**Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighborhood**

## National Roundtable in Armenia : Findings and recommendations of the legislative review on the application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment

26 September 2014

 Hotel “Shirak”, Yerevan

**Facilitator:** Ms. Nune Darbinyan, President, NGO EcoGlobe

Simultaneous translation will be provided

**9:30 – 10:00 Registration of participants/welcome coffee**

**10:00 – 10:10 Opening remarks**

*HE Minister or Deputy Minister of Nature Protection
 Mr. John Barker, Delegation of the European Union (EU) in Armenia
 Ms. Aneta Babayan, Ministry of Economy, Green Economy National Focal Point*

**10:10 – 10:25 Introduction to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and the ‘Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood’ (EaP GREEN) Programme**

*Ms Aphrodite Smagadi, United Nations Economic Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)secretariat, Espoo Convention and Protocol on SEA*

**10:25 – 10:40 Capacity-building activities under the EaP GREEN Programme in Armenia(*including the results of the review of the recent Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) legislation*)**

*Ms Elyanora Grygoryan, Adviser to the Minister of Nature Protection, Focal Point on SEA*

**10:40 – 11:00 Discussion**

**11:00 – 11:15 Existing national legislation in Armenia relevant to the implementation of the Protocol on SEA – Armenia’s participation to relevant international treaties (i.e. Aarhus Convention)** *Ms. Azganush Drnoyan, Ministry of Nature Protection*

*Ms. Aida Iskoyan, National Legal Expert*

***11:15 – 11:30 Coffee break***

**11:30 – 11:40 Transposition of the requirements of the Protocol on SEA into national legislation: European experience, good practice and challenges**

*Ms Aphrodite Smagadi, UNECE secretariat to the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA*

**11:40 – 12:10 Analysis of the national legislation related to the implementation of the Protocol on SEA: main findings**

*Ms Elena Layevskaya, International Legal Expert*

**12:10 – 12:30 Brainstorming/discussion: „strategic documents” in Armenian legislation**

***12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break***

**13:30 – 14:00 Analysis of the national legislation related to the implementation of the Protocol on SEA (*cont’d*):recommendations (strategic documents, screening, scoping, environmental report, consultations with envrionmental and health authorities, public participation, incorporation of comments into the final decision, monitoring)**

*Ms Elena Layevskaya, International Legal Expert*

**14:00 – 15:00 Panel discussion: integrating SEA in environmental and other sectoral legislation**

*Ms Elena Layevskaya, International Legal Expert
Ms Aphrodite Smagadi, UNECE Secretariat, Espoo Convention and Protocol on SEA
Ms. Azganush Drnoyan, Ministry of Nature Protection
Ms. Heghine Hakhverdyan, Yerevan State University, Lecturer of Environmental Law faculty*

***15:00 – 15:15 Coffee break***

**15:15 – 15:30 Experiences of legislation drafting under the EaP Green Programme**

 *Ms Aphrodite Smagadi, (UNECE) Secretariat to the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA*

**15:30 – 16:00 Discussion: follow-up activities under the EaP Green Programme in Armenia: pilot on SEA/ drafting of legislation/ development of national guidelines/ training**

**16:00 – 16:30 Closing session: conclusions**