

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context

Implementation Committee

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Report on technical advice to Armenia further to decision IV/2

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1. Introduction

In May 2008, the Meeting of the Parties to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) endorsed the findings of the Implementation Committee regarding Armenia; requested Armenia to revise its legislation in accordance with the Implementation Committee's findings to ensure full implementation of the Convention; and included in the Convention's workplan an activity supporting Armenia through technical assistance in drafting the necessary legislation (decision IV/2, paras. 15-17).

The Committee's findings were:

- (a) The provision in the Constitution to directly apply international agreements is insufficient for proper implementation of the Convention without more detailed provisions in the legislation.
- (b) The current EIA framework would not be capable of identifying activities likely to have a significant adverse transboundary impact that would trigger the transboundary EIA procedure envisaged by the Convention. Nevertheless, the current Law, which provides more procedural

provisions, seems better able to implement EIA for projects as foreseen by the Convention than the draft law on SER.

- (c) The following areas are insufficiently addressed or are unclear:
- The situation in which Armenia is the affected Party, particularly regarding the reception of a notification and of EIA documentation, as neither the current legislation nor the proposed draft Law appear to address this situation;
 - Identification of the responsible authorities;
 - Sending a notification as a Party of origin;
 - The detailed content of the EIA documentation;
 - Sending the EIA documentation;
 - Consultations;
 - The procedure for public hearings, although the issue of regulations in this regard is envisaged by the current Law;
 - Timeframes for public participation and modalities of participation at different stages;
 - The definition of impact, which in the current Law is not in line with that in the Convention, but may be resolved by definitions in the proposed draft Law.
- (d) Procedural differences between EIA and SEA imply that separate provisions on EIA and SEA are preferable and that the same provisions should not attempt to address both issues.
- (e) Details of the EIA procedure, for example regarding public participation, should rather be included in the legislation than left for implementing regulations.

The technical assistance was undertaken by the consultant nominated by the Implementation Committee.

During the first mission to Armenia (in May 2009) the detailed scope of work was discussed and agreed upon with the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia in coordination with the Armenian focal point for the Espoo Convention and the Secretariat to the Espoo Convention.

After the individual meetings and consultations with the Armenian focal point for the Espoo Convention and other representatives from the Ministry of Nature Protection¹ it was agreed that the current Law on Environmental Impact Expertise (EIE) should be improved and amended to be used as the EIA law, but that the proposed new draft Law of the Republic of Armenia on State Environmental Review might form the basis of a future law on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

It was also noted by the Head of the Department of Law of the Ministry of Nature Protection that according to the Law of the Republic of Armenia on Legal Acts, the conditions and procedure for realization and protection of the right of physical persons and legal entities, limitations of their rights and freedoms, as well as their obligations and responsibilities, can be established by law only (Art. 9). Other regulations that contain provisions regarding rights but that do not implement new limitations or responsibilities of physical persons and legal entities, including rules, guidelines, and technical norms in cases prescribed by law, can be mentioned directly in law or other legal acts.

¹ The head of the Normative-Methodological Department, the head of the International Cooperation Department, the head of the Division of Nature Protection and Environmental Economics, the head of the Department of Law, the Director and experts of the SNCO "State Environmental Expertise".

Therefore, it was decided that the main procedural provisions regarding public participation, responsibilities of proponents and authorities, transboundary procedure and other main procedural elements should be defined by law and incorporated into the current Law on Environmental Impact Expertise.

At its twenty-third meeting (March 31- 3 April 2009), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee agreed on a 'message' to send to Armenia in response to the government's progress report (submitted in March) on the implementation of Aarhus Meeting of the Parties decision III/6b, which had found Armenia not to be in compliance. The Committee made several recommendations with regard to the progress report to be submitted by the government of Armenia by the end of November 2009. With regard to paragraph 8 (b) of decision III/6b, the government of Armenia was requested to take into consideration paragraph 33 of the Committee's findings and recommendations (ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2006/2/Add.1) while developing legislation for public participation in decision-making on the activities referred to in article 6, paragraph 1, of the Convention. The Committee stresses the importance of not limiting this activity to development of the new law on environmental impact assessment but also elaborating a more specific procedure in secondary legislation or in the form of guidelines.

Taking into account these recommendations as well as the position regarding the incorporation of the main procedural requirements into the Law on Environmental Impact Expertise it was decided to draft the guidelines on public participation in EIE in addition to the changes to the Law on EIE. Such guidelines will make new procedures more understandable for relevant stakeholders and will help to implement provisions on public participation in EIA according to the proposed amendments.

