

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT
PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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Ref. Follow-up on decision VI/2 of the Meeting of the Parties
(EIA/IC/S/4 Ostrovets nuclear power plant)

7 April 2016

Dear Mr Auglys,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Kyiv, 2003).

I would like to heartily thank the delegation of Lithuania for its participation in the thirty-fifth session of the Implementation Committee in Geneva on 15 March 2016, and the presentation of information and opinions on the steps taken to implement the recommendations in decision VI/2 of the Meeting of the Parties, in relation to the construction of the Ostrovets nuclear power plant (NPP) by Belarus.

In the view of the Committee, there is a disagreement between Belarus and Lithuania on technical issues concerning the construction of the NPP. The Committee noted, for example, that as to the reasonable locational alternatives to the proposed activity and the site selection, matters concerning the methodology and data used (including but not limited to seismic activity, hydrological and geological data) have not been fully clarified between the two Parties.

At the request of the Committee, I am now writing to kindly invite you to carry out bilateral expert level consultations on the issues of disagreement raised during the discussions with the Committee on 15 March 2016; and to jointly report to the Committee on the results of these consultations.

.../...

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We would very much appreciate if you could provide to the secretariat the joint report on the results of your consultations in English **by 29 July 2016** for consideration by the Committee at its next session.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Felix Zaharia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Felix Zaharia
Chair, Implementation Committee,
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context
Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment