#### Questionnaire for the report of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the implementation of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in the period 2019–2021

#### Information on the focal point for the Protocol

1. Name and contact information:

#### Information on the point of contact for the Protocol

2. Name and contact information (if different from above):

#### Information on the person responsible for preparing the report

- 3. Country: Republic of Kazakhstan
- 4. Surname: Dauletyarova
- 5. Forename: Natalia

6. Institution: Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

- 7. Postal address: Nur-Sultan, pr. Mangilik, 10
- 8. Email address: n.dauletyarova@ecogeo.gov.kz
- 9. Telephone number: +7 7172 740285
- 10. Date on which report was completed: 20 June 2022

#### Part one Current legal and administrative framework for the implementation of the Protocol

In this part, please describe the legal, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Protocol. This part should describe the framework for your country's implementation, and not its experience in the application of, the Protocol.

Please do not reproduce the text of the legislation itself but summarize and explicitly refer to the relevant provisions transposing the text of the Protocol (for example, Strategic Environmental Assessment Law of the Republic of ..., article 5 (3) of Government Resolution No. ..., para. ... item...)

#### Article 3 General provisions

**I.3.** According to article 3 (1) of the Protocol: "Each Party shall take the necessary legislative, regulatory and other appropriate measures to implement the provisions of this Protocol within a clear, transparent framework." Please provide the main legislative, regulatory and other measures your country has adopted to implement the Protocol (art. 3, (1)) (more than one option may apply):

(a) Law on strategic environmental assessment (please provide exact title/reference number/year/access link, if any): Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 2.01.2021 N 400-VI 3PK (paras regarding Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment): Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan

(b) Strategic environmental assessment provisions are transposed into another law/other laws (please specify, providing title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

(c) Regulation (please indicate title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

Instruction on the conduction of EIA was adopted by Order of Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 30.07.2021.

(d) Administrative rule (please indicate title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

(e) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

#### Article 4 Field of application concerning plans and programmes

## **I.4.1** Which plans and programmes referred to in article 4 (2)–(4) of the Protocol are set out in your country's legislation?

List the types of plans and programmes that require strategic environmental assessment in your country's legislation and provide references to the relevant legislation:

Plans and programmes prepared for:

Agriculture Forestry Fisheries Energy Industry including mining Transport Regional development Waste management Water management Telecommunications Tourism Town and country planning Land use Other (including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4)), please list Please explain:

According to para 3 art. 52 and para 1 art. 51 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the programmes of development of territories, master plan of settlements and state programmes aimed at developing at least one of any above mentioned areas are subject to SEA. All the mentioned documents are named at the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan as "Documents"

## **I.4.2.** Explain how you define whether a plan or programme "set the framework for future development consent" (art. 4 (2)):

Such norms are not envisaged in the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan

**I.4.3.** Explain how the term "plans and programmes ... which determine the use of small areas at local level" (art. 4 (4)) is interpreted in your country's legislation: There are no provisions in the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan that would envisage screening of plans and programmes that determine of use of small territories, there is no definition of small territories

## **I.4.4.** Explain how you identify in your legislation a "minor modification" to a plan or programme (art. 4 (4)):

There is no definition of "minor modification" in the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan. According to para 3 art. 52 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, any changes and (or) addition to documents that are subject to SEA, are also subject to screening

#### Article 5 Screening

**I.5.1** According to article 5 (1): "Each Party shall determine whether plans and programmes referred to in article 4, paragraphs 3 and 4, are likely to have significant environmental, including health, effects either through a case-by-case examination or by specifying types of plans and programmes or by combining both approaches."

How do you determine which plans and programmes referred to in article 4 (3)–(4) should be subject to a strategic environmental assessment? Please specify:

- (a) On a case-by-case basis  $\boxtimes$
- (b) By specifying types of plans and programmes
- (c) By using a combination of (a) and (b) above  $\Box$
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: According to art. 55 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan a case-by-case approach applies

## **I.5.2.** According to article 5 (2), each Party shall ensure that the environmental and health authorities are consulted during screening.

Please explain whether your legislation provides for consultation with environmental and health authorities at the screening stage and, if so, how.

- (a) On a case-by-case basis:  $\boxtimes$
- (b) As defined in the national legislation:
- (c) Other (please specify)

Please explain: According to para 5 art.55 and art. 59 and 60 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, screening is conducted by the competent environmental protection authority (Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan) based on the results of individual consideration of the information about each document taking into account comments and suggestions of the public and authorities concerned and whether there are reasons for transboundary impact assessment of such document

# **I.5.3.** According to article 5 (3): "To the extent appropriate, each Party shall endeavour to provide opportunities for the participation of the public concerned in the screening of plans and programmes under this article."

Please indicate whether you provide opportunities for the public concerned to participate in screening of plans and programmes in your legislation and, if so, how.

No 🗌

Yes 🖂

Please specify (more than one option may apply):

#### (a) By sending written comments to the relevant authority

- (b) By completing a questionnaire  $\Box$
- (c) By taking part in a public hearing  $\Box$
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: According to paras 6 and 7 art. 55 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, to initiate a screening of impact of the Document, governmental body – developer of the Document submits to the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan the following documents:

- 1) Draft document including the information on the main scope and deadline of its implementation
- 2) Description of territory where the implementation of such document is planned
- 3) General characteristics of potential impact on the environment, life and (or) health of people during the implementation of this document

During two working days after receiving the mentioned documents the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan makes them available on its website and informs about it all governmental bodies concerned, while the developer (the governmental body) informs the public concerned following the same time frame.

The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan makes a decision based on the results of screening procedure taking into account comments and suggestions received from the public and authorities concerned.

#### Article 6 Scoping

# **I.6.1** According to article 6 (1): "Each Party shall establish arrangements for the determination of the relevant information to be included in the environmental report in accordance with article 7, paragraph 2."

Please explain how you determine the relevant information to be included in the environmental report.

The scoping procedure is set in accordance with art. 56 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan and para 6 of the Instruction on the conduction of EIA. In accordance with above mention norms, the developer (governmental body) submits the draft document, description of territory where the implementation of the document is planned as well as the general characteristic of its impact on the environment. Then, the above mentioned documents are published on the website of the developer and the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the public and authorities concerned are informed, comments and suggestions are collected. Then, the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan makes a decision regarding the scope taking into account comments and suggestions received and makes it available on the website of the Ministry and of the developer (governmental body). The copy of such decision is submitted to the governmental fund of environmental information.

## **I.6.2.** According to article 6 (2), each Party shall ensure that the environmental and health authorities are consulted during scoping.

Please explain whether your country's legislation provides for consultation with environmental and health authorities at the scoping stage and, if so, how.

- (a) On a case-by-case basis: 🖂
- (b) As defined in the national legislation:
- (c) Other (please specify)

Please explain: the procedure for collecting comments and suggestions from authorities concerned is described in the answer to the question I.6.1. However, according to para 2 art. 59 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan the list of governmental bodies concerned in each case is determined by the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It is mandatory for all cases to include the competent health authority and local executive bodies of administrative-territorial units where the implementation of the Document is planned. The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan is a competent environmental protection authority and makes a decision on scope of SEA report.

# **I.6.3** According to article 6 (3): "To the extent appropriate, each Party shall endeavour to provide opportunities for the participation of the public concerned when determining the relevant information to be included in the environmental report."

Please indicate whether your country's legislation provides opportunities for the public concerned to participate in scoping of plans and programmes and, if so, how.

No 🗌

#### Yes 🖂

Please specify (more than one option may apply):

#### (a) By sending written comments to the relevant authority

- (b) By completing a questionnaire  $\Box$
- (c) By taking part in a public hearing
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: the procedure for collecting comments and suggestions is described in the answer to the question I.6.1.

#### Article 7 Environmental report

**I.7.1.** According to article 7 (2): "The environmental report shall, in accordance with the determination under article 6, identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant environmental, including health, effects of implementing the plan or programme and its reasonable alternatives."

How do you determine "reasonable alternatives"? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

(a) On a case-by-case basis  $\boxtimes$ 

- (b) As defined in the national legislation (please specify):
- (c) By using a combination of (a) and (b) above  $\Box$
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: According to subpara 3, second part of para 1, art. 56 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, one of the aims of determining a scope of SEA report is to inform public about planned Document, possible alternative solutions that might be included and expected results of its implementation.

Authorities and public concerned when submitting comments and suggestions can provide their alternative options for consideration. The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan based on the results of consideration of comments and suggestions received, can include the study of received alternatives in the decision on scope as a requirement for the preparation of SEA report.

The legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan does not foresee special requirements for "reasonable alternatives", and that's why developer (governmental body) can choose them on case-by-case basis.

According to subpara 8, para 4, art. 56 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, SEA report should include the justification of choice made in the Document from the alternative options provided during SEA.

## **I.7.2.** According to article 7 (3): "Each Party shall ensure that environmental reports are of sufficient quality to meet the requirements of this Protocol."

How do you ensure that quality of the reports is sufficient? Please specify:

(a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures that it includes all information required under annex IV as a minimum before making it available for comments

- (b) By using quality checklists
- (c) There are no specific procedures or mechanisms  $\Box$

#### (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: According to paras 6 – 11 art. 57 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the developer (governmental body) submits the draft SEA report to the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan for quality assessment. The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the developer (governmental body) make the draft SEA report available on their websites, the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan informs the authorities concerned about it and the developer (governmental body) informs the public concerned. The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan receives comments and suggestions from the authorities and the public concerned during 30 calendar days. After that, the Ministry of

Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan evaluates the quality of the report, taking into account the comments and suggestions received, and makes the decision regarding the quality of SEA report (satisfactorily or not satisfactorily). In case if the quality of SEA report was considered as not satisfactorily, the developer (governmental body) finalises it and the draft Document, if needed, and submits them to the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan for quality reassessment.

#### Article 8 Public participation

**I.8.1.** According to article 8 (2): "Each Party, using electronic media or other appropriate means, shall ensure the timely public availability of the draft plan or programme and the environmental report."

How do you notify the public and make the draft plans and programmes and the environmental report available? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Through public notices in printed media
- (b) Through electronic media 🖂
- (c) Placing copies in public offices for the public  $\boxtimes$
- (d) Through other means:

Please explain: sending official letters to legal entities that are in charge of specially protected natural areas in case if those areas can be affected by the implementation of the Document.

According to para 5 art. 60 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, mandatory means of informing the public in the process of SEA include: 1) posting information on the official Internet resource of the developer (governmental body);

2) posting information on the official Internet resource of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources as a central executive body of the Government of Kazakhstan;
3) in relation to some information (for instance, deadline, place and how to submit comments and suggestions from the public concerned) - placement of information in at least one mass media (in a print periodical, through a TV channel or radio channel) distributed on the entire territory affected by the implementation of the Document, as well as on paper in places publicly accessible to the public (on bulletin boards of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources and its territorial divisions, local executive bodies and in places specially designed for posting announcements);

4) sending letters to legal entities in charge of specially protected natural areas, if they may be affected as a result of the implementation of the Document.

