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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

UNITED NATIONS

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

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Ref. EIA/IC/SCI/3/1

13 September 2011

Dear Mr. Mikulic,

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

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention requested the Committee to take into account in its work general and specific compliance issues identified in the Third Review of Implementation (ECE/MP.EIA/15, decision V/3), based on questionnaires returned by Parties (available at http://live.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/review_implementation_2010.html).

The Committee noted at its twenty-second session, held in Geneva on 5-7 September 2011 that, in its reply to the questionnaire (question 14 (d)), Croatia had indicated that it normally notified the affected Party's public after the public hearing had been held in the Party of origin. The Committee pointed out that this might be contrary to the procedure set out in the Convention's article 3, paragraph 1, which states that "For a proposed activity listed in appendix I that is likely to cause a significant adverse transboundary impact, the Party of origin shall, for the purposes of ensuring adequate and effective consultations under Article 5, notify any Party which it considers may be an affected Party as early as possible and no later than when informing its own public about that proposed activity."

.../....

Mr. Nenad MIKULIC

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In the light of the above, the Committee asked me to write to you on its behalf to seek clarification of Croatia's implementation of article 3, paragraph 1. You are kindly requested to provide written clarification to the Convention's secretariat no later than 15 November 2011. The Committee will consider this information at its forthcoming session, from 5 to 7 December 2011.

Yours sincerely,

Vesna Kolar-Planinsic

Chair, Implementation Committee,

Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context