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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

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Ref. Follow-up with decision V/4 of the Meeting of the Parties

12 September 2013

Dear Mr Tarasenko,

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 10-12 September 2013, the Committee considered the report submitted by the Government of Ukraine on 31 December 2012 and the additional information it provided on 26 August 2013 on the steps taken to bring about compliance with its obligations under the Convention, as requested by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its fifth session (decision V/4, para. 24).

The Committee welcomed the report and noted that it presented the situation in a systematic and comprehensive way. It was pleased to learn about the steps taken by Ukraine to initiate negotiations with the aim of concluding a bilateral agreement with Romania and to monitor the situation in the Danube Delta. The Committee, however, expressed concern at the lack of progress in relation to the implementation of the strategy of the Government to implement the Convention (decisions IV/2, para.12 and V/4, para. 21), in particular in relation to the adoption of concrete legislative measures to this effect. It also observed that although Ukraine had agreed on the adequate steps to bring into full compliance the Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian sector of the Danube Delta, through the conclusions of the established intergovernmental coordinating council, it provided no information to the Committee on the implementation of these steps.

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The Committee agreed on the preparation of its report to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its sixth session (Kyiv, 2–5 June 2014) on its evaluation of the steps taken by the Government of Ukraine, as requested by the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session. The Committee acknowledged that it needed sufficient time to thoroughly assess the situation and to prepare recommendations for further steps to be taken by Ukraine.

I wish to remind you of the obligation of the Government of Ukraine to report to the Committee. You are kindly invited to provide the progress report on all steps taken, in English, no later than 25 November 2013, for the Committee to consider at its next session (10-12 December 2013). I should like to stress that in preparing its final report and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties the Committee will only consider the information provided by 25 November 2013 and any additions to it, if necessary, by no later than 31 December 2013.

Yours sincerely,

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