# **I.8.2.** According to article 8 (3): "Each Party shall ensure that the public concerned, including relevant non-governmental organizations, is identified for the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 4."

How do you identify the public concerned? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

(a) Based on the geographical location of the plans and programmes  $\boxtimes$ 

### (b) Based on the environmental effects (significance, extent, accumulation, etc.) of the plans and programmes $\square$

## (c) By making the information available to all members of the public and letting them identify themselves as the public concerned $\boxtimes$

Information that is published at the websites of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources and developer (governmental body), is available to public in any region of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Criteria to determine the public concerned that is listed below allows any public representatives to take part in SEA as representatives of public concerned.

(d) By other means:

Please explain: According to the Instruction on the conduction of EIA, a natural person or legal entity is considered as a public concerned when meeting one or several following criteria:

- 1) natural persons to be living or being located (including for the period of work), legal entity is being located on the affected territory
- 2) performing activities by natural persons or legal entities on the affected territory
- existence of property owned by natural persons or legal entities on the affected territory or natural resources used by natural persons or legal entities on the affected territory
- existing or possible impact on interests of natural persons or legal entities as a result of possible impact on environment and health of the implementation of the Document and implementation of the planned activity
- 5) existence of natural person or legal entity interested in taking part in environmental assessment
- 6) there is a goal on environmental protection in general or of some elements prescribed in the statute of non-commercial organization

# **I.8.3.** According to article 8 (4): "Each Party shall ensure that the public referred to in paragraph 3 has the opportunity to express its opinion on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report within a reasonable time frame."

How can the public concerned express its opinion on the draft plan and programme and the environmental report? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By sending comments to the relevant authority/focal point  $\boxtimes$
- (b) By completing a questionnaire  $\Box$
- (c) By taking part in a public hearing  $\boxtimes$
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: during the evaluation of the quality of SEA report, the collection of comments and suggestions is conducted as explained in answer to the question I.7.2. After SEA report is approved to be satisfactorily, the Document and the draft report is made available for public hearings

#### **I.8.4.** According to article 8 (4): "The public [concerned, including relevant nongovernmental organizations] has the opportunity to express its opinion ... within a reasonable time frame."

Do you have a definition (for example, a number of days) in your legislation of the term "within a reasonable time frame"? Please specify:

(a) No, it is defined on a case-by-case basis  $\Box$ 

#### (b) Yes (please provide the definition):

According to subpara 2, para 3, art. 60 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, reasonable time frame – is time frame that allows the public concerned submit comments and suggestions timely and effectively at all stages of SEA. There are different time frames at various stages are set by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan for submitting comments and suggestions but taking into account the mentioned norms. For instance, according to subpara 5 para 6 of the Instruction on the conduction of EIA, the Ministry of of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan receives comments and suggestions from the public and authorities concerned during 15 working days.

(c) Other (please specify):  $\Box$ 

Please explain your selection: Explanation provided under the chosen option

#### **Article 9 Consultation with environmental and health authorities**

**I.9.1.** According to article 9 (1): "Each Party shall designate the authorities to be consulted which, by reason of their specific environmental or health responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plan or programme."

How are the environmental and health authorities identified? Please specify:

- (a) On a case-by-case basis: 🖂
- (b) As defined in the national legislation:
- (c) Other (please specify)

Please explain: there is a general definition of authorities concerned provided in para 1 art. 59 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan: authorities concerned – governmental bodies, local executive bodies the functions of which can be affected during the implementation of the Document.

Based on this definition, the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan identifies the authorities concerned on a case-by-case basis. According to para 2 art. 59 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the list of authorities concerned is identified by the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan on a case-by-case basis. However, the health authority (the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan) as well as local executive bodies of administrative-territorial units on the territory of which the implementation of the Document is planned on a mandatory basis are always included in the list of authorities concerned.

# **I.9.2.** According to article 9 (4): "Each Party shall determine the detailed arrangements for informing and consulting the environmental and health authorities referred to in paragraph 1."

How are the arrangements for informing and consulting the environmental and health authorities determined? Please specify:

- (a) On a case-by-case basis:
- (b) As defined in the national legislation:  $\boxtimes$
- (c) Other (please specify)

#### Please explain:

Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan is an environmental protection authority. The structure of the Ministry includes institutions that are in charge of protection and use of several natural objects: Fisheries Committee, Committee of Forestry and Wildlife, Committee of Environmental Regulation and Control, Committee of Water Resources, Committee of Geology. The Ministry plays a key role in conducting SEA, by being an environmental protection authority it informs other authorities concerned about possibility to submit comments and suggestions (para 7, art. 55, ara 7, art. 57 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, subpara 2 para 6 of the Instruction on the conduction of EIA), including informing it own institutions, if needed. There is no set method for informing in the legislation.

**I.9.3.** According to article 9 (3): "Each Party shall ensure that the authorities referred to in paragraph 1 are given, in an early, timely and effective manner, the opportunity to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report."

Does your national legislation call for consultations with environmental and health authorities?

(a) Yes (please refer to specific provisions and provide citations in order to clarify the issue)  $\boxtimes$ 

(b) No 🗌

Please explain:

According to the second part of para 6, art. 59 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, authorities concerned should provide their comments and suggestions or notify that they don't have them by submitting a letter in line with requirements of Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Instruction on the conduction of EIA (in accordance with the time frame set in the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan and in the Instruction on the conduction of EIA).

#### I.9.4. How can the environmental and health authorities express their opinion?

- (a) By sending comments  $\boxtimes$
- (b) By completing a questionnaire  $\Box$
- (c) In a meeting  $\Box$
- (d) By other means (please specify)

Please explain:

As was mentioned in the answer to the question I.9.3, according to the second part of para 6, art. 59 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, authorities concerned (including the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan) should provide their comments and suggestions or notify that they don't have them by submitting a letter in line with requirements of Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Instruction on the conduction of EIA (in accordance with the time frame set in the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan and in the Instruction on the conduction of EIA).

#### Article 10 Transboundary consultations

I.10.1. According to article 10 (1): "Where a Party of origin considers that the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have significant transboundary environmental, including health, effects or where a Party likely to be significantly affected so requests, the Party of origin shall as early as possible before the adoption of the plan or programme notify the affected Party."

As a Party of origin, when do you notify the affected Party?

(a) **During scoping**  $\boxtimes$ 

(c) At other times (please specify):

Please explain:

According to para 4, art. 80 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, developer (governmental body) initiates the collection of the information that is required

for assessing the probability, characteristics and scale of possible environmental transboundary impact of the implementation of the Document, before submitting the application for screening of the impact of the Document, or, if the Document is not a subject to screening, at the stage of scoping of SEA report. If additional information become available, basis for initiation of transboundary environmental impact assessment can be identified later during SEA.

Thus, notification of the affected Party is made on the stage of screening of impacts of the Document or scoping. However, if the adverse environmental transboundary impact is identified later, the notification is also possible at the later stage of SEA.

#### I.10.2. According to article 10 (2):"[The] notification shall contain, inter alia:

(a) The draft plan or programme and the environmental report including information on its possible transboundary environmental, including health, effects; and

(b) Information regarding the decision-making procedure, including an indication of a reasonable time schedule for the transmission of comments."

As a Party of origin, what information do you include in the notification? Please specify:

(a) The information required by article 10(2)

## (b) The information required by article 10 (2), plus additional information (please specify):

#### Please explain:

According to subpara 2, para 2 and para 5, art. 81 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the list of documents is submitted to the affected Parties, incluing:

- 1) draft concept of the Document, if its development is foreseen by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- information on the main directions and terms of implementation of the Document, for which the preliminary development of the concept is not provided for by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- 3) a fragment of the draft Document containing information on possible transboundary impacts on the environment during its implementation
- a fragment of the strategic environmental assessment report containing information on possible transboundary environmental impacts during the implementation of the Document
- 5) a letter containing:
  - information about the Document, including all available information on the possible transboundary impact
  - information on the procedure and legal consequences of approving the Document
  - information on the procedure for conducting a strategic environmental assessment, including the deadlines for submitting comments and proposals by authorities and the public concerned
  - notification on the deadline for the affected parties to submit a response about their intention to
    participate in the transboundary impact assessment, which should not exceed 15 calendar days.

Above mentioned documents and the information are almost in line with para 2, art. 10 of the Protocol on SEA (a small inconsistency is that the schedule for submitting comments by affected Party is not defined but instead, the time frame for submitting comments and suggestions set by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan for authorities and the public concerned in the Republic of Kazakhstan). In addition, the affected Parties can be provided with additional materials if there are any and if they can affect the decision of the affected Parties to take part in the transboundary environmental assessment.

## I.10.3. According to article 10 (2): "The notification shall contain, inter alia: ... an indication of a reasonable time schedule for the transmission of comments."

As a Party of origin, does your legislation indicate a reasonable time schedule (in days, weeks, months) for the affected Party? Please specify:

(a) No 🛛

There is no time frame for affected Party set in the legislation.

According to para 1, art. 81 of the Environmental Code o the Republic of Kazakhstan, during consultations the Parties can agree on the procedure and conditions of participation in SEA of the public concerned of the affected Parties together with the public of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

If the Parties will agree on that, then the public of the affected Party will submit comments and suggestions following the time frame set by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the public of the Republic of Kazakhstan (for instance, during scoping procedure -15 working days, during quality evaluation of SEA report -30 calendar days).

If Parties will agree on new deadlines, then the public concerned of the affected Party will submit its comments and suggestions during agreed deadlines.

(b) Yes (please indicate how long):

If "Yes", please explain whether that schedule contains individual time frames for a response to the notification and for provision of comments and specify those in days, weeks, months, as relevant:

# I.10.4. According to article 10 (3)–(4), when the affected Party expresses its wish to enter into consultations before the adoption of the plan or programme, the Parties concerned shall enter into consultations further to detailed arrangements agreed by them with a view to ensuring that the public concerned and the authorities in the affected Party are informed and given an opportunity to forward their opinion within a reasonable time frame.

How do the Parties agree on detailed arrangements?

- (a) Following those of the Party of origin  $\Box$
- (b) Following those of the affected Party
- (c) On a case-by-case basis  $\Box$
- (d) In accordance with existing arrangements (for example, bilateral agreement)

#### (e) Other (please specify):

#### Please explain:

According to para 7, art. 81 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, if at least one affected Party notified within the deadline set in the notification informs about its wish to participate in transboundary environmental assessment, the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan during five working days organises with the interested Party initial consultations aimed at exchanging the information and setting up the procedure, deadline, locations for conducting further consultations, language of the documents to be submitted to affected Party and (or) the information, any other conditions for conducting transboundary assessment.

The environmental legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan does not specify whose suggestions to take as a basis. The conditions for conducting transboundary assessment are defined only by agreement between Parties, as a basis can be taken into account suggestions provided by the Party of origin and those provided by the affected Party. It is possible to apply a case-by-case approach and using the existing agreements if there are any.

