

## Questionnaire for the

# REPORT OF ROMANIA ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TO THE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

in the period 2010-2012

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# PART ONE – CURRENT LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL

*In this part, please describe the legal, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Protocol. This part should describe the framework for your country's implementation, and not experience in the application of the Protocol.*

Romania has ratified the SEA Protocol by Law no. 349/2009. The text of the Protocol, translated in Romanian has become part of the Romanian legal system.

Romania has transposed the Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment by Governmental Decision no.1076/2004 (GD 1076/2004). This GD is a procedural piece of legislation that implements also the SEA Protocol.

The answers given below reflect the correspondence between the provisions of the GD no.1076/2004 and the requirements of SEA Protocol.

## Article 2 - Definitions:

1. Is the definition of plans and programmes for the purpose of the Protocol the same in your legislation as in article 2, paragraph 5? Please specify.

- a) Yes ☐
- b) Yes, with some differences: **X**
- c) No (please provide the definition):
- d) There are no definitions of plans and programmes in the legislation ☐

Your comments: The definition is identical to the definition provided for by Directive 2001/42/EC

2. Is the definition of “environmental, including health effect” in your legislation the same as in article 2, paragraph 7? Please specify.

- a) Yes ☐
- b) Yes, with some differences:
- c) No (please provide the definition):
- d) There is no definition of “environmental, including health effect” in the legislation **X**

Your comments: such a definition is not provided for by Directive 2001/42/EC which has been transposed. Nevertheless, for the purpose of elaboration of the environmental report, the significant environmental potential effects, including health effects are taken into account.

Also, in our legislation, the term “the environmental, including health effect”, when mentioned in the annex regarding the content of the environmental report, is accompanied by an explanation similar to the one given by the definition in article 2, paragraph 7. Thus all the elements provided by the definition given in the protocol are taken into account.

3. Is the definition of “the public” according to article 2, paragraph 8, in your legislation the same as in the Protocol? Please specify.

- a) Yes **X**
- b) Yes, with some differences:
- c) No (please provide the definition):
- d) There is no definition of the public in the legislation ☐

Your comments:

4. Are there any conditions for non-governmental organizations to be able to take part in the assessment procedure? Please specify.

- a) Yes (please provide the conditions):
- b) No **X**

Your comments:

### **Article 3 – General provisions:**

5. Provide legislative, regulatory and other measures you have adopted in your country to implement the Protocol (art. 3, para. 1) (you can choose more than one option).

- a) Law on SEA (please indicate number/year/name): Law no.349/2009 for ratification of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context
- b) SEA provisions are transposed into another law(s) (please specify): Governmental Decision no.1076/2004 on setting up the environmental assessment procedure for plans and programmes ( GD 1076/2004)
- c) Regulation (please indicate number/year/name): Order no. 995/2006 for approving the list of plans and programmes subject to the Governmental Decision no.1076/2004 on setting up the environmental assessment procedure for plans and programmes;

Order no. 19/2010 for approving the methodological guide regarding the appropriate assessment of the potential effects of the plans and programmes on natural protected areas of community importance

- d) Administrative (please indicate number/year/name):
- e) Other (please specify):

Your comments: GD 1076/2004 transposes entirely the Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. For a better implemetation of the provisions of the GD 1076/2004, the Minsitry of Environment has issued two ministerial orders which are mentioned under letter c) above.

6. Indicate the specific legislation in your country, if any, that assures that the requirements of article 3, paragraphs 6 and 7, are met, and that these rights of the public are observed (you can choose more than one option).

- a) Romanian Constitution **X**
- b) Law on public participation (please indicate number/year/name):
- c) Law on SEA ☐
- d) Legislation which transposes the Protocol on SEA (please indicate number/year/name):  
Law no.349/2009 for ratification of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental

Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

- e) Legislation which transposes the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (please indicate number/year/name): Law no 86/2000 for ratification of the Aarhus Convention,

- f) Other (please, specify):

Your comments: Romanian Constitution - art.16( equal rights), art.21(access to justice)

#### **Article 4 – Field of application**

7. List the types of plans and programmes that require SEA in your legislation (art. 4, para. 2).

Art.4 para 2 of the SEA Protocol, including annex I and annex II are included into Law no. 349/2009 for ratification of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

The scope of the assessment required for plans and programmes is identical to the scope provided for by Directive 2001/42/EC and transposed exactly by GD 1076/2004.

