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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 405<sup>th</sup> 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.

The Bureau will consider whether these countries should automatically be offered financial support to attend CPC meetings. This issue will also be discussed with all Permanent Correspondents at the CPC meeting on 6-7 November 2017 in order to take a final decision.

Table I - GDP per capita in \$US

Data Source: World Bank

Last Updated on 21/07/2017

Country	Country Code	2016* GDP (\$US)
Moldova	MDA	1900
Ukraine	UKR	2186
Morocco	MAR	2832
Armenia	ARM	3606
Algeria	DZA	3844
Georgia	GEO	3854
Azerbaijan	AZE	3877
Albania	ALB	4147
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BIH	4700
Macedonia, FYR	MKD	5237
Serbia	SRB	5348
Bulgaria	BGR	7351
Lebanon	LBN	7914
Russian Federation	RUS	8748
Romania	ROU	9474
Turkey	TUR	10788
Croatia	HRV	12091
Greece	GRC	18104
Portugal	PRT	19813
Cyprus	CYP	23324
Malta	MLT	25058
Belgium	BEL	41096
San Marino (2008)	SMR	62597
Luxembourg	LUX	102831
Monaco (2013)	MCO	78700

Table II Suggested criteria

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

Country	Participation Paid: 12	Participation not Paid: 13
Albania	X	
Algeria	X	
Armenia	X	
Azerbaijan	Bureau X	
Belgium		X
Bosnia and Herzegovina	X	
Bulgaria	X	
Croatia	Bureau	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	
Turkey		X
Ukraine	X	