#### Article 11 Decision

I.11.1. According to article 11 (1): "Each Party shall ensure that when a plan or programme is adopted due account is taken of: (a) [t]he conclusions of the environmental report; (b) [t]he measures to prevent, reduce or mitigate the adverse effects identified in the environmental report; and (c) [t]he comments received in accordance with articles 8 to 10."

Please specify how your country ensures that due account is taken of:

(a) The conclusions of the environmental report

According to art. 58 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the developer (governmental body) after approval of SEA report as satisfactorily, finalises the Document taking into account the conclusions of SEA report, if needed. Then, the Document is made available for public hearings.

According to art. 62 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Documents that are subject to SEA should take into account the data of SEA report, comments and suggestions of authorities and the public concerned, including the results of public hearings, and in case of conducting transboundary assessment, the results of such assessment.

(b) Mitigation measures

According to subpara, para 4, art. 57 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the SEA report should include measures on prevention, reduction and compensation of any significant adverse transboundary environmental impact of the implementation of the Document. Those measures relate to the data of SEA report that should be taken into account when finalising and approving the Document.

(c) Comments received in accordance with articles 8–10

As was mentioned before, according to para 62 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Document that is subject to SEA, should take into account the data of SEA report, comments and suggestions of authorities and the public concerned, including the results of public hearings, and in case of conducting transboundary assessment, the results of such assessment.

#### Please explain:

I.11.2. According to article 11 (2): "Each Party shall ensure that, when a plan or programme is adopted, the public, the authorities ... and the Parties consulted ... are informed, and that the plan or programme is made available to them together with a statement summarizing how the environmental, including health, considerations have been integrated into it, how the comments received ... have been taken into account and the reasons for adopting it in the light of the reasonable alternatives considered."

How and when do you inform your own public and authorities?

## (a) Pursuant to national legislation (please refer to specific provisions and provide citations in order to clarify the procedure followed):

According to subpara 8, para 4, art. 57 of the Environmental Code, SEA report should include justification of choices made in the Document. The choice should be made based on the alternative options available that were considered during SEA.

According to para 6, art. 60 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the following information should be provided to the public: approved Documents, minutes of consultations with authorities concerned, minutes of conducting public hearings on the draft Documents and on SEA reports, notes that include summary of comments and suggestions of the public concerned received during public hearings.

All the mentioned documents are sent to the governmental fund of environmental information. According to paras 4 and 5 art. 25 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan is in charge of management of the governmental fund of environmental information. Fund's information is made publicly available electronically in the internet in accordance with Rules of management of governmental fund of environmental information (approved by the Order of the Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 9.08.2021 N 316).

(b) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

#### I.11.3. Does the information provided to the public and authorities include?

#### (a) Plan or programme: 🛛

(b) Statement summarizing how the environmental, including health, considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme, and how the comments received have been taken into account:

## (c) The reasons for adopting the plan or programme in the light of the reasonable alternatives considered: $\boxtimes$

#### I.11.4. How do you inform the Parties consulted (art. 11 (2))?

(a) By informing the point of contact  $\Box$ 

(b) By informing the contact person of the ministry responsible for strategic environmental assessment, who then follows the national procedure and informs his/her own authorities and public  $\Box$ 

(c) By informing all the authorities involved in the assessment and letting them inform their own public  $\Box$ 

#### (d) Other (please specify):

Concrete way of informing is not defined. The information and the documents are submitted to the affected Party through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan. It is expected that it decides how it informs its own public.

According to para 7 art. 82 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the following information is submitted to the affected Party:

- fragments of the environmental report in the final version and the approved Document as define by the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- 2) a statement explaining how the results of consultations with affected parties, comments and suggestions of interested authorities and the public of affected parties were taken into account in preparing the strategic environmental assessment report, approving the Document or making a decision on the results of the assessment, as well as indicating the reasons why the provisions of the approved Document or decision based on the results of the assessment were selected from among the available alternatives.

The above mentioned information and the documents are submitted with notarized translation to the language agreed during consultations with affected Parties.

Your comments:

#### Article 12

#### Monitoring

According to article 12 (1)–(2): "1. Each Party shall monitor the significant environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes.

•••

2. The results of the monitoring ... shall be made available ... to the authorities ... and to the public."

## **I.12.** Describe the legal requirements for monitoring the significant environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes:

According to art. 63 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the responsibility for monitoring of significant environmental impact of the Document lies on developer (governmental body). Monitoring is carried out in accordance with the programme of monitoring, which is a part of SEA report.

Developer (governmental body) on a yearly basis, during the term set in the programme of monitoring, ensures the preparation of report on monitoring and submits it to the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and informs the public concerned about the results of monitoring.

According to paras 8 and 9 art. 82 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, reports on monitoring of significant environmental impact of the implementation of the Document with notarized translation to the language agreed during consultations with affected Parties, should be submitted to affected Parties.

#### Article 13

#### **Policies and legislation**

According to article 13 (1): "Each Party shall endeavour to ensure that environmental, including health, concerns are considered and integrated to the extent appropriate in the preparation of its proposals for policies and legislation that are likely to have significant effects on the environment, including health."

## **I.13.** Does your country have national legislation on the application of principles and elements of the Protocol as regards policies and legislation? Please specify.

(a) Yes (please specify which articles of the Protocol apply):

(b) No 🗌

Please explain:

Article 16 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan sets a requirement for governmental bodies and local authorities to support the public in realisation of its environmental rights. This article also sets that officials that do not ensure, within their competence, the realisation of the public rights in the framework of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, or prevent their realisation, are accountable in line with laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Chapter 4 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Environmental information" defines the legal framework for environmental information. In particular, art. 18 that is included in this chapter, sets that the public has a rights to access a full, truthful and timely environmental information that is administrated by governmental bodies, including those information that is produced by them or received, or administrated by any person of legal entity, acting on behalf of governmental body. Owners of environmental information upon request, except of some

cases foreseen under the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan. When an applicant requests environmental information, no one can ask for justification of its interest in receiving the information.

According to paras 28, 62, subpara 3 para 82 of the System of governmental planning, adopted by Governmental Order of 29.11.2017 N 790, documents of the system of governmental planning should be in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In accordance with para 10 of the Methodology of development, monitoring, realisation, assessment and control of National development plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Plan of territorial development of the country, concepts, plans of development of governmental bodies, plans of development of region, republican city, capital, adopted by the Order of the Minister of national economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 25.10.2021 N 93, when developing documents of the system of governmental planning, that are subject to this Methodology, the analysis of current information in the country should be conducted and various factors are identified that have an impact on the situation, including social, special and environmental. Further planning is carried out based on the results of analysis.

According to art. 20-1 of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On legal acts" of 6.04.2016 N 480-V 3PK, drafts of legal acts, whose implementation can cause adverse environmental impact, are subject to mandatory state ecological expertise.

#### Part two Practical application during the period 2019–2021<sup>1</sup>

Provisions of Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan on conducting mandatory strategic environmental assessment enter into force on 1.01.2024. Thus, in 2019-2021 those provisions were not implemented.

Please report on your country's practical experiences in applying the Protocol (not your country's procedures, as described in part one). The focus here is on identifying good practices as well as difficulties Parties have encountered in applying the Protocol in practice. The goal is to enable Parties to share solutions. Please therefore provide appropriate examples highlighting application of the Protocol and innovative approaches to improving its application. Parties' reporting also provides useful information to other countries within and beyond the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region that facilitates their efforts to implement and accede to the Protocol.

Part two also focuses on issues identified in the third review of implementation<sup>*a*</sup> by Parties and those issues that have been identified as priorities by Parties in the 2021–2023 workplan.<sup>*b*</sup> It also addresses the objectives of the Long-term strategy and the action plan for the Convention and the Protocol related to: "Adapting the reviews [of implementation] to maximize their usefulness as a source of information, highlight progress achieved, draw attention to areas that need improvement, disseminate best practice...".<sup>*c*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/14.

<sup>b</sup>ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1, decision VIII/2–IV/2.

<sup>c</sup>Ibid., decision VIII/3–IV/3, annex, item II.A. 9.

## A. Some specific questions related to domestic and transboundary implementation in the period 2019–2021

**II.1.** Does your country's strategic environmental assessment documentation always include specific information on health effects? Please specify:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No, only when potential health effects are identified  $\Box$

**II.2.** Does your country's strategic environmental assessment documentation always include specific information on potential transboundary environmental, including health, effects? Please specify:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No, only when potential transboundary effects are identified  $\Box$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Part II of this questionnaire is not considered to be a reporting obligation according to the Protocol. Parties are encouraged to share examples of good practice, subject to their capabilities and the availability of relevant data.

## **B.** Example of application of the Protocol in your country during the period 2019–2021

**II.3.** Please provide, using the table provided inannex I to this questionnaire, the (approximate) number of domestic strategic environmental assessment procedures initiated during the 2019–2021 period, list them grouped by the sectors listed in article4 (2), and indicate their average duration and costs.

**II.4.** Please provide the (approximate) number of transboundary consultations referred to in article 10 of the Protocol that your country, during the reporting period, initiated, as a Party of origin, and participated in, as an affected Party. Please use the table in annex II to this questionnaire listing the transboundary procedures grouped by the sectors listed in article 4 (2), indicating their average duration.

**II.5.** Do you have a register of the domestic and transboundary strategic environmental assessment procedures (cases) that can be accessible for other Parties to consult, as needed?

Domestic procedures	Transboundary procedures
(a) Yes	(a) Yes
(b) No 🗌	(b) No 🗌
If so, please provide the access link to the register:	If so, please provide the access link to the register:

**II.6.** According to paragraph 10 of decision IV/5 on reporting and review of implementation of the Protocol,<sup>2</sup> the lists of domestic and transboundary strategic environmental assessment procedures included in the responses to questions II.3 and II.4 of the questionnaire are to be posted on the ECE website. Should your country object to this, however, please indicate "Yes" in the table below and explain, as relevant:

Domestic procedures (list provided under question II.3 and link to register referred in question II.5, if provided)	Transboundary procedures (list provided under question II.4 and link to register referred in question II.5, if provided)
(a) Yes (my country has an objection to the compilation and posting of this information)	(a) Yes (my country has an objection to the compilation and posting of this information)
Please explain:	Please explain:
(b) No (no objection)	(b) No (no objection)

## C. Experience with the strategic impact assessment procedure in 2019–2021

**II.7.** Please list the benefits of strategic environmental assessment that are identified by your country:

(a) Cost effectiveness

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.3.

- (b) More focused and informed planning  $\Box$
- (c) Coordination with other sectors/i.e. avoiding overlaps or discrepancies
- (d) Environmental and health benefits
- (e) Other

Please provide your comments:

**I.8.** Has your country experienced substantial difficulties in interpreting particular terms contained in (or particular articles of) the Protocol?

- (a) No
- (b) Yes  $\Box$  (please indicate which ones):

# **II.9.** Please indicate how your country overcomes these difficulties, if any. Please provide examples that may include, among other things, working with other Parties to find solutions or using existing guidelines or fact sheets:

## **II.10.** With regard your country's experience with domestic and/or transboundary procedures:

(a) Please describe your country's procedures for ensuring that the health aspects are properly incorporated into the environmental report and that the health authorities are consulted as provided for in article 3

(b) To contribute to the sharing of knowledge and experience on themes outlined in the workplan for 2021–2023, please provide at least one example of your country's application of strategic environmental assessment in one or several of the following areas:

Biodiversity

Circular economy

Energy transition

Development cooperation

Smart and sustainable cities

Sustainable infrastructure

Maritime spatial planning

(When describing your experience, please indicate the name of the plan/programme subject to strategic environmental assessment, provide background information or describe the context in which the document has been developed, describe the stages of the procedure and other issues of interest for other Parties. Please flag good practice, and/or lessons learned, referring, as relevant, to the contribution of the above application of strategic environmental assessment towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals or climate objectives. When providing an example, you may also make use of the template in annex III to the present questionnaire.)

(c) Please indicate whether strategic environmental assessments implemented in your country can be considered to have contributed to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and their specific targets:

Yes, (certain) strategic environmental assessments significantly contributed to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

Yes, (certain) strategic environmental assessments somewhat contributed to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

No, there is no evidence that strategic environmental assessment contributes to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals in practice

If "Yes", please list the most relevant Sustainable Development Goals<sup>3</sup> (and their targets) and provide an example(s) of how strategic environmental assessment has contributed to their achievement

## **II.11.** Please indicate whether your country has been carrying out monitoring according to article 12.



(b) Yes ::

If so, please specify types of plans or programmes subject to the monitoring according to article 12, citing good practice examples or elements of good practice (for example, consultation or public participation), if available

**II.12.** With regards to your country's experience with transboundary procedures, in response to each of the questions below, please either provide one or two practical examples or describe your country's general experience. You might also want to include examples of lessons learned in order to help others. Please detail:

- (a) What difficulties has your country experienced and what solutions has it found?
  - (i) Translation and interpretation
  - (ii) Other issues

(b) Sustainable Development Goal6–Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (targets6.3, 6.5–6.6 and 6.a–6.b);

(c) Sustainable Development Goal7– Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (targets 7.2 and 7.a);

(d) Sustainable Development Goal8– Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.4)

(e) Sustainable Development Goal9– Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (targets 9.1 and 9.4);

(f) Sustainable Development Goal11– Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.3–11.4, 11.6 and 11.a–11.b);

 $http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/WG2.5\_April2016/Informal\_document\_16\_ece.mp.eia.wg.2.2016.INF.16\_SDG\_Mapping.pdf.$ 

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In 2017, the Meetings of the Parties acknowledged that the Convention and, in particular, the Protocol, contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1, decision VII/7–III/6, Minsk Declaration, para.
 7). Selected examples of targets of the Sustainable Development Goals that strategic environmental assessment could help to implement include the following (see informal document to the fifth meeting of theWorking Group (Geneva, 11–15 April 2016):

<sup>(</sup>a) Sustainable Development Goal3– Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.9 and 3.d);

<sup>(</sup>g) Sustainable Development Goal12– Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (targets 12.2 and 12.4–12.5);

<sup>(</sup>h) Sustainable Development Goal13– Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (targets 13.1–13.3);

<sup>(</sup>i) Sustainable Development Goal 14– Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (target 14.1);

<sup>(</sup>j) Sustainable Development Goal15– Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (targets 15.1 and 15.4);

<sup>(</sup>k) Sustainable Development Goal16– Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.6–16.7 and 16.10);

<sup>(</sup>l) Sustainable Development Goal17– Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (targets 17.13 and 17.16–17.17).

For more details see informal document ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/5/INF.16, available at

(b) What elements of the environmental report and other documentation does your country usually translate as a Party of origin?

(c) As an affected Party, please specify whether and how your country has ensured the participation of the public concerned and the authorities pursuant to article 10 (4):

- (i) No 🗌
- (ii) Yes  $\Box$  (please indicate how):

(d) What has your country's experience been of the effectiveness of public participation?

(e) Does your country have examples of organizing transboundary strategic environmental assessment procedures for joint cross-border plans and programmes?

- (i) No 🗌
- (ii) Yes [] (please describe):

#### D. Experience regarding guidance in 2019–2021

II.13. Has your country used in practice the following documents:

Good Practice Recommendations on Public Participation in Strategic Environmental Assessment (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/2)	Resource Manual to Support Application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (ECE/MP.EIA/17)
Yes 🗌	Yes 🗌
No 🗌	No 🗌
Please specify reasons for not using the Good Practice Recommendations:	Please specify reasons for not using the Manual:
(i) Lack of awareness about the document	(i) Lack of awareness about the document
(ii) The document is not relevant	(ii) The Manual is not relevant
(iii) The document is outdated and needs revision	(iii) The Manual is outdated and needs revision
Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the Good Practice Recommendations:	Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the Resource Manual:

#### E. Contributions to the funding of the workplans

**II.14.** Please indicate whether the information regarding contributions to the trust fund was already provided by your country in the responses to the questionnaire concerning the Convention and covered both the Convention and the Protocol:

- (i) Yes
- (ii) No 🗌

If your response is "No", please provide the information regarding the contributions to the trust fund below.

II.15. Through paragraph 4 of decision VII/4–III/4 on budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance,<sup>4</sup> applicable for the period 2017–2020, the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol jointly "Urge[d] all Parties to contribute to ensuring sustainable funding of activities and an equitable and proportionate sharing of the financial burden among the Parties." For the period 2021–2023, by paragraph 1 of decision VIII/1–IV/1<sup>5</sup>, regarding funding of the adopted workplans, the Meeting of the Parties decided that: "All the Parties have a duty to contribute to the sharing of the costs that are not covered by the United Nations regular budget."

(a) Please indicate whether your Government contributed to the funding of the workplans during the reporting period, indicating also the currency and the amount of the contribution:

(i) My Government made a multi-year contribution for the period 2017–2020

Please indicate when the contribution was provided (year), amount and currency:

(ii) Individual contribution in 2019

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(iii) Individual contribution in 2020:

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(iv) Individual contribution in 2021:

Yes Amount and currency:

No 🗌 Please explain the reason:

(v) Please indicate any plans of your country to contribute for the period 2021– 2023

(b) Did your country make in-kind contributions in the reporting period?

Yes Please describe how:

No 🗌 Please explain the reason

#### **F.** Suggested improvements to the report

II.16. Please provide suggestions for how this report could be improved:

 $<sup>^{4}\</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1.

#### Annex I

#### List and number of domestic strategic environmental assessment procedures initiated in the reporting period

Sector	Total number or an estimate*	Number of local-level procedures	Number of national- level procedures	Estimated average duration of the procedure,** months, if available	Average costs (also as percentage of the total costs for preparation of a plan/programme), euros and (percentage), if available
Agriculture:					
Forestry:					
Fisheries:					
Energy:					
Industry including mining:					
Transport:					
Regional development:					
Waste management:					
Water management:					
Telecommunication:					
Tourism:					
Town and country planning:					
Land use:					
Other, including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4):					
* The information prov	ided constit	utes:			

Estimates

\*\* Once the need for strategic environmental assessment is determined

Your comments:

#### Annex II

# List and number of transboundary strategic environmental assessments in the reporting period

Sector	Total number or an estimate*	Number of local-level procedures	Number of national- level procedures	Estimated average duration of the procedure,** months, if available	Average costs (also as percentage of the total costs for preparation of a plan/programme), euros and (percentage), if available
Agriculture:					
Forestry:					
Fisheries:					
Energy:					
Industry including mining:					
Transport:					
Regional development:					
Waste management:					
Water management:					
Telecommunication:					
Tourism:					
Town and country planning:					
Land use:					
Other, including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4):					

#### Annex III

Template for describing a good practice example of implementing a strategic environmental assessment at the national level or in a transboundary context

#### I. General information

- 1. Title of plan/programme
- 2. Authority responsible for the plan's/programme's development
- 3. Nature of the related strategic environmental assessment procedure:
  - (a) Domestic
  - (b) Transboundary

4. Please indicate which stage(s)/step(s) of the strategic environmental assessment procedure is/are considered to represent good practice:

The entire procedure

Screening	(art.	5)	
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Environmental r	eport (art.	7)	
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Public participation	(art.	8)	
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Consultation with environmental and health authorities (art. 9)

Transboundary consultations (art. 10)

Decision (art. 11)

Monitoring (art. 12)

5. Please indicate to which topic(s) of the 2021–2023 workplan the example is related:

Biodiversity

Circular economy	
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Development cooperation

Energy	transition	
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Smart and sustainable cities

Sustainable infrastructure

#### **II.** Background

Please provide a short description of the plan/programme, the context of its development and general information about the strategic environmental assessment

## **III.** Procedure under the protocol on strategic environmental assessment and elements of good practice

Please describe, in more detail, the procedural step/steps that is/are considered to represent good practice and then explain why that is:

- **III.1.** Field of application (art. 4)
- III. 2. Screening (art. 5)
- III. 3. Scoping (art. 6)
- **III.4.** Environmental report (art. 7)
- **III.5.** Public participation (art. 8)
- III.6. Consultation with environmental and health authorities (art. 9)
- III.7. Transboundary consultations (art. 10)
- III.8. Decision (art. 11)
- III.9. Monitoring (art. 12)

#### IV. Lessons learned and advice to other parties:

#### **IV.1.** Please indicate:

- (a) Challenges in carrying out the procedure, if any, and how those were tackled
- (b) Lessons learned

IV.2. As relevant, please also refer to the contribution of the above application of strategic environmental assessment towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals<sup>1</sup> or climate objectives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In 2017, the Meetings of the Parties acknowledged that the Convention and, in particular, the Protocol, contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

<sup>(</sup>ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1, decision VII/7–III/6, Minsk Declaration, para. 7). Selected examples of targets of the Sustainable Development Goals that strategic environmental assessment could help to implement include the following (see informal document to the fifth meeting of the Working Group (Geneva, 11–15 April 2016):

<sup>(</sup>a) Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.9 and 3.d);

<sup>(</sup>b) Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (targets 6.3, 6.5–6.6 and 6.a–6.b);

<sup>(</sup>c) Sustainable Development Goal 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (targets 7.2 and 7.a);

<sup>(</sup>d) Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.4)

<sup>(</sup>e) Sustainable Development Goal 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (targets 9.1 and 9.4);

<sup>(</sup>f) Sustainable Development Goal 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.3–11.4, 11.6 and 11.a–11.b);

<sup>(</sup>g) Sustainable Development Goal 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (targets 12.2 and 12.4–12.5);

<sup>(</sup>h) Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (targets 13.1–13.3);

<sup>(</sup>i) Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (target 14.1);

<sup>(</sup>j) Sustainable Development Goal 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (targets 15.1 and 15.4);

 <sup>(</sup>k) Sustainable Development Goal 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.6–16.7 and 16.10);

 <sup>(1)</sup> Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (targets 17.13 and 17.16–17.17). For more details see informal document ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/5/INF.16, available at http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/WG2.5\_April2016/Informal\_document\_16\_ece.mp.eia.wg.2.2016.INF.16\_SDG\_Mapping.pdf.