IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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Ref. Follow-up on decision VI/2 of the Meeting of the Parties (EIA/IC/S/1 Bystroe Canal Project)

20 December 2016

Dear Mr Tarasenko,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Kyiv, 2003).

At its thirty-seventh session, held in Geneva from 12 to 14 December 2016, the Committee followed up on decision VI/2 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention. The Committee considered the additional information provided since its thirty-sixth session by Ukraine and Romania, and a Ukrainian non-governmental organization 'Environment, People, Law' regarding the follow-up to decision VI/2 (paras. 15–28).

The Committee welcomed the preparation of the laws by Ukraine. It regretted that the new laws of Ukraine on EIA and SEA that the Parliament of Ukraine had adopted on 4 October 2016 were vetoed by the Ukrainian President on 31 October 2016. It noted that Ukraine had failed to provide a report on its implementation of the article 7 of the Convention on post project analysis, that was due eight months before the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties, or by 13 November 2016, as requested by decision VI/2, paragraph 26. Further, the Committee agreed that progress by Ukraine to bring the Bystroe Canal Project into full compliance with the Convention, specifically on the proposed measures in decision V/4 (para. 19), was very limited.

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To enable further assessment of the matter by the Committee with the view to finalize its draft recommendations to the seventh Meeting of the Parties at its next session, I am now writing on behalf of the Committee to remind you to report by the end of 2016 with regard to:

- (a) Implementation of the Government strategy to implement the Convention, in particular the concrete legislative measures adopted to that effect;
- (b) Concrete measures to bring the Bystroe Canal Project into conformity with the Convention, especially in relation to the measures in accordance with paragraph 19 of decision V/4 (see ECE/MP.EIA/15).

In addition, the Committee asked me to reiterate the request the Government of Ukraine to report in accordance with decision VI/2, para. 26 on the implementation of Article 7 of the Convention regarding the post-project analysis.

Please provide the reports requested to the secretariat in English by no later than **31 December 2016**, for the Committee to consider at its next, thirty-eight session scheduled to take place from 20 to 22 February 2017.

Yours sincerely,

L. Aurora Hernando

Vice-Chair, Implementation Committee, Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment