CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

THE PARTIES TO THE PRESENT CONVENTION,

DETERMINED to promote relations and co-operation in the field of environmental protection,

AWARE of the significance of the activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in strengthening such relations and co-operation, particularly in the field of air pollution including long-range transport of air pollutants,

RECOGNIZING the contribution of the Economic Commission for Europe to the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provvisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

COGNIZANT of the references in the chapter on environment of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe calling for co-operation to control air pollution and its effects, including long-range transport of air pollutants, and to the development through international co-operation of an extensive programme for the monitoring and evaluation of long-range transport of air pollutants, starting with sulphur dioxide and with possible extension to other pollutants,

Considering the pertinent provisions of the Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, and in particular principle 21, which expresses the common conviction that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

RECOGNIZING the existence of possible adverse effects, in the short and long term, of air pollution including transboundary air pollution,

CONCERNED that a rise in the level of emissions of air pollutants within the region as forecast may increase such adverse effects,

RECOGNIZING the need to study the implications of the long-range transport of air pollutants and the need to seek solutions for the problems identified,