

ROMANIA



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Minister's Cabinet

12, Libertății Blvd., sector 5, Bucharest  
Tel. +40 21 316 02 46; Fax: +40 21 312 42 27

Nr. 4557 /AK/ 15 // 2007

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to write to you with reference to your letter no. 10944/12/10-07 dated 8.10.2007, regarding the Ukrainian project "Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Route":

1. As mentioned in my latest letter no. 3854/AK/25.09.2007, the document "Programme of Actions to be undertaken by The Ukrainian Party to Implement the Scientific Conclusions and the Recommendations made by The UNECE Espoo Convention Inquiry Commission" should be discussed and agreed upon within the Romanian Ukrainian Joint Working Group. This issue may be included on the agenda of the next Joint Working Group, due to meet between 26-30 November 2007 (according to the Minute of the first session of the Committee for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development within the Joint Romanian-Ukrainian Presidential Commission,
2. With respect to your explanations regarding Chapter 7 of the EIA documentation, please find attached Romania's comments included in Annex 1 to the present letter.

Please find enclosed also several annexes reflecting the Romanian participation to the Espoo transboundary procedure.

The attached documents to the present letter include the following:

- a) Annex 1: Comments on the EIA documentation on scientific Research Work: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) within the framework of the project "Creation of the Danube - Black Sea Deep-Water Navigation Route in the Ukrainian part of the delta. Full development" (final) Kharkiv - 2004; some of these comments had been raised within the Implementation Committee, in June 2007, in Geneva.
- b) Annex 2: Comments during the public debate held in Tulcea, 18 July 2007 (this document was drafted during the public debate and it is not a transcript from an audio recording);
- c) Annex 3: Written comments regarding the EIA of the Ukrainian project submitted by the Romanian public (WWF-World Wild Fund for Nature)
- d) Annex 4: Comments of the Sulina Mayoralty.

Mr. Vasyl Dzharty  
Minister  
Ministry of Environmental Protection  
Ukraine

Also, I would like to emphasize the fact that the EIA documentation made available by the Ukrainian authorities had been drawn up in 2004. Consequently, it is obvious that it could have not taken into consideration the findings of the International Inquiry Commission.

I would take this opportunity to mention that, according to the provisions of the Espoo Convention (Articles 5 and 6), the Ukrainian Party is expected to offer written answers to all questions/comments included in Annexes 2, 3 and 4.

Also, in accordance with the Guidance on the Practical Application of the Espoo Convention, during consultations "it may be essential to meet more often and to start with an exchange of information at an expert level (e.g. experts of sector authorities). In order to ensure that consultations will focus on the most important items the presence of experts has been found useful. Consultations may also be done in writing". The Guidance on the Practical Application also mentions different means to be used in consultations in order to ensure efficient information flow in different consultation phases: meeting of experts, exchange of official letters, meetings of medium and high level officials.

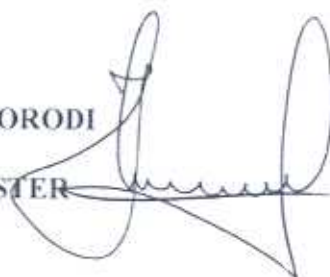
In this context, I am also looking forward to receiving your letter of invitation to open the consultations in accordance with Article 5 of the Espoo Convention, as agreed at the first session of the Committee for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development within the Joint Romanian Ukrainian Presidential Commission that took place in Bucharest, on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

I am confident in a fruitful future cooperation on this issue.

Please accept dear Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem,

Attila KORODI

MINISTER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Attila Korodi', written over the printed name and title. The signature is stylized with large loops and a horizontal line across the middle.