



Recommendation of the Council on  
the Analysis of the Environmental  
Consequences of Significant  
Public and Private Projects

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## Background Information

The Recommendation on the Analysis of the Environmental Consequences of Significant Public and Private Projects was adopted by the OECD Council on 14 November 1974 on proposal of the Environment Committee (now called Environment Policy Committee). The Recommendation called on Adherents to establish procedures to assess environmental effects of projects and exchange information that would help them forecast such effects. The Recommendation was abrogated on 12 July 2017, given that its provisions have been superseded by the OECD Recommendation on the Assessment of Projects, Plans and Programmes with Significant Impact on the Environment [[OECD/LEGAL/0172](#)].

**THE COUNCIL,**

**HAVING REGARD** to Article 5 b) of the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

**HAVING REGARD** to the Recommendation of the Council of 26 May 1972 on Guiding Principles concerning International Economic Aspects of Environmental Policies [C(72)128];

**CONSIDERING** that environmental goals should be considered equally with other economic and social goals in the establishment of government programmes;

**CONSIDERING** that the prevention of adverse environmental effects is the most effective way of realising environmental policy goals either within a country's territory or beyond its boundaries;

**CONSIDERING** that one helpful way to realise environmental goals is through the forecasting and description of significant consequences to the environment resulting from proposed decisions and actions, both at public and private levels;

**On the proposal of the Environment Committee;**

**I. RECOMMENDS** that Member Governments:

1. Establish procedures and methodologies for forecasting and describing the environmental consequences of significant public and private projects likely to have a major impact on the quality of the environment;

2. Exchange information on environmental matters which would help them to forecast and describe the environmental effects of proposed programmes or projects.

**II. INSTRUCTS** the Environment Committee to assess the action taken pursuant to this Recommendation and to report thereon to the Council.

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