Republic of Serbia MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE Sector for Spatial Planning and Urbanism No.: 350-01-01 180/2022-11 ДАТА: 13. Јуне 2022. Краља Милутина 10а, Београд

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Омладинских бригада 1

11070 Нови Београд

Respected,

In connection with the request of the Ministry of Environmental Protection (No. 337-00-00026/2022-04 of 01.06. 2022.) for a statement on appeal No. 2022/1: Serbia's new appeal: We would like to inform you about the alleged destruction of habitats in the area of Novi Sad due to the proposed construction of infrastructure facilities, which was submitted by the Secretariat of the Bern Convention in the Council of Europe.

The complaint states that the proposed construction of infrastructure facilities in the area of Kamenička ada, Dunavc and Šodroš, which belongs to the city of Novi Sad, will negatively affect the species that are protected under the Bern Convention.

From the point of view of the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, as the holder of drafting documents within the competence of the Republic of Serbia, we inform you that the Government of the Republic of Serbia has passed the Decree on determining the Spatial Plan of the special purpose infrastructure corridor state road I and order no. 21 Novi Sad - Ruma - Sabac and state road I and order no. 19 Sabac - Loznica ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 40/2011, 39/2019 and 88/2020). The mentioned planning document was made in full accordance with the Law on Planning and Construction ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 72/09, 81/09 - correction, 64/10 – decision of constitutional court, 24/11,121/12, 42/13 – decision of constitutional court, 50/13 - decision of constitutional court, 98/13 - decision of constitutional court, 132/14, 145/14, 83/18, 31/19, 37/19 - other law, 9/20 and 52/21) and regulations enacted pursuant to this law. In accordance with the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment ("Official Gazette of the RS", No. 135/04 and 88/10) a strategic assessment of the impact on the environment of this planning document has been made, environmental protection conditions have been obtained and appropriate measures have been prescribed. At the same time, in the part of the territory of the city of Novi Sad, in the part on the implementation of the plan, further elaboration is prescribed by the development of urban plans, for which the city of Novi Sad is responsible.

The construction of the road Novi Sad - Ruma - Sabac - Loznica is one of the most important projects for the construction of road infrastructure in the Republic of Serbia. The construction of a bypass around Novi Sad with a new bridge over the Danube is a priority of the city of Novi Sad and as such has been treated in the planning documents of the city of Novi Sad for the last few decades. During the implementation of such complex projects, the legal regulations in the field of planning and construction, as well as in the field of environmental protection are fully applied. This means that in the preparation of planning and technical documentation, appropriate environmental impact

assessments are performed, as well as that all prescribed protection measures are applied during the execution of works.

Based on all the above, from the point of view of the scope of the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure, we are of the opinion that the complaint in question is unfounded.

With respect,

Assistant Minister

мр. Ђорђе Милић

By authorization of the Minister

No. 119 - 01-120/2021 -02 on 12.02.2021.