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Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Sixth session

Budva, Montenegro, 11–13 September 2017

Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

Procedures and mechanisms facilitating the implementation of the Convention: compliance mechanism

Draft decision VI/8a concerning compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention

Prepared by the Bureau

The Meeting of the Parties,

Acting under paragraph 37 of the annex to its decision I/7 on the review of compliance (ECE/MP.PP/2/Add.8),

Mindful of the conclusions and recommendations set out in its decision V/9a with regard to compliance by Armenia (see ECE/MP.PP/2014/Add.1),

Taking note of the report of the Compliance Committee under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters on the implementation of decision V/9a concerning compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention (ECE/MP.PP/2017/33),

Encouraged by the willingness of Armenia to discuss in a constructive manner with the Committee the compliance issues in question,

1. *Endorses* the finding of the Committee that the Party concerned has met the requirements of paragraphs 4 (c) (iii) and (iv) of decision V/9a;

2. *Also endorses* the finding of the Committee that the Party concerned has not yet fulfilled the requirements of paragraph 4 (c) (i) and (ii) and paragraph 7 (a) and (b) of

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decision V/9a, but welcomes the steps taken by the Party concerned to date in that direction;

3. *Reaffirms* its decision V/9a, and requests the Party concerned to take the necessary legislative, regulatory and administrative measures and practical arrangements to ensure that:

(a) Thresholds for activities subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure, including public participation, are set in a clear manner;

(b) Reasonable time frames that are significantly longer than those currently provided for are set for the public to consult and comment on project-related documentation;

(c) Its legislation, including the law on non-governmental organizations and administrative procedures, complies with article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention with regard to standing;

(d) It continues its efforts to raise awareness of the judiciary to promote implementation of domestic legislation in accordance with the Convention;

4. *Requests* the Party concerned:

(a) To provide detailed progress reports to the Committee by 1 October 2018, 1 October 2019 and 1 October 2020 on the measures taken and the results achieved in the implementation of the above recommendations;

(b) To promptly provide the text of any legislative measures adopted to implement the above recommendations, together with English translations thereof;

(c) To provide such additional information as the Committee may request in between the above reporting dates in order to assist the Committee to review the progress by the Party concerned in implementing the above recommendations;

(d) To participate (either in person or by audio conference) in the meetings of the Committee at which the progress of the Party concerned in implementing the above recommendations is to be considered;

5. *Undertakes* to review the situation at its seventh session.