MO 995/2006 provides a list of plans and programmes which are subject to the screening procedure under national SEA.

8. Explain how you define whether a plan or programme “set the framework for future development consent” (art. 4, para. 2).

A p/ p set the framework for future development consent if they are listed in Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive.

9. Explain how the terms “plans and programmes . . . which determine the use of small areas at local level” (art. 4, para. 4) are interpreted in your legislation.

Such plans are those which are drawn up for the domains listed in art.4 para 2, at local level, and which, by application of the screening criteria withing the screening stage of the SEA procedure are found that may produce significant effects on the environment ( or have doubts about such effects).

10. Explain how you identify in your legislation a “minor modification” to a plan or programme (art. 4, para. 4).

Any modification is notified to the competent environemtal authority and the effects of such modification ( minor or not) are determined through a case by case examination and by application of the screening criteria during the screening stage of the SEA procedure.

A „minor modification“ is not defined because it is not important the modification in itself, but its effects.

#### **Article 5 – Screening**

11. How do you determine which other plans and programmes should be subject to a SEA according to article 4, paragraphs 3 and 4 (art. 5, para. 1)? Please specify.

- a) On a case-by-case basis X  
b) By specifying types of plans and programmes ☐  
c) By using a combination of (a) and (b) ☐

d) Other (please specify):

Your comments: A case by case examination is compulsory made during the screening stage, after notification received by the environmental competent authority.

12. Describe the procedures required in your legislation for consulting the environmental and health authorities (art. 5, para. 2, art. 6, para. 2, and art. 9, para. 1). If different in screening, scoping and on the draft plans and programmes and the environmental report, please specify.

The SEA procedure is applied by the beneficiary in collaboration with the environmental authorities, with the consultation of the health authorities and the authorities interested in the effects of the plans and programs and the public concerned.

The screening phase is conducted by the environmental authorities, with the consultation of the specially established committee. The health authorities are part of this committee.

The scoping phase is carried out within a working group that includes representatives of both environmental and health authorities. Therefore, these authorities participate in rounding the draft plans and programmes off, determining the relevant information to be included in the environmental report, and analyzing the significant environmental effects of the plans and programmes.

After the environmental report is prepared, the beneficiary sends the report to the environmental competent authority. He also sends it to the health authorities and the authorities interested in the effects of the plans and programs, which have 45 days to send in writing their point of view to the environmental competent authority.

13. Do you provide opportunities for the public concerned to participate in screening and/or scoping of plans and programmes in your legislation (art. 5, para. 3, and art. 6, para. 3)? If yes, please specify (you can choose more than one option).

- a) By sending written comments to the competent authority ☒
- b) By sending written comments to the local municipality ☐
- c) By providing answers to a questionnaire ☐
- d) By taking part in a public hearing ☒
- e) There are no opportunities for public participation in screening and/or scoping ☐
- f) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

During the screening, the beneficiary shall inform the public about the first draft plan or programme, by repeatedly announcing it in mass-media and by publishing it on his web page. The public can send written comments and proposals to the competent environmental authority within 15 days from the last announcement. The screening decision is also made available to the public for 10 days and the comments and opinions expressed by the public must be taken into account for reconsidering the screening decision.

There are opportunities for public participation to a public hearing organized for the draft plan and draft environmental report and any justified opinion is taken into account and can lead to the modification of the plan and of the environmental report.

14. At what stage of the procedure for a plan or programme does your legislation require you to make the screening decision publicly available? What information do you provide in the screening decision (art. 5, para. 4)?

The screening decision is made publicly available by the environmental competent authority within 3 days from the time the decision is made, by publishing it on its web page. Furthermore, the beneficiary has the responsibility to publish the decision in mass-media. The screening decision is made available at the end the screening stage of the SEA procedure.

