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**EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN MAJOR HAZARDS AGREEMENT
(EUR-OPA)**

Criteria for Sponsorship of Member States' Participation in CPC meetings

*Document prepared by the Secretariat
of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement*

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Introduction

It is recalled that in Resolution (87)2, entitled "Setting up a co-operation group for the prevention of, protection against, and organization of relief in major natural and technological disasters" - adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 March 1987 at the 405th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies - under the head "Activities", it states "The travel and subsistence expenses of persons attending the group's meetings (ministers, permanent correspondents and experts) shall be paid by the member State concerned".

However, on many occasions, EUR-OPA has received requests from some member States to cover the cost of participation of their Permanent Correspondent. Therefore, the Secretariat has attempted to find the most equitable method to determine which countries ought to be sponsored for their participation in the Committees of the Permanent Correspondents (CPC) which are held twice a year.

After careful research, the Secretariat has raised the question of whether the World Bank grading of countries according to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita income could be the most appropriate model to adopt in order to resolve this question. The table of GDP per capita income in US dollars is presented in Table I. We have presented in Table II a breakdown of the countries to be sponsored as they fall below \$8000 per capita. GDP per capita indicators convey the state of a country's wellbeing in terms of its population's standard of living, and allow us to determine whether it has increased or decreased over time.

As recorded in the meeting report of the Joint Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents and Directors of Specialised Centres ([link to AP/CAT 2017 20](#)) held in Paris on 6-7 November 2017, after much reflection and debate, Mr Silvestrini, "invited the Committee to consider the GDP per capita income as the criteria for sponsorship of member States' participation in the Committee of Permanent Correspondents meetings. The Committee exchanged on this issue, but did not make a decision and recommended the Secretariat to adopt a flexible approach."

Table I - GDP per capita in \$US

Data Source: World Bank

Last Updated on 27/09/2018

Country	Country Code	2017* GDP (\$US)
Moldova	MDA	2289.9
Ukraine	UKR	2639.8
Morocco	MAR	3007.2
Armenia	ARM	3936.8
Algeria	DZA	4123.4
Georgia	GEO	4078.3
Azerbaijan	AZE	4131.6
Albania	ALB	4537.9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH	5180.6
Macedonia, FYR	MKD	5442.6
Serbia	SRB	5900.0
Bulgaria	BGR	8031.6
Lebanon	LBN	8523.7
Russian Federation	RUS	10743.1
Romania	ROU	10813.7
Croatia	HRV	13294.5
Slovak Republic	SVK	17605.0
Greece	GRC	18613.4
Portugal	PRT	21136.3
Cyprus	CYP	25233.6
Malta	MLT	26946.0
Belgium	BEL	43323.8
San Marino (2008)	SMR	49664.0
Luxembourg	LUX	104103.0
Monaco (2013)	MCO	78700

Table II Suggested criteria

Criteria: GDP per capita <8000\$ according to World Bank

Country	Participation Paid: 13	Participation not Paid: 12
Albania	X	
Algeria	X	
Armenia	X	
Azerbaijan	Bureau X	
Belgium		X
Bosnia and Herzegovina	X	
Bulgaria		X
Croatia	Bureau x	X
Cyprus		X
Georgia	X	
Greece		X
Lebanon		X
Luxembourg		X
Macedonia, FYR	X	
Malta		X
Moldova	X	
Monaco		X
Morocco	X	
Portugal	Chair X	
Romania		X
Russian Federation		X
San Marino		X
Serbia	X	
Slovak Republic		X
Ukraine	X	