

## Regional Conference Agenda

### COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ESPOO CONVENTION FOR EIA FOR OBJECTS THAT HAVE TRANSBOUNDARY IMPACT AND DISCUSSION OF LEGAL RECOMMENDATIONS

*December 3, 2010*

*(Minsk, Nezavisimosti Ave. 116, National Library of Belarus, conference-hall)*

The Regional Conference is held within the framework of the joint European Union (EU) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) project “Building capacity for Strategic Environmental Assessment and environmental conventions implementation in Belarus” (registered by the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Belarus on November 6, 2008, # 2/08/000381). Project national implementing agency - Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus.

Conference objective – to inform the specialists of line ministries, bodies, state agencies and organizations, and non-governmental organizations on the results of international environmental impact assessment of Nemnovskaya HPP, review the legal recommendations on implementation of Espoo Convention with the draft of bilateral agreement between the Republic of Belarus and the Republic of Poland, and obtain the corresponding recommendations from the participants with regard to international experience and foreign practices.

Time	Activity
<i>Friday, December 3, 2010</i>	
<b>9:30-10:00</b>	<b>Participants’ registration.</b> (National Library of Belarus, conference-hall)
<b>10:00-10:10</b>	<b>Opening statements.</b> Vitaly Kulik, First Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus; Vadim Lojetchko, Task Coordinator
<b>10:10-10:30</b>	<b>Experience of EIA for Nemnovskaya HPP and preparation of bilateral agreements on the implementation of the Espoo Convention.</b> Alexander Andreev, Head of State Environmental Project Expert Assessment Department of the Ministry of Environment
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>Experience of international cooperation on the issues of transboundary EIA.</b> Sandra Ruza, Espoo Convention Secretariat representative (Switzerland)
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Relevance for legal recommendations and draft of a bilateral agreement on the implementation of the Espoo Convention between Belarus and Poland with the requirements of international law, as well as public participation in decision-making.</b> Siargey Balashenko, Dean of Law Faculty of Belarusian State University, Team

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
	Leader of the national expert group
<b>11:30-12:00</b>	<b>Coffee-break</b>
<b>12:00-13:00</b>	<b>Evaluating the process and the EIA report on Nemnovskaya HPP (Belarus), and some recommendations.</b> Maya Gachechiladze-Bozhesku, international expert (Ukraine)
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00-15:00</b>	<b>Cooperation between Belarus and Poland in the field of EIA in a transboundary context.</b> Albert Zhloba, Associate Professor of Environmental and Agricultural Law of Belarusian State University, national expert
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	<b>Questions and answers session.</b> Moderator: Alexander Andreev, Head of State Environmental Project Expert Assessment Department of the Ministry of Environment
<b>15:30-16:00</b>	<b>Coffee-break</b>
<b>16:00-17:00</b>	<b>Legal and practical aspects of applying the Espoo Convention in the EIA and environmental expertise.</b> Andriy Andrusevych, international expert (Ukraine)
<b>17:00-17:30</b>	<b>Questions and answers session.</b> Moderator: Alexander Andreev, Head of State Environmental Project Expert Assessment Department of the Ministry of Environment
<b>17:30-18:00</b>	<b>Conclusions of the seminar, adoption of proposals and recommendations. Discussion of the protocol.</b>
<b>18:00</b>	<b>Dinner.</b>