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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT

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25 March 2013

Ref. EIA/IC/S/5

Dear Ms. Grigoryan,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991).

As you are aware, on 31 August 2011 the Government of Armenia made a submission to the Committee expressing concerns about Azerbaijan's compliance with its obligations under the Convention with respect to six named oil and gas projects by Azerbaijan. A meeting of the Committee was held with the two Parties concerned on 27 November 2012. The Committee subsequently prepared the attached draft findings and recommendations, which should not be publicly available at this stage.

You may also recall that the Meeting of the Parties has decided that "the Committee shall decide on the content of any report or recommendations by consensus, send a copy of the draft report or recommendations to the Parties concerned, and shall take into account any representations from such Parties in the finalization of the report" (para. 9 of the Committee's structure and functions and the procedures for the review of compliance, as included in the appendix to decision III/2). In accordance with this provision, you are invited to submit to the secretariat by 31 May 2013 at the latest your comments or representations.

The Implementation Committee will consider these comments or representations before finalizing its findings and recommendations at its twenty-eight session (10-12 September 2013).

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Once finalized, the Committee's findings and recommendations shall be submitted to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties, which is expected to be held in May or June 2014, for consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Vesna Kolar Planinšič Chair, Implementation Committee, Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Encl: Draft findings and recommendations further to the submission by Armenia regarding Azerbaijan (EIA/IC/S/5)