PARTICIPANTS ONLY
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Fourth 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

Nassau, 21–24 April 2026

DRAFT DECISION IV/7

PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES WITH RESPECT TO PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 7 of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) and, in particular, paragraph 2 thereof, which states that each Party shall guarantee mechanisms for the participation of the public in decision-making processes, revisions, re-examinations or updates with respect to projects and activities, and in other processes for granting environmental permits that have or may have a significant impact on the environment, including when they may affect health,

Considering article 4, paragraph 3 of the Escazú Agreement, which establishes that each Party shall adopt the necessary measures, of a legislative, regulatory, administrative or any other nature, in the framework of its domestic provisions, to guarantee the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement,

Considering also article 13 of the Escazú Agreement, which establishes that each Party, to the extent of its ability and in accordance with its national priorities, commits to provide the resources for national activities that are needed to fulfil the obligations derived from the Agreement,

Considering further articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Escazú Agreement, on capacity-building, cooperation and the clearing house, respectively,

Recalling decision III/1 on national implementation, by which the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare a report, for consideration at the next ordinary meeting of the Conference, on national good practices related to participation of the public in decision-making processes for granting environmental permits for projects and activities that have or may have a significant impact on the environment (article 7, paragraph 2 of the Escazú Agreement),

1. *Welcomes* the report prepared by the Secretariat on national good practices related to participation of the public in decision-making processes for granting environmental permits for projects and activities that have or may have a significant impact on the environment;

2. *Urges* the Parties to continue advancing in that regard and put into practice, in the framework of their respective domestic provisions, the main conclusions and recommendations contained in the report, in particular those related to the implementation of the provisions of article 7 of the Escazú Agreement with regard to environmental impact assessments;

3. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue recording regional progress in public participation in the Observatory on Principle 10 in Latin America and the Caribbean as the clearing house referred to in article 12 of the Escazú Agreement;

4. *Invites* the Parties and the Secretariat to strengthen cooperation and synergies with relevant regional and international networks.