In the screening decision we provide the following information:

- the name of the plan/programme subject to screening
- the legal basis for the SEA procedure
- the fact that the plan has been notified to the competent authority in order to be made subject to the SEA procedure
- the measures taken to inform the public about the starting of the procedure and where the public could have consulted the draft plan or programme
- whether the public sent any comments
- the finding of the specially established committee
- the conclusions taken by the specially established committee
- the screening decision and the reasons for taking it
- the public's right to make comments about the decision and the authority that receives these comments
- the fact that the decision is an administrative document, subject to national legislation about access to justice

## **Article 6 – Scoping**

15. How do you determine what is relevant information to be included in the environmental report in accordance with article 7, paragraph 2 (art. 6, para. 1)? Please specify (you can choose more than one option).

- a) By using annex IV ☒
- b) By using the comments from the concerned authorities ☐
- c) By using the comments from the public concerned, if it has been consulted ☐
- d) As determined by the competent authority based on its own expertise ☐
- e) By using other means (please specify):

Your comments:

The decision on what is relevant information to be included in the environmental report is taken by the working group, based on the provisions of annex IV/annex 2 of the GD 1076/2004; the group is formed of representatives of the beneficiary, the competent environmental authorities, health authorities, and other authorities interested in the effects of the plans and programs and the natural or legal persons certified to elaborate the environmental reports.

## **Article 7 – Environmental report**

16. How do you determine “reasonable alternatives” in the context of the environmental report (art. 7, para. 2)? Please specify.

- a) On a case-by-case basis ☐ x
- b) As defined in the national legislation (please specify):

Your comments:

The beneficiary of the plan or programme drafts the reasonable alternatives, taking into account the environmental objectives and the geographical location of the plan or programme, and also the significant environmental problems, the current state of the environment and its evolution in the absence of the plan or programme implementation. The working group assesses whether the alternatives meet the environmental objectives relevant for the plan or programme. On the base of the working group's recommendations, the beneficiary elaborates in detail the selected alternatives.

The persons certified to elaborate the environmental reports analyze the significant environmental effects of the alternatives drafted by the beneficiary and decide upon the measures for prevention, mitigation, compensation and monitoring of the effects for each alternative. These measures and recommendations are presented and discussed within the working group. Consequently, the beneficiary presents the final alternative to the working group.

17. How do you ensure sufficient quality of the reports? Please specify.

- a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures it includes all information required under annex IV as a minimum before making it available for comments **X**
- b) By using quality check lists ☐
- c) There are no specific procedures or mechanisms ☐
- d) Other (please specify):

Your comments: For analyzing the quality of the environmental report, the competent environmental authority takes into consideration the points of view sent by the other authorities and can also hire a consultant. The authority also analyzes the results of the public consultation, the way the comments received from the public were integrated into the environmental report and the results of the consultation with other affected countries.

The review of the quality of the report takes into account the following elements:

- The way the report responds to the information specified in annex IV of the SEA Protocol (annex 2 of the GD 1076/2004)
- The technical, procedural difficulties and of other nature that were discovered and the explanation given to any hypotheses or uncertainties.
- The presentation of the alternatives, of the reasons for choosing one of them, the manner the environmental considerations were integrated in the draft plan and programme and also the rounding off process of the draft considering the information risen from the environmental assessment
- The detailed explanation of the reasons for excluding some aspects from the evaluation
- The way the comments from the public and other authorities were taken into account
- The presentation of information through maps, schemes, diagrams
- The existence of an adequate monitoring program of the environmental effects.

If the report is incomplete or of a low quality, the competent authority asks for the rewriting of the report.

## **Article 8 – Public participation**

18. How do you ensure the “timely public availability” of draft plans and programmes and the environmental report (art. 8, para. 2)? Please specify (you can choose more than one option).

- a) Through public notices **X**
- b) Through electronic media **X**
- c) Through other means (please specify):

Your comments: The competent environmental authority is obliged to post information on its own web page; the beneficiary is obliged to publish announcements in mass-media.

19. How do you identify the public concerned (art. 8, para. 3)? Please specify (you can choose more than one option).

- a) Based on the geographical location of the plans and programmes **X**
- b) By making the information available to all public and letting them identify themselves as public concerned ☐ **X**
- c) By other means (please specify):
- d) Your comments:

20. How can the public concerned express its opinion on the draft plans and programmes and the environmental report (art. 8, para. 4)? Please specify (you can choose more than one option).

- a) By sending comments to the relevant authority/focal point ☐ **X**
- b) By providing answers to a questionnaire ☐
- c) Orally ☐
- d) By taking part in a public hearing ☐ **X**
- e) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

21. Do you have a definition in your legislation of the term “within a reasonable time frame” (art. 8, para. 4)? Please specify.

- a) Yes (please provide the definition):
- b) No, the time frame is given by a number of days for each commenting period ☐ **X**
- c) No, it is defined case by case ☐
- d) Other (please, specify):

Your comments: For expressing comments regarding the first draft plan or programme, the public is given 15 days.

After the screening decision is made, the public can send comments during the next 10 days after the decision is published on the web page of the authority.

When the draft plans and programmes and the environmental reports are rounded off, the public is provided with 45 days to express its opinion.

## **Article 10 – Transboundary consultations**

22. As a Party of origin, when do you notify the affected Party (art. 10, para. 1)? Please specify.

- a) During scoping ☐
- b) When the draft plan or programme and the environmental report have been prepared ☐ **X**
- c) At other times (please specify):



Your comments:

If the plan or programme is likely to have significant transboundary environmental, including health, effects, the central public environmental authority notifies both the environmental report and the plan/programme to the central environmental authority from the affected Party, within 20 days since these documents are ready.

23. As a Party of origin, what information, do you include in the notification (art. 10, para. 2)? Please specify.

- a) The information required by article 10, paragraph 2 ☐
- b) The information required by article 10, paragraph 2, plus additional information (please specify): **X**

Your comments:

The Party of origin sends the draft plan/programme and the environmental report and the environmental effects monitoring program.

Also, arrangements are made for consulting the affected Party (informing the concerned authorities and public from the affected Party, the participation of the competent environmental authority from the affected Party and the time frame for the consultations).

24. As a Party of origin, does your legislation indicate a reasonable time frame for the transmission of comments from the affected Party (art. 10, para. 2)? Please specify.

- a) Yes (please, indicate how long):
- b) No **X**

Your comments: Based on the experience gained by application of the Espoo Convention we agree a time-frame with the affected Party of approx. 4-5 weeks.

25. If the affected Party has indicated that it wishes to enter into consultations, how are the detailed arrangements, including the time frame for consultations, agreed (art. 10, paras. 3 and 4)? Please specify.

- a) Following those of the Party of origin ☐
- b) Following those of the affected Party ☐
- c) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

If the affected Party has indicated that it wishes to enter into consultations, the Party of origin shall make the consultation arrangements regarding the manner of informing the authorities and public from the affected Party, the participation of the central environmental authority from the Party of origin, and the time frame for consultations, that is mutually agreed. The proposal is made by the Party of origin and it is negotiated with the affected Party.

## **Article 11 – Decision**

26. When a plan or programme is adopted, explain how your country ensures that due account is taken of the (art. 11, para. 1).

- a) Conclusions of the environmental report ☐
- b) Mitigation measures ☐
- c) Comments received in accordance with articles 8 to 10 ☐

Your comments: Conclusions of the environmental report, the mitigation measures and the justified comments of the public, including those received in a transboundary context are integrated within the environmental approval (administrative act) issued by the

competent environmental authority. The beneficiary of the plan is obliged by GD 1076/2004 to approve/adopt by a formal procedure only the plan for which an environmental assessment procedure was followed.

27. How and when do you inform your own public and authorities (art. 11, para. 2)?  
By publication on the web page of the environmental competent authority ( within 3 days since it is taken), by letters addressed to other authorities, by publication notices in newspapers ( by the beneficiary, within 8 days since the decision is taken).

28. How do you inform the public and authorities of the affected Party (art. 11, para. 2)?  
Please specify.

- a) By informing the point of contact ☐
- b) By informing the contact person of the ministry responsible for SEA, who then follows the national procedure and informs his/her own authorities and public **X**
- c) By informing all the authorities involved in the assessment and letting them inform their own public ☐
- d) Other (please, specify):

Your comments:

### **Article 12 – Monitoring**

29. Describe the legal requirements for monitoring the significant environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes adopted under article 11 (art. 12, paras. 1 and 2).

The gd 1076/2004 provides that the beneficiary of the plan or programme has the responsibility to carry out the environmental effects monitoring program that was presented to the environmental competent authority that developed the SEA procedure. The beneficiary shall supply the same authority with the monitoring results. This shall be done annually, by the end of the first trimester for the results corresponding to the previous year. The authority analyzes the results and makes them available to the public on its web page.

### **Article 13 – Policies and legislation**

30. Do you have national legislation on the application of principles and elements of the Protocol as regards policies and legislation (art. 13, paras. 1–3)? Please specify.

- a) Yes (please specify which articles of the Protocol apply):
- b) No X**

Your comments:

## **PART TWO – PRACTICAL APPLICATION DURING THE PERIOD 2010 -2012**

*In this part, please report on your country's practical experiences in applying the Protocol (and not your country's procedures, which were described in part one). The focus of this section should be on identifying good practices as well as difficulties*

*encountered in applying the Protocol in practice. The goal is to enable Parties to share solutions. Please therefore provide appropriate examples highlighting application of the Protocol in your country and innovative approaches to improve its application.*

31. Does your country object to the information on SEA procedures provided in this section being compiled and made available on the website of the Protocol? Please specify (indicate "yes" if you object).

a) Yes ☐

b) No **X**

#### DOMESTIC AND TRANSBOUNDARY IMPLEMENTATION IN THE PERIOD 2010–2012

32. Which competent authority/authorities are responsible for carrying out the SEA procedure in your country? Please specify.

a) If they are different for different types of plans and programmes ☐

b) If they are different at different levels (national, regional, local) ☐

c) If they are different for domestic and transboundary procedures **X**

d) Please name the responsible authority/authorities: The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change is in charge for the transboundary procedures. The LEPA ( local environmental protection agencies) are in charge with the national SEA procedures.

33. Does your SEA documentation always include a specific (sub)chapter on information on potential transboundary effects? Please specify.

a) Yes ☐

b) No, only when potential transboundary effects are identified **X**

#### CASES DURING THE PERIOD 2010-2012

34. If possible, provide the (approximate) number of domestic and transboundary SEA procedures initiated during the given period and list them by referring to the sectors in article 4, paragraph 2.

During the required period, at national level we had developed the SEA procedure for 19 plans/programmes out of which 3 were transboundary SEA.

The 19 plans/programmes were identified to belong to the following sectors: forestry, energy, industry including mining, transport, regional development, waste management, water management, town and country planning.

At local level, the 42 LEPAs have developed SEAs for town and country planning.

#### EXPERIENCE WITH THE STRATEGIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE IN 2010-2012

35. If your country has had practical experience in implementing the Protocol, has this supported the integration of environmental, including health, concerns into the development of plans and programmes? Have the conclusions included in the

environmental report influenced the drafting and resulted in altering of a plan or programme? Please, provide examples, if you have this information.

The conclusions included in the environmental report and the mitigation measures for the Masterplan „Coastal protection and rehabilitation“ have been integrated in the environmental approval (administrative act) issued by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and are compulsory for the beneficiary when the plan is implemented. The solution proposed by the Masterplan has been modified as follows:

The proposed works, such as dams break wave, stabilization spurs (groynes buried) and artificial sanding in „Eforie Centru“ zone will not be undertaken because they would harm/damage the existing Natura 2000 site (ROSCI 0197 Plaja submersa Eforie Nord-Eforie Sud). As a result of the appropriate assessment undertaken, the measures imposed that sanding will take place on shore and there will be no new works but they will repair the existing structures and at the project level there will be identified the technical solutions leading to natural accumulation of sand on the beach that borders the Natura 2000 site.

36. If your country has experienced substantial difficulties interpreting particular terms (or particular articles) in the Protocol, please indicate them. Does your country work together with other Parties to find solutions? If not, how does your country overcome the(se) problem(s)? Please, provide examples, if available.

No difficulties.

37. Please share with other Parties your country's experience of applying the Protocol in practice, if such information is available. In response to each of the questions below, either provide one or two practical examples or describe your country's general experience. You might also include examples of lessons learned in order to help others. Please detail:

- a) Your country's experience with domestic procedures:

- i. Has your country carried out monitoring according to article 12 and, if so, for what kinds of plans or programmes?

