



NATIONS UNIES
COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE
POUR L'EUROPE

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ
ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ
ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

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25 April 2012

Ref. EIA/IC/S/5

Dear Mr. Ganbarov,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) in your position as Focal Point to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

You may recall that the Committee at its twenty-fourth session, (20–23 March 2012, Geneva) began its consideration of the submission by Armenia expressing concerns about the compliance of Azerbaijan with its obligations under the Convention. The submission by Armenia had been received by the secretariat on 31 August 2011 and the reply by Azerbaijan to the submission on 29 November 2011.

The Committee agreed that, for further consideration of the submission, it needed the following additional information from the two Parties:

- (a) More detailed information from Armenia concerning its submission, including, notably, the possible transboundary environmental impact of each of the six projects;
- (b) All relevant information from Azerbaijan concerning the EIA procedure and decision-making for each of those projects.

You are kindly invited to provide the above information to the Committee through the Convention's secretariat **by 15 June 2012**.

.../...

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Furthermore, in line with paragraph 9 of the structure and functions of the Committee, the Committee agreed to invite the two Parties to its twenty-sixth session, where it would continue its consideration of the submission taking into account the further information to be provided by the two Parties.

With this letter I invite your Government to be present at the twenty-sixth session of the Committee, which will take place from 26 to 28 November 2012 at the Palais des Nations. The Committee intends start its consideration of the matter in a closed session, and will then invite each Party to present their position shortly (not exceeding 20 minutes) and to answer questions from the Committee. The Committee's questions will be forwarded to you in advance of the session together with a detailed time-schedule of the hearing. You are kindly invited to provide the secretariat with confirmation of your participation and the composition of your delegation well in advance of the session. Please also inform the secretariat at this time whether you will be willing to accept the presence of observers at the hearing.

Finally, I would like to remind you of the rule 11 of the operating rules of the Implementation Committee, which indicates the following:

“Rule 11

1. Generally, the Committee should not begin the formal discussion on a matter at any meeting that takes place before any requested reply has been received from the Party whose compliance is in question or the applicable deadline for replying has passed. This paragraph should be applied, *mutatis mutandis*, in the case that the Committee requests additional information from the Submitting Party.

2. When it is known that the Committee will discuss the matter of any submission at a particular meeting, the secretariat should notify the Parties involved that the matter will be discussed as well as of their right to participate in the discussion and to present to the Committee information and opinions on the matter under consideration.

3. Generally, the Parties involved should present any new substantial information to the Committee through the secretariat at least two weeks in advance of the meeting at which the matter will be discussed.”

Yours sincerely,



Vesna Kolar Planinšič
Chair, Implementation Committee,
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context