

Statement of the Slovak Republic

The Slovak Republic:

1. Expresses strong dissent with the petition and argumentation of Global 2000;
2. It expresses strong confidence that the procedure of the Slovak Republic has been from the very beginning in compliance with international requirements arising, in particular, out of the Aarhus Convention and other international treaties
3. The commitments of the Slovak Republic arising from the international treaties has in no way been breached

The construction permit for all units of NPP Mochovce was issued 1986, i.e. before accession of the Slovak Republic into the EU (2004), before signature of the Aarhus Convention (1998), before effective date of the Aarhus Convention for the Slovak Republic (2006). Soon afterwards, the construction started. In the first half of 1990's, the construction of the units 3 and 4 was frozen for various reasons (e.g. Change of the social and political system – 1989, searching for financial resources, change of the economic conditions etc.). However, the already permitted construction has never been definitely stopped and its implementation continued within the meaning of the valid construction permit; it means it has never lost the status of the nuclear power plant under construction.

In the English version of the petition submitted by the Global 2000, as well as in the heading, the call for participation on the proceedings, it is reads as follows: „...with extension of the Mochovce Nuclear Power Plant.“ We are strongly against the use of the term „extension“, whereas in the case of the Mochovce NPP, it is not an extension, but a „completion“ of the construction, where in our opinion, the correct expressions should read „completion“. We derive our statement from the fact that no of the essential parameters of the NPP Mochovce - units 3 and 4 have not been designed differently if compared to the original design. It means that the neither increase in the electric or thermal output, nor extension of the number of reactors have been designed and no further extension of the construction of whatsoever nature has been designed contrary to the design of 1986. There are included changes only in respect to the technological modifications for the sake of safety which are subject to the development and are designed in compliance with the most recent requirements for nuclear safety. This fact should be considered also from this viewpoint that as regards construction the civil construction is completed to about 60-70% and technological equipment to about 30-40%.

The Association Global 2000 has never actively engaged in the process contested. Therefore, in the light of these facts, we underline that the program content of all these environmental entities includes the intention to conduct campaigns against nuclear energy.

We emphasize that in February 2009, in compliance with national legislation and ESPOO Convention, the process of Environmental Impact Assessment regarding the proposed activities in connection with Mochovce NPP 3-4 was launched and which is currently drawing to an end and in which the general public – citizens of neighbouring municipalities, neighbouring countries and NGOs (Greenpeace Slovensko, Za Matku Zem and inter alia Global 2000. Within this open process, public hearings were also carried out, not only in the Slovak Republic, but also in Austria (Vienna, 25.09. 2009) and Hungary (Esztergom, 12.10.2009) and not only the representatives of the general public, official representatives and NGO from the neighbouring states but also NGOs including Global 2000 presented their statements and opinions.

Final position resulting out of this process will be used during the permitting procedure for the commissioning of the nuclear installation. Such permitting procedure is incontestably a permitting procedure of the proposed activity in accordance with the Slovak legislation, because it will change essentially the existing legal and factual state in the future.

In conclusion, we would like to emphasize again that the Slovak Republic proceeded in compliance with the national legislation, Aarhus Convention as well as other international commitments and that the accusation of Global 2000 are unjustified in this case.