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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

Fourth session

Vilnius, 8–11 December 2020
Item 3 (b) and 8 (b) of the provisional agenda

Outstanding issues: draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention

Adoption of decisions: decisions to be taken by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention

Draft decision VIII/4a on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation

Prepared by the Implementation Committee

Summary

The present document contains draft decision VIII/4a on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation. It was finalized by the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at its forty-eighth session (Geneva, 1–4 September 2020) having taken into account information and comments provided by the Parties concerned in advance of that session and the comments provided by the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment during and after its ninth meeting (Geneva, 24–26 August 2020).

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention is expected to review the draft decision and agree on its adoption.

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Please recycle

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention,

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

Recalling also its decisions IV/2, paragraphs 15–19,[1] V/4, paragraphs 27 and 28,[2] VI/2, paragraphs 29–35,[3] and IS/1a[4] concerning compliance by Armenia with regard to its national legislation for the implementation of the Convention,

Recalling further its decision VIII/4[5] on general issues of compliance with the Convention adopted at the eighth session,

Having considered the report on the activities of the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its eighth session, in particular, the section concerning the steps taken by Armenia further to decision IS/1a,[6]

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 paragraph 35 of decision VI/2,

1. *Appreciates* the regular reports received from and the steps taken by the Government of Armenia further to decision IS/1a since the intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties (Geneva, 5–7 February 2019);

2. *Welcomes* the information from the Government of Armenia that the amendments to its legislation and the relevant secondary legislation prepared to enhance the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol have been submitted for governmental consultations in multiple iterations since December 2019 ―with a view to adopting their by December 2020;

3. *Endorses* the finding of the Implementation Committee that the Government of Armenia has not yet adopted the amendments and the secondary legislation, and that, therefore, it has not yet fulfilled the requests addressed to it under paragraphs 5 and 6 of decision IS/1a, despite steps taken since the intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision IS/1a, and requests the Government of Armenia to adopt as soon as possible the amended legislation and the relevant secondary legislation with a view to ensuring full compliance of its legislative framework with the Convention and the Protocol;

5. *Also requests* the Government of Armenia to provide the Implementation Committee with the text of the amended legislation and the relevant secondary legislation, once adopted, together with the English translation thereof;

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to evaluate the amendments to the legislation and the relevant secondary legislation, once adopted, and to report to the Meeting of the Parties at its ninth session thereon.

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[1] See ECE/MP.EIA/10.
[2] See ECE/MP.EIA/15.
[3] See ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1.
[4] ECE/MP.EIA/27/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/11/Add.1.
[5] [Symbol of the adopted decision].
[6] See ECE/MP.EIA/2020/4–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/4.