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UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE POUR L'EUROPE ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

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Ref. EIA/IC/INFO/8

12 September 2013

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Dear Mr. Patrascu,

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

At its twenty-eighth session, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 September 2013, the Committee continued to consider the information it had gathered on a planned nuclear waste repository in Romania, close to the border with Bulgaria, further to information provided by a Romanian non-governmental organization. The Committee examined the reply from the Government of Romania received on 20 May 2013 in response to its letter of 25 March 2013, regarding the assessment of locational alternatives and the extent to which they would be subject to the EIA and SEA procedures in line with the Convention and its Protocol.

The Committee welcomed the timely information provided by the Government of Romania and agreed that the response was sufficient at this stage. In the light of the information that Romania had no pending environmental assessment procedures regarding the proposed nuclear waste repository and that the partial location authorization of the repository had been cancelled by a court decision, the Committee decided that at this stage there was no need for it to pursue further its information gathering regarding this issue.

Mr. Octavian Patrascu
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I am now writing to inform you of the above decision of the Committee and also to request Romania's agreement that the correspondence between the Committee and Romania be placed on the Convention's website, as an illustration of the Committee's approach to information gathering and of a proper and sufficient response from a Party to address the issue. You are kindly invited to provide your answer to the secretariat by 30 September 2013.

Yours sincerely,

Vesna Kolar Planinšič

Chair, Implementation Committee, Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context