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COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE POUR L'EUROPE ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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18 July 2006

Dear Mr. Davletkeldyev,

I am writing to you on behalf of Ms. Seija Rantakallio, Chair of the Implementation Committee of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context.

The Committee thanks you for your response dated 23 November 2005 to the letter sent 26 August 2005 by the UNECE secretariat on behalf of the Implementation Committee. The following text appears in the report of the Committee's ninth meeting, 6-8 February 2006, which reviewed your response (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2006/4, para. 20):

"The Committee took note of the fact that the Convention had not yet been in force in Kyrgyzstan at the time of the case for which a transboundary EIA procedure was described in the questionnaire, and that Kyrgyzstan had since developed its EIA regulations to ensure full implementation of the Convention. The Committee agreed that the Chair write to Kyrgyzstan stating that the Committee was satisfied with the information provided and would not consider the matter further. Ms. Shabaeva did not take part in this decision. She agreed with the Committee's request that the related correspondence be placed on the Convention's website."

In withdrawing herself from the decision, Ms. Shabaeva was complying with the decision of the Committee at its eighth meeting: "The Committee decided that a member whose country's compliance was being discussed should be allowed to participate in the discussion, though it might choose not to do so. Should recommendations be drawn up, paragraphs 9 and 10 of the structure and functions [(annexed to decision III/2, ECE/MP.EIA/6)] should be applied, mutatis mutandis, to avoid a conflict of interest" (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2006/3, para. 15).

In agreeing that the related correspondence be placed on the Convention's website (at http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation_committee.htm), Ms. Shabaeva was following the precedent set by Finland. Concluding similar consideration of Finland's response to the questionnaire, the "entire Committee agreed that the relevant correspondence should be placed on the Convention's website as an illustration of the Committee's approach and of a proper and sufficient response from a Party to addressing the issue" (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2006/3, para. 17).

Wiek Schrage
Secretary to the EIA Convention

Division for Environment, Housing and Land Administration United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

To:

Mr. Arstanbek DAVLETKELDYEV
Director
The State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry of Kyrgyz Republic

cc. Ms. Gulfiya SHABEVA Ministry of Emergency Sitiuations

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