The proposed new draft Law of the Republic of Armenia on State Environmental Review will be revised and might form the basis of a future law on SEA.

During the second mission to Armenia (June 2009), the draft of the necessary amendments to the Law on Environmental Impact Expertise was discussed and comments from the Ministry of Nature Protection were taken into account. The draft of the guidelines on public participation was also prepared.²

2. Overview of the proposed amendments

2.1 Current system

According to the current Law on EIE the EIE process consists of several stages. The proponents develop and submit preliminary documentation (notification) on the proposed activity to the authorized body - the Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP). "Environmental Expertise" - a state non-commercial organization (SNCO) operates within its structure. It is subordinated to the Minister of Nature Protection and organizes environmental impact expertise activities and prepares drafts of expertise conclusions.

² I wish to express gratitude to **Ms. Elyanora Grigoryan**, the Armenian focal point for the Espoo Convention and to **Ms. Margarita Korkhmazyan**, the Head of International and Policy Division for the assistance in organising of my work in Armenia and personal interest and determination to make the advice more relevant. I also acknowledge the valuable advice and contribution of **Ms. Julieta Ghlichan**, the head of Normative-Methodological Department who devoted her time and energy to the development of EIA legislation as well as to thank **Ms. Aida Iskoyan**, the head of the Environmental Law Resource Centre of YSU Law Department and her staff who offered information and advice as well.

After review of the notification, the authorized body makes a decision about the necessity of carrying out EIE. If EIE is necessary, the proponents prepare the EIA documentation and submit the required documentation to the same body as for the EIE.

During the examination of documentation of proposed activities, SNCO “Environmental Expertise” collects opinions from interested state bodies (Ministries of Urban Development, Health, Agriculture, Transport, Economic Development and Trade, municipalities) and departments of the MoNP, and gets professional conclusions from certified experts to make a professional decision. On the basis of received documentation the draft conclusion is composed and presented to the commission of MoNP for discussion. Then it is transferred to the Minister for approval.

Also, the law has requirements regarding the public participation procedure when notification and public participation has to be arranged at least 3 times – at the screening stage, after submission of the EIA documentation and after the professional conclusion is made. Usually it happens only once at one of the later stages.

2.2 Proposed amendments.

(See also the flow- chart of the main stages of the EIA procedure according to proposed amendments to the Law on EIE. Annex 2)

2.2.1 Definitions

New definitions are proposed, such as:

- a) “Impact”
- b) “Transboundary impact”
- c) “Affected State”
- d) “Public”

All definitions correspond to the relevant definitions in the Espoo Convention.

2.2.2 List of activities

A new list of activities is proposed by the Ministry of Nature Protection. This is the same list that was developed and proposed before for the new draft Law of the Republic of Armenia on State Environmental Review. All activities in the list are divided into the 3 categories (A, B, C) in accordance with the fields and the degree of likely environmental impact (See Annex 1)

2.2.3 The content of the EIA documentation

Changes to the Articles 6 and 7 are proposed.

As the result of screening and scoping stages the authorized body determines the necessity of the EIE, and, if the EIE is needed, develops and provides to the proponent the terms of reference, and defines the scope of issues to be examined, content of the EIA report, and need for additional public hearings, taking into account relevant categories in the list of activities.

The proponent shall elaborate and submit to the EIE the EIA Report; the documents resulting from public participation and other documentation required by the law.

Information to be included in the EIA Report shall, as a minimum, contain:

- (a) A description of the proposed activity and its purpose;
- (b) A description, where appropriate, of reasonable alternatives (for example, locational or technological) to the proposed activity and also the no-action alternative;
- (c) A description of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the proposed activity and its alternatives;
- (d) A description of the potential environmental impact of the proposed activity and its alternatives and an estimation of its significance;
- (e) A description of mitigation measures to keep adverse environmental impact to a minimum;
- (f) An explicit indication of predictive methods and underlying assumptions as well as the relevant environmental data used;
- (g) An identification of gaps in knowledge and uncertainties encountered in compiling the required information;
- (h) Where appropriate, an outline for monitoring and management programmes and any plans for post-project analysis; and
- (i) A non-technical summary including a visual presentation as appropriate (maps, graphs, etc.).

Information to be included in the EIA Report corresponds to the appendix II of the Espoo Convention.

2.2.4 Public participation

More detailed and clear provisions on public participation are proposed to provide effective timeframes for public participation and modalities of participation at different stages.

Timeframes proposed for public participation are more clear and consistent. (E.g. each term starts after the end of previous; terms for public participation are fixed and start from the date of publication of relevant notification in mass-media.)

The public shall be notified and can participate during the whole process. Comments from the public shall be taken into account at all stages.

There are three main stages in which public participation should be ensured:

- scoping
- review of documentation
- professional conclusion

Scoping. At scoping stage (Art.6) it is proposed to allow public participation by submission of written comments instead of through public hearings required by the current law but that are not usually held. The period for comments shall start 15 days from the date of publication of notification in mass-media.

Review of documentation (Art.8). After the receipt of the EIA documentation, the authorized body sends it to the regional administration, to the administration of the affected community, to the relevant state body and to the authorized persons (experts), and the administration of the affected community provides notification through mass media of the times and places for inspection of documentation, instructions for comments, and places and dates of the public hearings. The authorized body, the administration of the affected community and the proponent within 30 calendar days organize and ensure public inspection of the documentation and the public hearings. The public hearings shall be organised not earlier than 15 days after the publication. In order to ensure public inspection of the documentation and the effective public participation the term for public participation can be extended for 30 days (category A) and for 15 days (category B).

Professional conclusion. (Art. 10) Within 30 days of the receipt of the expert opinion the authorized body organizes the public hearings on the professional conclusion, the public opinion, the opinion of the administration of the affected community and relevant state bodies. At least 15 days prior to the event, the authorized body notifies in writing the proponent, the administration of region and the administration of the affected community, relevant state bodies and authorized persons about the date and venue of the public hearings and publishes announcement for public in mass-media .

In addition, the proponent may also organise consultations or hearings during developing of the EIA Report.

2.2.5 *Transboundary EIA*

The new Chapter on transboundary EIA is proposed. The Chapter contains 4 articles (14, 14-1, 14-2, 14-3)

Article 14 contains general provisions and references to the Espoo convention and national legislation as well as provision that any timeframe may be extended if necessary to ensure transboundary EIA procedure.

If the impact of planned activities on the environment extends beyond the state border of the Republic of Armenia, as well as in the case if a proposed activity of other states may have a significant adverse transboundary impact on the environment of the Republic of Armenia, the environmental impact expertise is carried out based on the requirements of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, the present law, the requirements of other relevant international treaties ratified by the Republic of Armenia.

Article 14-1 regulates provisions when Armenia is the country of origin, including:

- Sending a notification as a country of origin; timing the notification; contents of notification
- Sending the EIA documentation; distribution and collection of comments; translation;
- Consultations;

Article 14-2 regulates provisions when Armenia is the affected country, including:

- The reception of a notification; responding to the notification and confirmation of participation;
- The reception of EIA documentation
- Consultations;

Article 14-3 regulates the issues of international collaboration, creation of bi- and multilateral agreements and establishment of joint bodies.

Relevant provisions on transboundary EIA are also proposed to be included into other articles that regulate procedure of the EIE (Articles 6-11, 13, 16)

2.2.6 Financial aspects

According to the current legislation proponent shall finance the environmental impact expertise and related procedures. The same is proposed for transboundary EIA, both in case of the country of origin as well as being the affected country.

3. Suggestions on possible steps to strengthen further Armenia's implementation of the Convention

It is proposed to the Implementation Committee to recommend to Armenia the draft of the amendment to the Law on Environmental Impact Expertise as well as to consider the following suggestions:

- 1) Undertaking of the pilot project together with another country (countries) might help to test and improve the EIA system, test institutional arrangements for the transmitting information and communications with other Parties and strengthen the capacity to implement the Convention.
- 2) Trainings for officials of all the relevant public authorities and other stakeholders as well as additional awareness raising activities will be required for strengthening implementation of the new changes.
- 3) Specific trainings and other capacity-building activities on screening the likelihood of significant adverse transboundary impacts as well as on other transboundary EIA aspects need to be organised for the authorised body and experts from SNCO "Environmental Expertise".
- 4) Although the timing of different stages in the proposed draft are more clear and consistent, some specific terms have been set at a minimum level, taking into account the recommendations of the government to reduce the time of the EIE. Practical implementation may show the need to revise some of them.
- 5) Discussing the proposed draft of amendments, including the issue of timing, with relevant stakeholders can be recommended.
- 6) There was opinion that financing of EIE and related procedures needs to be improved and changed. In such case, it could be recommended to differentiate the payment according to the categories in the list of activities, complexity and scope of issues to be examined and other relevant procedural arrangements in the development of the financing. It also shall take into account the procedural arrangements for transboundary EIA.

Art. 4 p. 1 (List of activities)

Types of proposed activities are classified into 3 categories in accordance to the fields and the degree of likely environmental impact:

a) Category AEnergy

- Nuclear power plants or other installations with nuclear reactors
- Enrichment of nuclear fuel
- Thermal power stations (including those working with steam and gas cycle)
- Pipelines (of oil, gas, steam, etc.) with a length equal and exceeding 5km
- Installations for hot water and steam production with a capacity exceeding 30 tone/hour
- Hydro-power stations with a capacity equal and exceeding 10000kWatt

Underground Resources

- Geological exploration with a purpose of mining
 - with underground digging equal and exceeding 1500 m
 - with surface digging equal and exceeding 5000m³
 - with holes equal and exceeding 5000 m
- Mining
 - exploitation of metal, fuel (including coal, oil and gas) mines
 - processing of ore or mineral deposits
 - tailing dumps and related structures
 - exploitation of radioactive metals deposits or processing of ore
 - installations of underground structures for storage of coal, gas, oil, industrial waste, toxic or radioactive substances

IndustriesChemical Industry

- Complex production
- Pipelines for transportation of chemical substances
- Production or processing of chemicals
- Production or processing of caoutchouc, caoutchouc products, rubber-technical products, polymers
- Production and processing of toxic chemicals (including pesticides), chemical fertilizers
- Production, recovery and destruction of explosive substances
- Processing of oil products
- Chemical processing, treatment, neutralization or destruction of substances
- Production or processing of cellulose
- Production of paints, varnishes or peroxides
- Production of pharmaceutical products by application of chemical and biological processes
- Production or processing of plastic materials
- Production of artificial fibers
- Underground storage facilities for flammable gas

Machine Building, Metallurgical and Electric Industry

- Complex production
- Production of ferrous, non-ferrous metals or their amalgams
- Production of mercury or mercury-containing goods
- Production of alloys of metals (precious, non-ferrous) from ore and concentrate
- Processing or manufacturing of precious metals
- Processing (including surface) of metals or plastic materials by application of electrolytic and chemical processes
- Manufacturing of electric equipment, machinery or devices with foundries or use of mercury

Production of Construction Materials and Glass

- Complex production
- Production of asbestos or asbestos products
- Production of glass

Wood and Paper Industries

- Complex production

Leather, Shoes, Textile, Threads, Fur and Animal Product Processing Industries

- Complex production

Food Production

- Complex production

Waste Management

- Storage of nuclear waste
- Removal, processing, neutralization, storage or disposal of used nuclear waste
- Processing, storage or removal of radioactive waste
- Facilities for processing, neutralization or destruction of hazardous waste
- Neutralization and destruction of waste resulted from production or processing of chemicals (organic and non-organic substances, including toxic chemicals, chemical fertilizers) and unusable chemicals
- Processing, neutralization and destruction of waste resulted from production or processing of caoutchouc, rubber-technical products, polymers, caoutchouc products and unusable rubber-technical products
- Processing, neutralization or destruction of waste resulted from treatment or production of cellulose
- Processing, neutralization or destruction of waste resulted from production of paints, varnishes and peroxides or unusable paints, varnishes and peroxides
- Processing, neutralization or destruction of waste resulted from production of pharmaceuticals or expired and unusable pharmaceutical products
- Processing, neutralization or destruction of waste resulted from production or processing of plastic substances
- Washing, neutralization or destruction of chemical substance tanks
- Waste incineration or treatment plants
- Landfills, waste disposal sites, burial sites

Sanitary-technical Facilities

- Establishment of crematories or mortuaries
- Establishment of animal burial sites

Transport and Communication

- Airports

Water Management and Melioration

- Irrigation, drainage or drainage-collector systems
- Dams, reservoirs or barrages
- Desalinization of extremely saline (0.3 % and more) soils

Agriculture

- Complex production
- Poultry factories
- Farms with poultry-breeding industries with more that 10000 fowl or pig-breeding industries with 1000 and more pigs
- storhouses facilities of toxic chemicals

b) Category B

Energy

- Installations for hot water and steam production with a capacity up to 30 tone/hour
- Hydro-power stations with a capacity from 5000 to 10000kWatt
- Steam-main pipelines

Underground Resources

- Geological exploration with a purpose of mining
 - with underground digging from 1000 to 1500 m
 - with surface digging from 1000 to 5000m³
 - with holes from 1000 to 5000 m
- Mining
 - exploitation of non-metal deposits or processing of ore with a productivity equal and exceeding 30000³ annually
 - extraction of ground mineral and fresh water
 - establishment of underground ways and installations

Industries

Chemical Industry

- Production of household chemicals (detergents, cleansers and other agents)
- Production of elastomer-based products
- Processing or production of semi-processed raw materials
- Galvanic productions
- Surface storage facilities for gas
- Storage facilities for oil, oil-chemical or chemical products

Machine Building, Metallurgical and Electric Industry

- Processing of ferrous and non-ferrous metals or manufacturing of goods
- Production of accumulators
- Production of motor vehicles
- Production of cables
- Production of diamond powders, abrasive materials
- Production of electrical equipment, machinery or goods with hot treatment

Production of Construction Materials and Glass

- Production of construction material generating cement, plaster, limestone, gyps or other dusts
- Manufacture of ceramic and marl ware and products by kilning, in particular pitched paper, roofing felt, roofing tiles, bricks, ceramic/stoneware, pottery or porcelain with oven treatment
- Production of asphalt or bituminous/asphalt concrete in stationary plants
- Production of glass, glass-wool, cotton or slag-wool
- Production of polymeric construction materials

Wood and Paper Industries

- Production of paper or cardboards
- Chemical processing of wood

Leather, Shoes, Textile, Threads, Fur and Animal Product Processing Industries

- Chemical printing of textiles or chemical treatment
- Production of plastic, artificial, including synthetic, leather, cellulose, oilcloth
- Industries for textiles continuous varnish soaking
- Bleaching, dyeing or final processing industries
- Production of polymer films, soles or rubber
- Mixed yarns, threads, yarns, ropes or twines production
- Furs production with raw materials processing
- Wool washing, neutralization or bleaching industries

- Production of patent-leather shoes
- Bone burning or bone milling
- Animal raw hide and skin processing or dyeing enterprises /with waste treatment/
- Glue-making industries from animal waste or residues
- Production of technical gelatin from rotten substances
- Production of technical fat
- Vegetable yarn preprocessing industries

Food Production

- Production of meat, meat products, drying or smoking of meat
- Washing of cattle cars, disinfection or washing stations (points)
- Animal bases, slaughterhouses or pre-slaughtering storehouses
- Production of sugar or granulated sugar
- Production of edible antibiotics
- Production of ferments by surface processing technology
- Production of animal and vegetable oils, including margarine or fats
- Fish processing, smoking or canning industries

Waste Management

- Processing, neutralization or destruction of waste generated from production of domestic chemicals (detergents, cleansers and other agents)
- Processing, neutralization or destruction of waste generated from production or processing of elastomer-based products
- Transportation of industrial waste
- Processing of animal (including fish) waste or residues
- Composting of domestic waste
- Waste fields with biological cells

Transport and Communication

- Construction of highways, roads, bridges, car stations, parking areas or depots
- Construction of subways, railways or production of railway equipment
- Production of power transmission or communication lines

Water Management and Melioration

- Desalinization of soils with salinity of 0,2 to 0,3%
- River water intakes
- Canals, deep wells, pump stations
- Water supply facilities, systems or pipelines
- Wastewater collector or treatment plants
- Facilities for animal drinking water
- Wastewater or rainwater removal facilities
- Silt-filtering devices

Agriculture

- Poultry-breeding industries from 1000 to 10000 fowl or pig-breeding industries from 200 to 1000 pigs
- Animal-breeding farms or fish-breeding industries
- Importing of new species of plants or animals

Trade and services

- Complex buildings or structures
- Hospitals, clinics or sanatoria
- Shops of hazardous substances (sold un-packed and by weight)
- Dissection of animals or burying
- Gas storages
- Gas-filling stations with car-washing, technical service, shop or other facilities

Recreation and Tourism

- Complex buildings or structures for recreational purposes
- Construction or establishment of artificial ponds or reservoirs

Environmental Protection

- Reclamation of metal ore sites

c) Category C

Energy

- Hydro-power stations with a capacity below 5000kWatt
- Hot water main pipelines
- Production of geothermal energy
- Production of biogas energy with a capacity equal and above 100kWatt
- Wind energy facilities with a size equal and longer than 30 feet or a capacity equal and exceeding 100kWatt
- Solar energy facilities with a capacity equal and exceeding 100kWatt
- Local boilers for multi-apartment buildings with gas combustion

Underground Resources

- Geological exploration with a purpose of mining
 - with underground digging not exceeding 1000 m
 - with surface digging not exceeding 1000m³
- Mining
 - exploitation of non-metal ores with a capacity equal and exceeding 30000m³ annually without explosion activities

Industries

Chemical Industry

- Sorting or packing of chemical substances

Machine Building, Metallurgical and Electric Industry

- Treatment of metal surfaces, rolling, pressing, punching or forging
- Manufacturing of electrical equipment, machinery and goods without smelting and hot treatment or use of mercury
- Manufacturing of radio-electronic and semiconductor devices
- Manufacturing of watches
- Storehouses

Production of Construction Materials and Glass

- Production of asphalt and bituminous/asphalt concrete in non-stationary plants
- Manufacture of porcelain, cut-glass or crystal-glass
- Production of tiles, stones, ferroconcrete items or other construction materials
- Production of gypsum materials
- Storehouses

Wood and Paper Industries

- Paper and cardboard industries
- Non-chemical processing of wood or production of plywood, parquet, carpentry, construction items (doors, windows, boxes, etc.), wood products or related materials
- Production of furniture
- Production of charcoal
- Storehouses

Leather, Shoes, Textile, Threads, Fur and Animal Product Processing Industries

- Production of natural detergent substances (soap)
- Cotton, linen or wool thread industries
- Carpets or artificial karakul manufacturing

- Production or processing of cottonine, silkworm, silk
- Production of shoe cardboard from leather and leather-cellulose fibres without use of solvents
- Production of shoes
- Production of skeletons and stuffed animals
- Production of items from worked-out leather
- Processing of hair, bristle, down, horn, hoof or production of goods
- Production of strings from intestinal or catgut
- Production of gelatine, fresh bones or thick felt
- Production of stocking
- Production of ready-made garments (including furs)
- Storehouses

Food Production

- Fish industry, fish processing plant or fish reproduction
- Production of starch
- Cigarette industry
- Production of corn-starch or corn-molasses/syrup
- Production of molasses/syrup, dextrin, glucose
- Processing of fruit or vegetables or canning industries
- Production of flour, confectionary, bread or macaroni industry
- Production of commercial malt and ferment
- Production of table vinegar, alcoholic or nonalcoholic drinks
- Production of dairy products
- Coffee-roasters, grain-cleaning and milling industries or elevators
- Production of mixed food
- Smokehouses
- Freezing facilities
- Storehouses

Waste Management

- Composting of domestic waste without manure and fecals

Transport and Communication

- Bus stations or railway stations
- Television towers
- Facilities accompanying linear installations
- Installations for stationing and repairing airplanes

Water Management and Melioration

- Extraction of ground water except for mineral and freshwater
- Desalinization of soils with low salinity - below 0,2 %
- Reclamation of area with a surface of 30ha and more (desalinization, construction of irrigation and drainage systems, drainage of marshes, protection of fertile soils from erosion, salinity and deterioration of the quality)
- Improvement of saline soils with chemical treatment

Agriculture

- Poultry-breeding industries from 500 to 1000 fowl or pig-breeding industries from 50 to 200 pigs
- Storehouses of mineral fertilizers, fruits, vegetables, cereals or other agricultural products or materials
- Veterinary hospital
- Aforestation, deforestation
- Greenhouses with biological heating without boiler
- Greenhouses with use of waste
- Production of fodder

- Medicinal plant collection units

Trade and services

- Technical service of cars
- Car-filling, washing stations, bus stations or parking areas
- Gas-filling stations, liquid gas-filling stations or fuel storehouses
- Laundries, dyeing or chemical cleaning installations
- Trade fairs, trade warehouses, trade centers, seasonal installations or separate buildings
- Printing houses

Recreation and Tourism

- Parks, public gardens, forest-type parks or recreation zones or objects
- Tourist routes
- Permanent camps, yacht and sport-boat harbors or ports
- Ski runs and ski lifts/cable cars

