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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

Fourth meeting  
Bucharest, 19–21 May 2008  
Item 2(a) of the provisional agenda

OUTSTANDING ISSUES

REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONVENTION

**Report of the Implementation Committee on its twelfth meeting**

Report by the Implementation Committee

*Summary*

The Meeting of the Parties established the Implementation Committee for the review of compliance by the Parties with their obligations under the Convention with a view to assisting them fully to meet their commitments (decision II/4). The present report gives an account of the twelfth meeting of the Implementation Committee, held from 26 to 28 June 2007 in Geneva, further to (a) the structure and functions of the Implementation Committee and procedures for review of compliance (decision III/2), and (b) the adopted workplan (decision III/9). The meeting prepared a first draft of possible findings and recommendations further to a submission by Romania regarding its concerns about Ukraine's compliance with its obligations under the Convention.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. Representatives from the following Parties members of the Committee attended the meeting: Armenia (Ms. Margarita Korkhmazyan), Croatia (Ms. Vesna Montan), Finland (Ms. Seija Rantakallio), Germany (Mr. Matthias Sauer), Kyrgyzstan (Ms. Tatiana Filkova), Poland (Mr. Jerzy Jendroska), Slovakia (Mr. Tomáš Černoš). The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a member of the Committee, was not represented.
2. The Chair of the Committee, Ms. Rantakallio, opened the meeting on Tuesday, 26 June 2007, and welcomed the Committee to Geneva. She explained that the informal provisional agenda for the meeting was intended to allow the Committee to focus on its consideration of the submission by Romania. The Committee adopted its agenda as prepared by the secretariat.

## II. SUBMISSION BY ROMANIA

3. Professor Joost Terwindt, President of the Inquiry Commission, gave a presentation of the activities of the Commission, focusing in particular on the identification of “significant” impacts associated with the Bystroe Canal Project. The Inquiry Commission had completed its work on 10 July 2006. The Inquiry Commission’s unanimous opinion was that the Bystroe Canal Project was likely to have a significant adverse transboundary impact on the environment (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2007/4, para. 21).
4. On 23 January 2007, the Government of Romania made a submission to the Committee expressing concerns about Ukraine’s compliance with its obligations under the Convention, with respect to the Bystroe Canal Project and in the light of the opinion of the Inquiry Commission on the environmental impact of the project. The Committee considered the submission at its eleventh meeting and decided to discuss the case with delegations from the two Parties (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2007/4, paras. 23–25).
5. On 26 June 2007, the Committee made preparations for considering the matter of the submission. The Committee met with the two delegations on 27 and 28 June 2007, first inviting the Romanian delegation and thereafter the Ukrainian delegation to present the submission and the reply, respectively, and then to respond to the other Party’s presentation.
6. The two delegations also replied to questions posed by members of the Committee. The Committee entered into a dialogue with the two delegations to obtain more detailed information. After hearing the two parties, **the Committee elaborated possible draft findings and recommendations and decided to continue this work at its next meeting.**

## III. OTHER BUSINESS

7. The Committee reviewed its draft report to the Meeting of the Parties and decided to come back to this document at its next meeting.

8. The meeting discussed the preparations for a visit by a consultant to Armenia, further to the Committee's deliberations at its eleventh meeting (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2007/4, paras. 10–13).

9. **The Committee decided to meet next from 30 October to 1 November 2007 in Geneva.**

10. The Chair closed the meeting on Thursday, 28 June 2007.

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