



## Roundtable on integration of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) procedure into the national legal framework

**March 11, 2016**

Yerevan, Armenia

### Background

The roundtable is organized by the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Regional Environmental Center for Caucasus (REC C) in the framework of the EU funded Programme ‘Greening the Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood’.

The aim of the roundtable is to present and discuss necessary amendments of the Law on EIA and Expertise in order to fully transpose provisions of the UNECE Protocol on SEA to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention). The feedback from the relevant national stakeholders will be utilized during the work on the revisions of the Law.

Representatives of the relevant ministries (i.e. Ministry of Nature Protection, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Emergency Situations, Ministry of Health, etc.), UNECE Secretariat, international organizations, NGOs, as well as the national and international experts involved in the preparation of the legal amendments will be invited to attend the meeting.

The roundtable will be followed by the internal meeting of the working group on the Law amendments to agree on the approach and develop the detailed workplan.

### Agenda

<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Registration of participants</b>
<b>10:00 - 10:20</b>	<b>Opening the Meeting and welcome of the participants</b> <i>Mr. Khachik Hakobyan, Deputy Ministry of Nature Protection of RA</i> <i>Mr. John Barker, International Aid/Cooperation Officer, EU delegation Armenia</i> <i>Ms. Eleonora Grigoryan, Espoo Convention focal point</i> <i>Ms. Elena Santer, UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA</i>
<b>10:20 – 10:30</b>	<b>Objectives and agenda of the meeting</b> <i>Ms. Nune Harutyunyan, REC C, National SEA Team Leader</i>



<b>10:30 – 10:50</b>	<b>Introduction to the EaP GREEN activities in Armenia and overview of the environmental assessment system reforms in Eastern Europe and Caucasus</b> <i>Ms. Elena Santer, UNECE Secretariat</i>
<b>10:50 – 11:10</b>	<b>Introduction to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and Expertise – presentation and discussion</b> <i>Ms. Azganush Drnoyan, National Expert, Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia</i>
<b>11:10 – 11:30</b>	<b>Main requirements of the UNECE Protocol on SEA and provisions to be integrated in the Law on EIA and Expertise – presentation and discussion</b> <i>Ms. Elena Laevskaya and Mr. Gor Movsisyan, International Legal Expert to UNECE</i>
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	Coffee break
<b>12:00 – 12:40</b>	<b>Planned amendments of the Law on EIA and Expertise: organization of work, involvement of stakeholders, work plan – presentation and discussion</b> <i>Ms. Azganush Drnoyan, National Expert, Ministry of Nature protection of Armenia</i>
<b>12:40 – 13:00</b>	<b>Summary of main conclusions and closure of the meeting</b> <i>Mr. Khachik Hakobyan, Deputy Ministry of Nature Protection of RA</i>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	Lunch
<b>14:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Meeting of the working group to prepare the text of amendments to the Law on EIA and Expertise</b>
<b>14:00 – 14:10</b>	<b>Objectives and agenda of the meeting</b> <i>Ms. Nune Harutyunyan, REC C, National SEA Team Leader</i>
<b>14:10 – 15:00</b>	<b>Approach to amendments of the Law on EIA and Expertise</b> <i>Introductory presentation by Ms. Elena Laevskaya and Mr. Gor Movsisyan, International Legal Expert to UNECE</i> <i>Discussion facilitated by Mr. Martin Smutny, International SEA Expert to UNECE</i>
<b>15:00 – 15:15</b>	Coffee break
<b>15:15 – 16:00</b>	<b>Development of the work plan and way of the working group coordination and operation</b> <i>Discussion facilitated by Ms. Elena Santer, UNECE Secretariat</i>

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<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Summary of the main conclusions, outline of next steps, closure of the meeting</b> <i>Ms. Azganush Drnoyan, National Legal Expert, Ministry of Nature protection of Armenia and</i> <i>Ms. Nune Harutyunyan, REC C, National SEA Team Leader</i>
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