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

**Ad hoc Working Group on the Protocol
on Strategic Environmental Assessment**

REPORT OF THE SEVENTH SESSION

1. The seventh session of the ad hoc Working Group on the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context took place in Geneva (Switzerland) from 18 to 22 November 2002.
2. It was attended by the delegations of: Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan and Yugoslavia.
3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Commission of the European Communities.
4. The following international and non-governmental organizations were also represented: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP), Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization (WHO/EURO), ECOGLOBE, ECOTERRA, Environment Experts Association, European ECO Forum, Institute of Occupational Medicine and Environmental Health, International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) and Regional Environmental Centre (REC).
5. The meeting was opened by Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, Vice-Chairman of the Working Group, on behalf of the Chairman, Mr. Terje Lind. Mr. Lind took over the chair at 3 p.m. on Monday, 18 November.

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6. The Working Group adopted the agenda as contained in document MP.EIA/AC.1/2002/11.

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTH SESSION

7. The Working Group took note of the report of the sixth session (MP.EIA/AC.1/2002/7).

III. PREPARATION OF A DRAFT PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA)

8. The Chairman introduced the consolidated version of the draft protocol on strategic environmental assessment and drew the attention of the Meeting to the outstanding issues.
9. The Working Group was able to conclude the discussion on the draft protocol on strategic environmental assessment, except for two outstanding issues in articles 4, paragraph 2 and 11, paragraph 2.

IV. CLOSING OF THE SEVENTH SESSION

10. The Chairman thanked the delegations for a productive session and indicated that one short meeting of the Working Group would be needed to finalize the protocol for adoption at the extraordinary session of the Meeting of the Parties, May 2003, in Kiev. The Working Group requested the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, to prepare a further consolidated version for its next meeting on 30 January 2003, to be held in conjunction with the next meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment.