

**Economic Commission for Europe**  
Meeting of the Parties to the Convention  
on Environmental Impact Assessment  
in a Transboundary Context

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

**Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment  
and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

**Seventh meeting**

Geneva, 28–30 May 2018

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Compliance and implementation**

**Draft decision IS/1e on compliance by Serbia with its  
obligations under the Convention with regard to the Kostolac  
lignite power plant**

**Proposal by the Implementation Committee<sup>1</sup>**

This note presents draft decision IS/1e of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its intermediary session (Geneva, 5–7 February 2019) on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Convention with regard to the Kostolac lignite power plant. As mandated by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session (Minsk, 13–16 June 2017), the Implementation Committee prepared the draft decision based on its review of the relevant paragraphs of draft decision VII/2 and taking into account the progress made before, during and after the seventh session. As suggested by the delegation of Ukraine in June 2017, the Committee decided to present the general and the country specific draft decisions in separate documents to facilitate their subsequent consideration and adoption by the Meeting of the Parties.

The Chair of the Committee will present the draft decision for information to the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment. The delegates may wish to present their views on the draft.

The Committee will finalize the draft decision at its forty-second session (Geneva, 11–14 September 2018) prior to its submission for consideration and adoption by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its intermediary session.

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<sup>1</sup> The present decision relates to an Implementation Committee initiative (reference EIA/IC/CI/6). More information on Committee initiatives can be found at <http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/environmental-assessment/areas-of-work/review-of-compliance/committee-initiative.html>.

*The Meeting of the Parties,*

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

*Recalling further* its decision at its seventh session (Minsk, 13–16 June 2017) to finalize its deliberations on the review of compliance with the Convention at an intermediary session, based on a revised draft decision to be prepared by the Implementation Committee and taking into account the work carried out and progress achieved before and during the seventh session,<sup>2</sup>

*Having considered* paragraphs 86–87 concerning Serbia in the report on the activities of the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its seventh session<sup>3</sup> and the report of the Committee on its forty-first session,<sup>4</sup>

[*Recalling* its decision IS/1 on the review of compliance with the Convention adopted at the intermediary session,]

1. *Endorses* the finding of the Implementation Committee that Serbia is in compliance with the Convention regarding the planned extension of the open-pit mine of the Kostolac lignite power plant;<sup>5</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Serbia during the 2014-2017 intersessional period to implement the recommendations of the Committee regarding the planned construction of block 3 of the Kostolac lignite power plant;<sup>6</sup>

3. *Also endorses* the findings of the Implementation Committee that Serbia brought the planned construction into compliance with the Convention by initiating a transboundary procedure in accordance with the Convention.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See ECE/MP.EIA/23-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7, para. 27. See also draft decision VII/2 (ECE/MP.EIA/2017/8).  
<sup>3</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/2017/4-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/4.  
<sup>4</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2018/2, paras. 50.  
<sup>5</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2016/4, paras 42  
<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, para 43.  
<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*