

**RESPONSE OF THE AC NATIONAL FOCAL POINT TO THE SECOND PROGRESS  
REVIEW (CONCLUSIONS) OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION VI/8A ON  
COMPLIANCE BY ARMENIA WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE  
CONVENTION**

- Regarding the *required deadlines*. The draft law on environmental impact assessment and expertise was finalized during October and I was waiting for its finalization. I had an obligation to send the national implementation report (2015-2017) and the second progress report almost at that time. You know, I do drafting, organizing of public hearings, making conclusion, reviewing the texts all by myself without any assistance. And I was appointed to this position since the end of May, 2019, so I am relatively a new focal point. I would like to say, that the next second report will be submitted on time (October 1, 2020).
  
- Now about the requirements of paragraphs 3 (a)-(d) of decision VI/8a. Regarding *paragraph 3(a) of decision*, I would like to say that the Article 13 of the draft Law on thresholds was drafted by the assistance of the international expert and all activities included in the Annex were included in the draft law. I will provide a table for each activity listed in the annex of the Convention with corresponding provisions of the law “On Environmental impact assessment and expertise” together with a professional English translation. Translation was made by me and checked by the certified notary translator, that have passed linguistic qualification test at the Ministry of Justice.  
I would like to inform that we have sent the draft Law to our partner for the official translation about 20 days ago.
  
- *Regarding paragraph 3 (b) of decision VI/8c*, I would like to inform you that time frames will be revised after the adoption of the Law on “On Environmental impact assessment and expertise”. The time frames were revised within the sub legislative acts, and final time frames will be brought in accordance with the articles of the Convention.
  
- *Regarding paragraph 3(c) of decision VI/8c*, I would like to mention, that this issue is under the auspice of the Ministry of Justice. Only the Ministry of Justice is in charge to do legislative amendments in the law on NGOs and Administrative procedure code.  
*Developments:* I would like to inform you, that the Ministry of Environment has sent the official letter to the Ministry of Justice asking to revise the relevant articles of the above-

mentioned laws in aspect of incompliance with Article 9(2) of the Convention. At the same time, we are planning about organization of public hearings regarding this issue by involvement of the representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of environment, experts and civil society.

- ***Regarding paragraph 3(d) of decision VI/8a***

***Developments:*** I would like to inform you, that the Ministry of Environment with the Academy of Justice have discussed the issue of revising curriculum of the Academy adding personal classes for the judges. The Academy should revise it taking into account the decisions of Compliance committee (trainings concerning the domestic legislation implementing article 9 of the Convention). If I may ask - In the conclusions you have mentioned that the Academy should also provide evidence that it has carried out a wider awareness raising program amongst its judiciary on the implementation of domestic legislation in accordance with article 9 of the Convention. Can you specify, what do you mean by that?

- ***Regarding the paragraph (e)***, I would like to ensure that the English translation of the all above-mentioned documents: Law on “On Environmental impact assessment and expertise”, Government decisions on time frames will be sent to your attention as soon as possible. The information on organizing of the training programs or conferences for the judges will be sent to you as soon as possible.

- The information about ***all necessary measures*** which will be taken by Armenia will be reported to the Committee no later than 1 October, 2020.