

## PROTOCOL OF THE SEMINAR

### “EXPERIENCE OF CONDUCTING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AS EXEMPLIFIED BY NEMNOVSKAYA HPP AND DISCUSSING MANUAL ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ESPOO CONVENTION”

**Date:** 5 November, 2010.

**Venue:** conference-hall of the National Library of the Republic of Belarus, Minsk, Independence Ave., 116

**Seminar chairman:** A.A. Andreev, Head of State Environmental Project Expert Assessment Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus

**Agenda:** see agenda attached

**Participants:** 57 people (see list attached)

When opening the session of the seminar, Alexander Andreev, Head of State Environmental Project Expert Assessment Department, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental protection and informed them about the experience of environmental impact assessment (EIA) of Nemnovskaya HPP.

In his speech Vadim Lojetchko, EU/UNDP Project task coordinator, focused on the expediency of preparation of the Manual on the Implementation of the Espoo Convention in the Republic of Belarus when conducting assessment of the environmental impact, and pointed to the connection of this work with the project activities in the field of raising awareness on the implementation of environmental conventions and agreements. The published edition of the Manual was presented and handed out to the participants.

In addition to Belarusian participants the seminar was attended by representatives of environmental organizations from Moldova, Ukraine, Lithuania and Latvia.

Sandra Ruza, Espoo Convention Secretariat representative (Switzerland), delivered a presentation on the experiences of international cooperation on transboundary EIA.

Alexander Stankevich, acting director of RUE Central scientific-research institute for comprehensive water resources management, gave a presentation on the relevance of drafting the manual on Espoo Convention implementation in the Republic of Belarus.

Vladimir Korneev, Head of Department of RUE Central scientific-research institute for comprehensive water resources management, gave a

presentation on the practical issues of conducting Nemnovskaya HPP EIA and drafting the report.

Maya Gachechiladze-Bozhesku, international expert (Ukraine), provided a presentation on the preliminary evaluation of the process and EIA report on Nemnovskaya HPP.

Vladimir Korneev, Head of Department of RUE Central scientific-research institute for comprehensive water resources management, informed about the aims and objectives of the Manual on the implementation of the Espoo Convention in the Republic of Belarus in the EIA and provided a detailed presentation of the draft Manual in the context of stepwise procedure of Espoo Convention implementation for hydro-economic objects as exemplified by Nemnovskaya HPP.

Resulting from the presentations was a constructive debate on the draft Manual, suggestions and comments, with sensible ones accounted for and included in the Manual.

Concluding the seminar Alexander Andreev handed to the Lithuanian delegation official report on the EIA of Nemnovskaya HPP and the state ecological expert assessment.

For the purposes of informing the foreign visitors and other participants of the seminar on the achievements of Belarus in the field of architecture and construction a tour of the National Library of Belarus was undertaken, the building being a unique architectural object and a hallmark of Minsk. This activity saw enthusiastic support on the part of the participants.

### **Resolutions:**

1. Concur with the provided comments and proposals on the subject-matter.
2. Generally approve the draft Manual on the Implementation of the Espoo Convention in the Republic of Belarus in EIA prepared by the expert group.
3. Finalize the report with account for the suggestions presented and submit the draft manual to the Ministry of Environment for review and approval.
4. Put the draft manual up at project webpage [www.ecorazvitie.by](http://www.ecorazvitie.by) for public access.
5. Draw the results of the seminar on form of a Protocol and circulate among all concerned.

Head of State Environmental  
Project Expert Assessment Department  
of the Ministry of Natural Resources  
and Environmental Protection  
of the Republic of Belarus



A.A. Andreev