions of articles 18, paragraph 2 (b) and (c), 4 and 5, and annex XII to the UN/ECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents,

Acknowledging the intergovernmental tasks under the Convention as outlined in CP.TEIA/2000/8, the current needs of the Parties and the other UN/ECE member countries as well as the work done under the auspices of the Signatories to the Convention aimed at applying the Convention in practice,

1. Sets the following priorities for its future work programme:

(a) Implementation of the provisions of the Convention by its Parties and ratification or accession to it by as many UN/ECE member countries and as soon as possible;

(b) Identification and notification of hazardous activities for the purpose of the Convention;

(c) Promotion of measures to prevent industrial accidents, including accidental water pollution;

(d) Preparation of a special joint session of the governing bodies of the UN/ECE

Conventions on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes with a view to considering entering into an intergovernmental negotiation process for an appropriate regime, including a legally binding instrument, in the UN/ECE region on civil liability for damage caused by hazardous activities within the scope of both Conventions;

(e) More efficient industrial accident notification;

(f) Reporting of past industrial accidents and their analysis;

(g) Facilitation of the exchange of information and safety technologies;

2. Adopts the programme of work under the Convention, including the long-term programme of work and the work plan for 2001-2002 contained in ECE/CP.TEIA/2, annex IX;

3. Mandates the Bureau, with the assistance of the UN/ECE secretariat, to ensure that the long-term programme of work and the work plan for 2001-2002 are implemented taking into consideration the work done by other international organizations with a view to developing synergies and avoiding duplication of efforts;

Requests the Parties and invites Governments of other UN/ECE member countries to actively participate in the implementation of the work plan for 2001-2002 and to take the lead in specific projects within the work plan.