No experience yet.

- ii. Please provide examples of good practice cases, whether complete cases or good practice elements (e.g., consultation or public participation) within cases. Would your country like to present a case to be published on the website of the Convention and its Protocol as a "case study fact sheet"?

No relevant experience yet.

- b) Your country's experience with transboundary procedures:

- i. Translation is not addressed in the Protocol. How has your country addressed the question of translation? What difficulties has your country experienced in relation to translation and interpretation, and what solutions has your country applied?

Usually, we translate the documentation in English. If consultation is undertaken on the Romanian territory we ensure translation and interpretation, costs supported by the beneficiary/environmental authority.

- ii. What does your country usually translate as a Party of origin?

We translate the environmental report and the plan by support of the beneficiary.

- iii. Has your country carried out transboundary public participation according to article 10, paragraph 4? If so, how? Was your country the Party of origin or the affected Party? What has been your country's experience of the effectiveness of public participation? Has your country experienced difficulties with the participation of its public or the public of another Party? (E.g., have there been complaints from the public about the procedure?)

We have applied the transboundary SEA procedure for two PUZ (zonal urbanistic plans): PUZ Certej and PUZ Rosia Montana and in both cases Romania was a Party of origin. These plans belong to the sector „town and country planning“.

One public debate was organized in Serbia ( Novi Knezevac locality), for PUZ Certej and 2 were organized in Hungary ( Budapest and Szeged), in 2011. All questions asked by the Serbian and the Hungarian public were answered (about the effects of such plan on Tisa river, etc.). The minutes of the public debate records that both countries are satisfied because the discussions were useful and the purpose of the meeting was achieved. Serbia stated that Romania's responses are comprehensive. No difficulty was encountered. We would like to mention that even the public debate was held for the plan, everybody asked questions regarding the project. Nobodat made any difference between a plan and a project ( between the planning level and the project level).

The same situation was encountered for the PUZ Rosia Montana.

Romania was party of origin, as well, for the „Coastal protection and rehabilitation“ Masterplan and has notified Bulgaria according to the requirements of the SEA Protocol, sending the draft plan and the environmental report. The Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Waters has informed the Bulgarian public (for 30 days) and authorities, collected their opinions and sent them to Romania. Consequently Romania sent additional information and reports and the procedure was concluded satisfactory for both Parties.

- iv. Does your country have examples of organizing transboundary SEA procedures for joint cross-border plans and programmes? If yes, describe such examples, if possible.

No experience yet.

- v. Please provide examples of good practice cases, whether complete cases or good practice elements (e.g., consultation or public participation) within cases. Would your country like to present a case within a “case study fact sheet” to be published on the website of the Convention and its Protocol?

No experience yet.

#### COOPERATION BETWEEN PARTIES IN 2010–2012

38. Does your country have any successful examples of how it has overcome difficulties arising from different legal systems in neighbouring countries?

No experience

#### EXPERIENCE REGARDING GUIDANCE IN 2010–2012

39. Are you aware of any use in your country of the Resource Manual to Support Application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment available online<sup>1</sup>? If yes, please describe any experience with using this guidance document and how it might be improved or supplemented.

No experience with this guidance.

40. Do you provide any assistance and guidance to the public? If yes, please specify.

A Romanian SEA manual is published on the web page of the NEPA ( National Environemtal Protectia Agency) and MECC ( Ministry of Environment and Climate Change) – issued for the environmental authorities and explaining how the SEA procedure is developed according to the Romanian legislation that transposed the SEA Directive.

41. Do you support associations, organizations or other groups that promote the Protocol? If yes, please specify which and how.

Romania is always ready to take into consideration suggestions and proposals received from NGOs.

42. Has your country had difficulties implementing the procedure defined in the Protocol?

No difficulteis yet.

#### AWARENESS OF THE PROTOCOL

43. Does your country see a need to improve the application of the Protocol in your country and, if so, how does it intend to do so?

Not yet.

#### SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REPORT

44. Please provide suggestions for how this report may be improved.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.unece.org/env/eia/pubs/sea\\_manual.html](http://www.unece.org/env/eia/pubs/sea_manual.html)

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