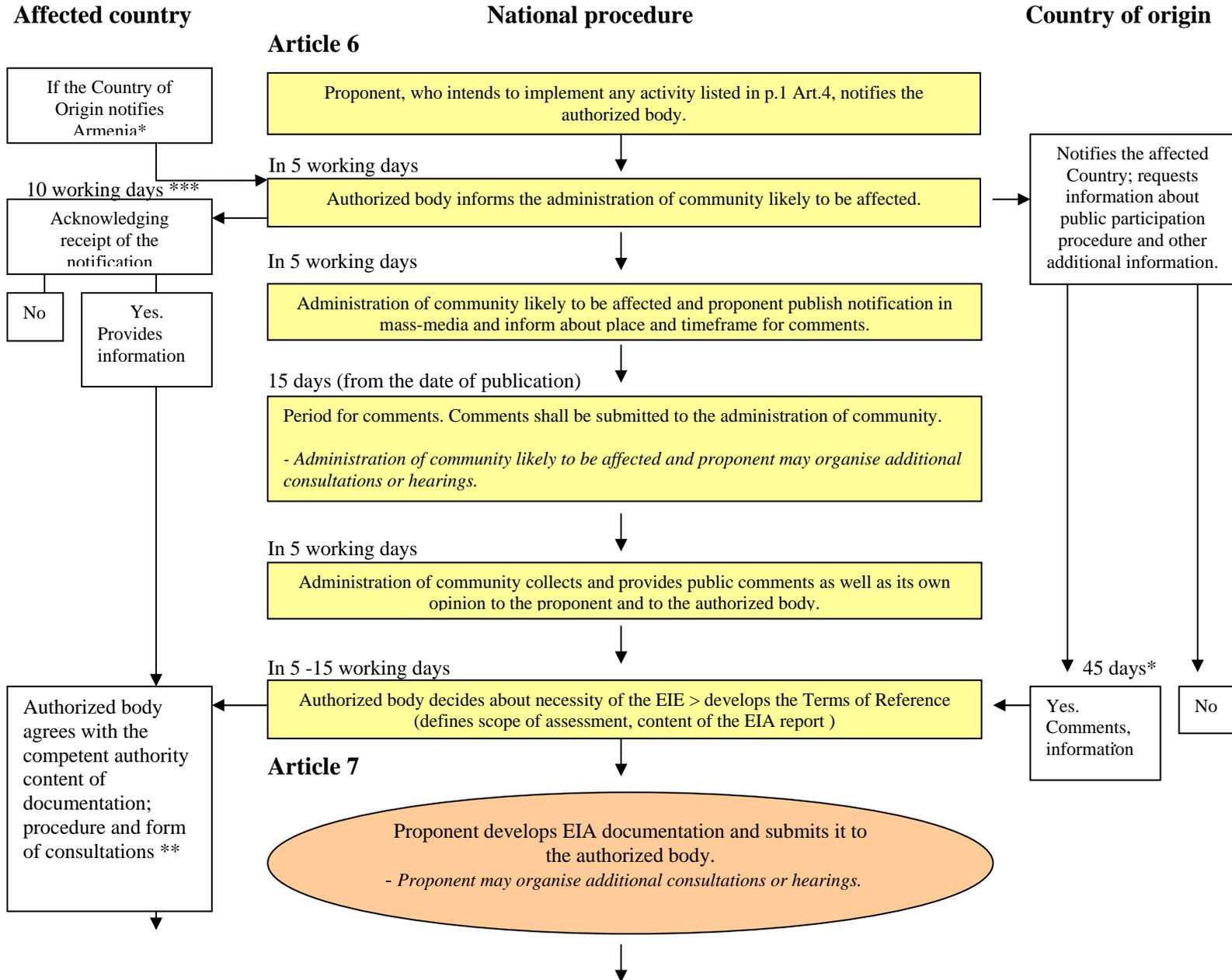
Environmental Protection

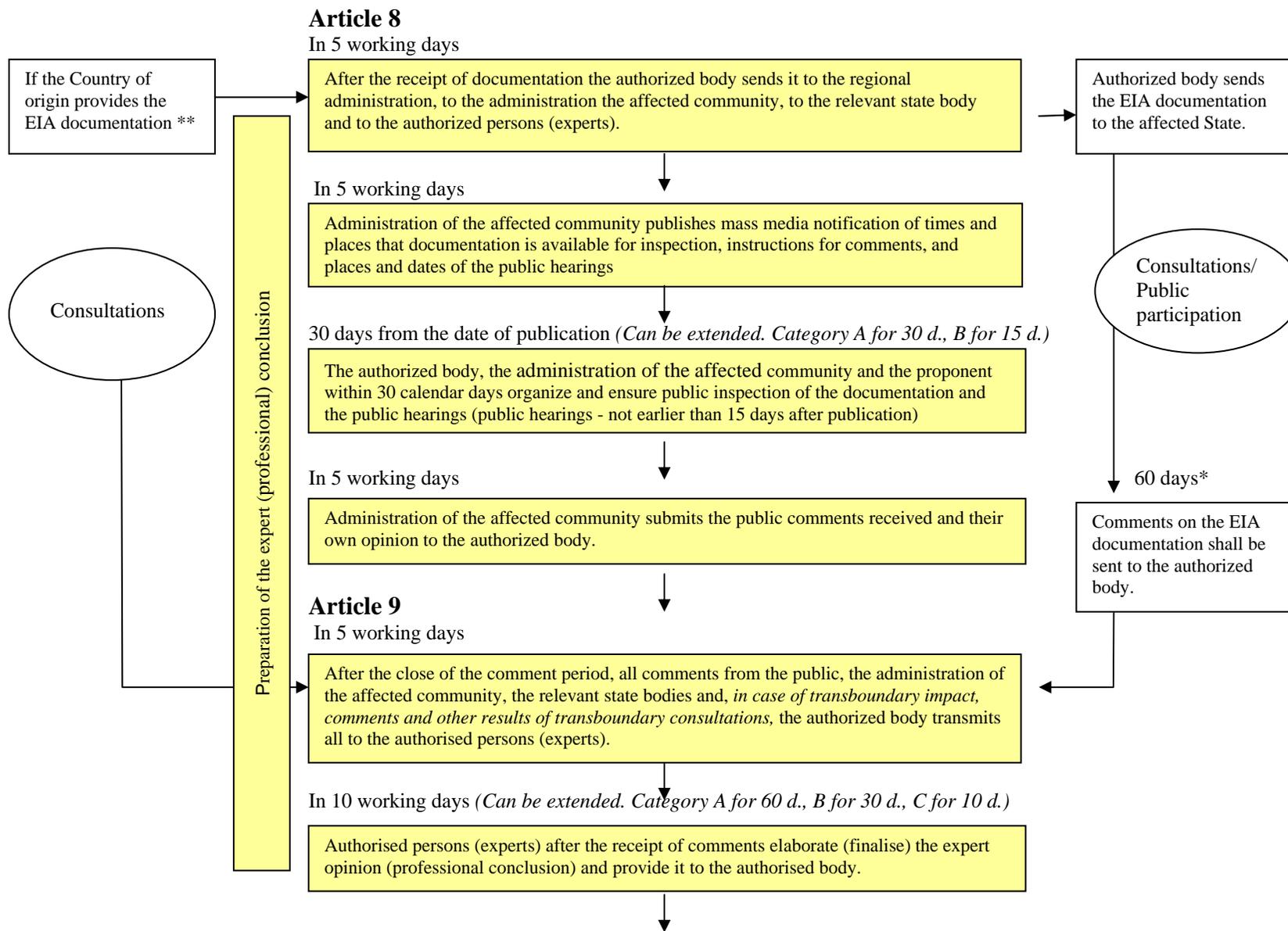
- Reclamation of non-metal ore mining areas, land reclamation
- Drainage networks
- Irrigation devices or networks
- Flood mitigation measures, river beds banking
- Ecosystems protection and improvement/development
- Restoration of disturbed ecosystems (including forests restoration, riverbed cleanup)
- Reproduction of plants and animals

Scientific-research and Experimental Activities

- Development and application of new technologies
- Research with an experimental purposes (testing activities, research, generation and synthesis of new substances)

Flow-chart of the main stages of the EIA procedure according to proposed amendments to the Law on EIE





Article 10

In 30 days

After the receipt of the expert opinion, the authorized body organizes the public hearings on the professional conclusion, the public opinion, the opinion of the administration of the affected community and relevant state bodies.
- *At least 15 days prior to the event, the authorized body makes a written notification to the proponent, the administration of the region and the administration of the affected community, relevant state bodies and authorized persons about the date and venue of the public hearings and publishes a mass-media announcement for the public .*

Article 11

In 15 working days (Cat.A), 10 w.d. (Cat.B), 5 w.d.(Cat.C)

Authorized body makes a decision on the issuance of the EIE conclusion based on the professional conclusion, results of public hearings and, *in case of transboundary impact, results of consultations.*
- *In case of transboundary impact the conclusion shall be approved by the Government.*

In 5 working days

The EIE conclusion is published with written notification to stakeholders.

The EIE conclusion provided to the State of origin along with the reasons and considerations on which it was based.

The EIE conclusion provided to the affected State along with the reasons and considerations on which it was based.

* If other is not defined according to bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements to implement Espoo Convention obligations.

** If other arrangements are not agreed upon with the competent authority of the State of origin or if they are not defined according to bilateral or multilateral agreements, the EIA documentation shall be examined according to the procedure of this law (Art.8-11).

*** If notification has no indication of time for response or it is otherwise not defined according to bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements to implement the obligations under the Espoo Convention.