

Decision VIII/4a

Compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention,

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

Recalling also its decisions IV/2, paragraphs 15–19,¹ V/4, paragraphs 27 and 28,² VI/2, paragraphs 29–35,³ and IS/1a⁴ concerning compliance by Armenia with regard to its national legislation for the implementation of the Convention,

Recalling further its decision VIII/4⁵ on general issues of compliance with the Convention adopted at the eighth session,

Having considered the report on the activities of the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its eighth session, in particular, the section concerning the steps taken by Armenia further to decision IS/1a,⁶

Acknowledging the technical advice provided by the secretariat to the Government of Armenia to assist the country in bringing its legislation into line with the provisions of the Convention and the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, further to paragraph 35 of decision VI/2,

1. *Appreciates* the regular reports received from and the steps taken by the Government of Armenia further to decision IS/1a since the intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties (Geneva, 5–7 February 2019);

2. *Welcomes* the information from the Government of Armenia that the amendments to its legislation and the relevant secondary legislation prepared to enhance the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol have been submitted for governmental consultations in multiple iterations since December 2019 —with a view to adopting their by December 2020;

3. *Endorses* the finding of the Implementation Committee that the Government of Armenia has not yet adopted the amendments and the secondary legislation, and that, therefore, it has not yet fulfilled the requests addressed to it under paragraphs 5 and 6 of decision IS/1a, despite steps taken since the intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision IS/1a, and requests the Government of Armenia to adopt as soon as possible the amended legislation and the relevant secondary legislation with a view to ensuring full compliance of its legislative framework with the Convention and the Protocol;

5. *Also requests* the Government of Armenia to provide the Implementation Committee with the text of the amended legislation and the relevant secondary legislation, once adopted, together with the English translation thereof;

6. *Requests* the Implementation Committee to evaluate the amendments to the legislation and the relevant secondary legislation, once adopted, and to report to the Meeting of the Parties at its ninth session thereon.

¹ See ECE/MP.EIA/10.

² See ECE/MP.EIA/15.

³ See ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1.

⁴ ECE/MP.EIA/27/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/11/Add.1.

⁵ ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.2.

⁶ See ECE/MP.EIA/2020/4–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/4.