



Our Ref: 03-08/373

Date: 15 November 2011

Subject: *Environmental Impact Assessment procedures in the Republic of Moldova*

Dear Ms. Kolar- Planinsic,

Herewith, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova avails itself of this opportunity to extend its compliments to the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991).

Following your letter regarding the implementation of the provisions of the Convention on the environmental impact assessment in the transboundary context, the Ministry of Environment informs you that the Law no. 851-XIII from 29.05.1996 on the ecological expertise and environmental impact assessment doesn't provide for procedures for performing the environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context. The Law provides that „In case when the environmental impact of the planned objects or activities has a transboundary character, the procedure of performing the environmental impact assessment is performed in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context”. In practice, the procedures of environmental impact assessment were performed in accordance with the provisions of the Espoo Convention.

At the moment a new draft Law on the environmental impact assessment was elaborated. This Law is based on the provisions of the Convention on the environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context and European Directives in the field (Directive 85/337/EEC from 27 June 1985 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, Directive 97/11/EC from 3 March 1997, Directive 2003/31/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 23 April 2009), which contain provisions on the evaluation procedures in the transboundary context. The draft Law was coordinated with the responsible institutions according to the national legislation and was passed to the Government for examination.

Looking forward to a fruitful collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gheorghe ȘALARU'.

Gheorghe ȘALARU
Minister

To: Ms. Vesna Kolar-Planinsic,
Chair, Implementation Committee
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context