

RESOLUTION

of the participants of Subregional seminar «Practical Implementation of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan»

January, 26-27th, 2006

Hotel «Ак- Кеме", Bishkek

We, the participants of the Subregional seminar «Practical Implementation of the UNECE (Espoo) Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan», representatives of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic Kazakhstan and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, representatives of State Agency on Environment and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Processing Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, representatives of business-sector and NGOs of the Kyrgyz Republic and of the Republic of Kazakhstan, representatives of the International Organization OSCE, UNDP, CAREC,

- having heard and having discussed presentations and messages of: the Secretary of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, the UNECE Regional Adviser on Environment, the Manager on Ecological Policy of CAREC, experts from Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, representatives of NGOs and the business sector,

- having considered in detail the implementation of provisions of UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context with regard to the planned activity in Kyrgyzstan having a potential transboundary impact, more specifically, the exploitation of the «Djerui» gold ore deposit.

Recognize the necessity of a more effective implementation of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in the countries of the Central Asia with the objective to facilitate the achievement of ecologically sound and sustainable development of our countries,

Stress the necessity to strengthen subregional cooperation in the framework of the Central-Asian Initiative on Sustainable Development and the EECCA Environmental Strategy, and also aiming to implement decisions taken at the 3-rd meeting of Parties of the Espoo Convention, which took place in Cavtat (Croatia, 2004),

Confirm the importance of applying policies to prevent and mitigate any significant negative influence on the environment both at the national level, and in a transboundary context,

Agreed to, with the assistance of the Convention Secretariat and international experts:

1. Implement in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan (Parties of Espoo Convention) a pilot project on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context on the basis of a planned activity included into Appendix 1 of the Convention (the Djerui deposit development). The project will be implemented in accordance to the proposal of the UNECE Secretary of

Convention and Office of the Coordinator of OSCE on Economic and Environmental activities.

2. Within the framework of the project and on the basis of the results of its implementation:

- Develop the national mechanisms or procedures (regulations, action plans), promoting practical implementation of the provisions of the Espoo Convention in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan;
- Develop the capacity of national experts, including experts of the state water sector, representatives of NGOs, other interested persons in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan to apply the provisions of the Espoo Convention;
 - Make, if necessary, changes and specifications in the Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asia, which has been prepared by Central Asian experts;
 - Disseminate the results of the project, including the cooperation experience of water management organizations of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan in the Chu and Talas river basins, to other countries of CA, and in order to achieve this organize a Regional Conference in Bishkek with the participation of representatives from all five countries in CA.

3. Make a report on the implementation of the pilot project on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, based on planned activities included in Appendix 1 of the Convention (the Djerui deposit development), to be presented to the Working Group on EIA under the Espoo Convention.

The participants of the Subregional seminar «Practical Implementation of Convention the UNECE on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan» expressed their sincere gratitude to:

- The Secretariat of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context,
- The OSCE Center in Bishkek,
- The Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia,
- The State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic - for arranging this seminar in the city of Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan).