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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE  
AND NATURAL HABITATS

**Standing Committee**

41<sup>st</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 30 November – 3 December 2021

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**Complaint on Stand-by: 2017/3**

**Possible negative impact of a harbor's construction on  
the confluence of the Sava into the Danube  
(Serbia)**

**- REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT -**

*Document prepared by the  
Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia*

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**The Updated Report on the Complaint no. 2017/3 on possible negative influence of building the Port on the area of the confluence of the Sava river into the Danube river (Serbia) in 2021.**

In reference of the request by the Secretariat of the Bern Convention from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 related to the Complaint No. 2017/3 on possible negative influence of building the Port on the area of the confluence of the Sava river into the Danube river (Serbia), we would like to inform you on behalf of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, as follow:

1. The Updated Report on Complaint No. 2017/3 was prepared on the basis of the obtained official reports from the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure and Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia including Internal Report within the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

2. A Preliminary Feasibility Study with the General Project for the Construction of a New Port in Belgrade is being prepared.

The adoption of this Study as a technical documentation is expected by the beginning of March 2021.

3. Having in mind the restrictions for construction arising from the Protection Study „Forland of the left bank of the Danube in Belgrade“, as well as the complaint of the non-governmental organisations which additionally indicates the need to protect the area of Beljarica, within the Optional Analysis, which is an integral part of the Preliminary Feasibility Study, **the location was changed**, which was previously envisaged for one of the variant solutions related to the subject area.

In this regard, the new location for this variant solution is 12 km upstream from the originally planned location in the area of „Beljarica“. There are no restrictions for the new location in relation to the environmental protection regime.

Another variant solution is the expansion of the existing Port of Pancevo, also on a location that has not been placed or is planned to be placed under the environmental protection regime.

4. The procedure for conducting the Strategic Impact Assessment on the Spatial Plan of the special purpose area of the new port in Belgrade has started.

Proposal of decision on preparation of strategic assessment of the impact of the Spatial Plan of the special purpose area of the new port in Belgrade on the environment made in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 2 of the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment, which prescribes what the decision on strategic assessment should contain.

It was approved by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Act No: 350-02-124/20-03 from 14.12.2020.

5. At the request of the Ministry of Construction (Act No:350-01-01895/2020-11 from 24<sup>th</sup>. 11. 2020. the Institute for Nature Protection of Serbia will provide the conditions for nature protection for the preparation of the Spatial Plan of the special purpose area of the new port in Belgrade including data on the protected area and ecological network in relation to the scope of this plan.

6. Also, in accordance with Article 102 of the Law on Nature Protection, the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia performs expert supervision within the ecologically important area of the „Sava estuary into the Danube“ and the ecological corridor of the Danube river within the ecological network of the Republic of Serbia.

In case of illegal killing and capturing of wild bird species, the professional nature protection organizations perform supervision in cooperation with the environmental inspection.

7. Procedure for proclamation of the new Protected Areas „Forland on the left bank of the Danube in Belgrade“ is initiated again.

8. During the handling of the complaint procedure, the Ministry of Environmental Protection continues activities in this area to undertake measures for the protection and manage of habitats of strictly protected species in order to ensure adequate conditions for nature protection in cooperation with relevant competent authorities, experts organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Coordinated and Prepared by the  
Ms Snezana Prokic, MSc,  
Focal point for Bern Convention

Belgrade, 31th January, 2021.