INFORMAL RECORD OF THE MAIN DECISIONS TAKEN

Meetings of the Parties
the Espoo Convention and the Protocol on SEA
INTERMEDIARY SESSIONS

Geneva | Palais de Nations | 5 - 7 February 2019
Espoo / SEA MOPs
Intermediary sessions

Main outcomes

- Elected Chairs
- Noted report on credentials
- Welcomed Greece’s recent ratification of Convention amendments
- Noted planned ratifications, with those by Belgium and Azerbaijan of the 1st amendment being most advanced
- Again urged Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, FYROM, Ukraine and UK to ratify 1st amendment; and, unless done, submit a progress report to the Bureau by end May
- Also urged Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, FYROM, Ukraine and the UK to ratify the 2nd amendment
Main outcomes

• Urged Signatories: Belgium, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Republic of Moldova, UK to ratify the Protocol and invited beneficiaries of technical assistance on SEA to accede to it

• Welcomed Serbia’s ratification of the Bucharest Agreement in December 2018

• Encouraged ratification of that Agreement by other countries in that sub-region (BiH, Croatia, Greece)
Adopted decisions IS/1, IS/1 a-c and IS/1 e-g in consensus

At EU’s request, a vote on draft decision IS/1d, as amended by the EU, was taken. The decision was adopted with 30 votes.

At the request of Switzerland, a vote on draft decision IS/1h, as amended by EU, was taken. The decision was adopted with 31 votes.

Noted some inconsistencies in Russian translations of the draft decisions and asked these to be rectified in the adopted decisions.
Main outcomes

- Adopted decision IS/2
- Noted that Sweden might join the ad hoc group on the LTE of NPPs (tbc)
- Invited delegations to financially support participation of one expert from Armenia, Belarus and Ukraine to the next (March 2019) meeting of the ad hoc group
- Thanked Portugal, the Netherlands and Austria for offering to host the upcoming ad hoc group’s meetings.
• Adopted decision IS/3 – endorsing Revised Guidelines on transboundary EIA for Central Asian countries
• Thanked Switzerland for financing the revision of the Guidelines
• Noted comments from Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Tajikistan; Uzbekistan; Switzerland and the EU in support of the Guidelines
Espoo / SEA MOPs
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• Extended the chairmanship of the current Bureau Chair, Mr. Kremlis, until the next MOP sessions in 2020

Main outcomes
Espoo / SEA MOPs
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Main outcomes

• Noted reports by Austria, Denmark, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Romania, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan as well as EU, IAIA, OSCE and the secretariat on workplan implementation

• Noted reports by the Society & Environment on related activities

• Noted reports by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and the secretariat on legislative developments
Main outcomes

• Reminded all Convention and Protocol Parties to report on their implementation no later than by 31 March 2019

• Thanked Canada for its offer to translate into English the responses to the questionnaire on implementation that will be provided in French

• Invited Russian speaking Parties/stakeholders to offer translating the responses in Russian into English
Main outcomes

• Invited further pledges by Bureau meeting (June 2019) or latest by Working Group’s meeting in November – to cover the (secretariat’s staff costs in the) extended intersessional period (June-December 2020)

• Invited in addition the Bureau to propose to the WG-8 how to fill the budgetary gap

• Thanked Client Earth for organizing a side-event on transboundary EIA of coal and lignite activities
Main outcomes

- Invited the secretariat to finalize the report under Bureau’s guidance
- Decided to hold next sessions (MOP-8 and MOP/MOP-4) in 8-11 December 2020 in Geneva (unless host country identified – any offers invited by WG-8 in Nov 2019);