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First meeting of the Conference of the Parties
to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information,
Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters
in Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 20–22 April 2022

DRAFT DECISION I/4

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 15.4(b) of the Agreement, which states that at its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties shall discuss and adopt by consensus the financial provisions necessary for the functioning and implementation of the Agreement,

Recalling also article 14, which establishes a Voluntary Fund to support the financing of the implementation of the Agreement, the functioning of which shall be defined by the Conference of the Parties,

Recalling further article 17.1, which states that the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean shall carry out the secretariat functions of the Agreement,

Recognizing the need for adequate, stable and predictable resources for the implementation of the Agreement,

Whereas financial arrangements must be based on the principles of equality, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, solidarity, coherence, equitable burden-sharing, efficiency and sound financial management,

1. *Agrees* that the Voluntary Fund established pursuant to article 14 of the Agreement shall be constituted as a trust fund in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and other applicable directives;
2. *Also agrees* that the Voluntary Fund and the activities financed by it shall be administered by the secretariat in accordance with the applicable regulations, rules, procedures, guidelines and policies of the United Nations, there being no earmarking of contributions to the Fund;

3. *Requests* the secretariat to submit, at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties, a consolidated report on the finances and implementation of the activities financed by the Fund, prepared in accordance with the financial regulations and accounting and reporting procedures of the United Nations, without, however, the secretariat being required to submit substantive and financial reports for each individual contribution received;
4. *Invites* the parties, signatory countries and other States and organizations to contribute to the Voluntary Fund to support the implementation of the Agreement, preferably through multi-year or recurring annual contributions;
5. *Entrusts* the Presiding Officers to lead, with the support of the secretariat, discussions to explore additional funding options with a view to securing adequate, stable and predictable resources for the implementation of the Agreement, including through the regular budget of the United Nations;
6. *Requests* the secretariat to continue exploring additional sources of funding to support the activities planned for the 2022–2024 period;
7. *Requests* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to allocate additional resources from its regular budget to support the Agreement;
8. *Agrees* to consider the question of financial arrangements at its second ordinary meeting.