Question for written answer E-006684/2015 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Failure to commission a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for sites of national interest

Since 2007, the Italian Government has, in consultation with the regional and local authorities and individuals concerned, agreed programmes¹ for the study, reclamation and reuse in various ways of contaminated areas designated as sites of national interest.

These agreements provide for the use of substantial funds, part of which come from the EU (Cohesion Funds).

Directive 42/2001/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be drawn up for programmes relating to soil and waste, while Directive 43/92/EEC requires an Environmental Impact Assessment to be drawn up for programmes involving the Natura 2000 network.

The Aarhus Convention applies to any decision making in respect of the environment. However, Italy has failed to subject the agreed measures to SEA or EIA procedures, thereby preventing any form of public consultation even on matters relating to the intended use of the areas in question and the various options for reclamation (ex situ, in situ, landfills, etc.) set out in the agreements.

Article 11(2) of Directive 42/2001 is not being applied, since a number of agreed projects are not being subjected to post hoc environmental impact assessment.

Does the Commission therefore consider that Italy has infringed the abovementioned directives and Convention by failing to subject the agreed programmes to an SEA and, where appropriate, an EIA?

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http://www.bonifiche.minambiente.it/page_adp.html