

Economic Commission for Europe
Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment in
a Transboundary Context serving as the
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on
Strategic Environmental Assessment

**Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment
and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

Seventh meeting

Geneva, 28–30 May 2018

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Compliance and implementation

**Draft decision IS/1a on compliance by Armenia with its
obligations under the Convention with regard to its national
legislation**

Proposal by the Implementation Committee¹

This note presents draft decision IS/1a of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its intermediary session (Geneva, 5–7 February 2019) on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention with regard to its national legislation. As mandated by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session (Minsk, 13–16 June 2017), the Implementation Committee prepared the draft decision based on its review of the relevant paragraphs of draft decision VII/2 and taking into account the progress made before, during and after the seventh session. As suggested by the delegation of Ukraine in June 2017, the Committee decided to present the general and the country specific draft decisions in separate documents to facilitate their subsequent consideration and adoption by the Meeting of the Parties.

The Chair of the Committee will present the draft decision for information to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment. The delegates may wish to present their views on the draft.

The Committee will finalize the draft decision at its forty-second session (Geneva, 11–14 September 2018) prior to its submission for consideration and adoption by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its intermediary session.

¹ The present decision relates to an Implementation Committee initiative (reference EIA/IC/CI/1). More information on Committee initiatives can be found at <http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/environmental-assessment/areas-of-work/review-of-compliance/committee-initiative.html>.

The Meeting of the Parties,

Recalling article 11, paragraph 2, and article 14 bis of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention),

Recalling also its decision IV/2, paragraphs 15–19,² its decision V/4, paragraphs 27–28,³ and its decision VI/2, paragraphs 29–35,⁴ concerning compliance by Armenia with regard to its national legislation for the implementation of the Convention,

Recalling further its decision at its seventh session (Minsk, 13–16 June 2017) to finalize its deliberations on the review of compliance with the Convention at an intermediary session, based on a revised draft decision to be prepared by the Implementation Committee and taking into account the work carried out and progress achieved before and during the seventh session,⁵

Having considered paragraphs 22–26 concerning Armenia in the report on the activities of the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its seventh session⁶ and in the reports of the Committee on its thirty-ninth,⁷ fortieth⁸, forty-first⁹ [and forty-second sessions,]¹⁰

Acknowledging the technical advice provided by the secretariat to the Government of Armenia to assist the country in bringing its legislation into line with the provisions of the Convention and the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, further to decision VI/2, paragraph 35,

[*Recalling* its decision IS/1 on the review of compliance with the Convention adopted at the intermediary session,]

1. *Appreciates* the regular reports received from the Government of Armenia since the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Geneva, 2–5 June 2014);
2. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Government of Armenia of legislation for the implementation of the Convention, including the regulation on public participation in compliance with the Convention and the Protocol, further to the decision VI/2, paragraph 31;
3. *Notes*, however, some deficiencies in the adopted legislation related to its application;
4. *Takes note with appreciation* of efforts undertaken by Armenia to address the deficiencies referred in paragraph 3 above by amending its legislation and drafting secondary legislation;
5. *Requests* Armenia to enhance distinction between the environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment procedures to facilitate practical

2 See ECE/MP.EIA/10.

3 See ECE/MP.EIA/15.

4 See ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1.

5 See ECE/MP.EIA/23-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7, para. 27. See also draft decision VII/2 (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/8).

6 ECE/MP.EIA/2017/4-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/4.

7 ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2017/4, paras. 26-30.

8 ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2017/6, paras. 9-12.

9 ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2018/2, paras. 9-13.

10 ECE/MP.EIA/2018/4, paras. [...]

application of the legislation based on the recommendations of the international consultants to the secretariat;

6. *Invites* the Government of Armenia to adopt the proposed amendments to the legislation and the secondary legislation without delay and inform the Implementation Committee on the progress made;

7. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to evaluate the amendments to the legislation and the secondary regulation adopted by Armenia for the implementation of the Convention and to report to the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session thereon;
