THIRD MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY
CONTEXT

3-4 June, Cavtat

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

Mr. Chairman, Distignated Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to participate in the Third meeting of the Parties to the
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in
Cavtat.

First of all we would like to express the thanks to the Government of the Republic of
Croatia as well as United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for the
organisation of this important event.

Lithuania is a small country in Easten Europe bordering Poland, Latvia, Belarus and
the Kaliningrad region of the Russian Federation. Good contacts and cooperation with
neighbours in the field of Environmental Impact Assessment is of high importance to
avoid negative transboundary environmental impacts.

On 11 January, 2001 Lithuania acceded to the Convention on Environmental Impact
Assessment in a Transboundary Context. We believe that the Espoo convention will
strengthen the cooperation with our neighbouring countries.

Environmental Impact Assessment is one of the most significant prevention methods
used in the environmental protection in Lithuania.

Process of amending the Environmental Impact Assessment legislation is completed
in the year 2000. A new Environmental Impact Assessment Law was adopted by
Parliament of Lithuania on 18 April, 2000. The law fully meets the requirements of
the EU Directives and Conventions. Requirements of Environmental Impact
Assessment in a transboundary context are also taken into account. In relation to the
directive on free access to the information on the environment, all requirements were
incorporated into Environmental Impact Assessment law. This law lays down a basis
for Environmental Impact Assessment process in our country.

We would like to tell you a hot news. The Agreement between the Government of the
Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Poland on
implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact assessment in a
Transboundary Context was signed on 27 May of this year, in Warsaw.
The Intergovernmental agreement between Lithuania and Latvia on cooperation in the field of environmental Protection is signed and we expecting the acceleration of drafting and signing of bilateral agreement on EIA in a Transboundary Context between Lithuania and Latvia.

Lithuania has initiated preparation of the draft bilateral agreements on Environmental Impact Assessment in a transboundary context between Lithuania and Byelorussia and Lithuania and Russian Federation.

We would like to express the hope that we will able to make Espoo convention as really working and creating good contacts between countries.

Thank you for your attention.