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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

Mr. Felix Zaharia, Chair
Telephone: +402 143 117 12
Fax: +402 131 923 54
E-mail: felix.zaharia@mae.ro

Second Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Alea Alexandru, 31-33, Sector 1
Bucharest, Romania

Secretariat: Ms. Aphrodite Smagadi, UNECE
Telephone: +41 (0)22 917 3294
E-mail: aphrodite.smagadi@unece.org

Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Ref. Follow-up with decision VI/2 of the Meeting of the Parties
(EIA/IC/CI/1 Law on environmental assessment and EIA/IC/S/3)

19 September 2014

Dear Ms. Grigoryan,

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 thirty-first session, held in Geneva from 2 to 4 September 2014, the Committee considered the follow-up by Armenia with the recommendations of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (decision VI/2). It welcomed the report of the Government on the progress made for the adoption of draft legislation on environmental assessment and took note of the ongoing revision process by a working group recently established. At the request of the Committee, the secretariat is making the necessary arrangements for the translation of those parts of the recently adopted law, which have been amended as compared to the previous draft that had been reviewed by the Committee (before the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties in June 2014).

At the request of the Committee, I am now writing to inform you of the above and ask you to include the comments of the Committee, as far as possible, within the ongoing revision process regarding the environmental assessment legislation in your country.

In addition, at its thirty-first session, the Committee took note of the letter of 1 August 2014 from the Minister of Nature Protection addressed to the ECE Executive Secretary on the follow-up action concerning the Metsamor nuclear power plant. At the request of the Committee, I am now writing to seek further clarification regarding the legal status of decision authorizing the activity. Specifically:

- (a) Is the decision that was subject to the proceedings before the Committee still valid? If yes, for how long?

.../...

Ms. Elyanora Grigoryan
Adviser to the Minister of Nature Protection, Ministry of Nature Protection
Government Bldg 3, Republic Square
375002 Yerevan, Armenia
Fax: +374 1058 5469
E-mail: interdpt@mnp.am

(b) Does the construction of a new nuclear power plant, envisaged to start in 2018, require that a new authorization be issued?

You are now invited to address the above questions by no later than **21 November 2014**, for the Committee to consider at its next session.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Felix Zaharia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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