

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Ninth session) and Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Fifth session)

STATEMENT BY MONTENEGRO

Geneva, 12 December 2023

Mr. Chair,

In terms of the adoption of the Decision IX/4c–V/4c on compliance by Bosnia and Herzegovina with its obligations under the Convention and the Protocol in respect of the construction of Buk Bijela hydropower plant on the Drina River, Montenegro would like to make the following statement.

First, Montenegro highly appreciates the valuable work of the Implementation Committee and the time the Committee members devoted to considering all our information, data, remarks and suggestions;

Second, the submission of Montenegro on compliance by Bosnia and Herzegovina with its obligations under the Convention and the Protocol in respect of the construction of Buk Bijela hydropower plant on the Drina River referred to the procedure from 2019;

Third, Montenegro has taken a constructive and cooperative approach throughout the process and acted in good faith. As demonstrated, the representatives of the line ministries of Montenegro provided all the necessary information and answers to the questions and concerns raised by the Committee.

While noting that the above-mentioned positive and constructive approach of the Montenegrin side is not duly reflected in the Decision, Montenegro extends its support to it. Montenegro also reiterates its willingness to continue to cooperate constructively with the Implementation Committee.

Montenegro kindly requests that this statement be duly reflected in the official record of this session.

Thank you.