Notice of Decision not to commence the Procedures

Date: 10 March 2015

The Examiner for Environmental Guidelines Japan International Cooperation Agency

To whom it may concern:

We hereby notify you of our decision not to commence the Procedures with respect to your request to submit objections dated 26 January 2015 (received on 3 February 2015). For details, please refer to the enclosed Results of Examination.

As the main reasons for the decision to suspend the Procedures, we understand that the discussions by the Board of Tree Authority, concerning granting permission for tree felling in the area, still have not come to a conclusion. It is not appropriate for us to make a decision while such internal procedures in your country are still underway.

Furthermore, we understand that dialogues among stakeholders are now ongoing and that they are still in an early stage. Therefore, it should be noted that the Requester's consultation with both the Project Proponent and JICA has not been sufficient for it to be understood that the concerned parties have clarified the issue and tried to find a key to settlement of the dispute. Put simply, we deem that it is premature to commence an objection procedure.

Therefore, it is recommended that you and the Project Proponent should continue consultations in good faith so that you can reach a consensus on this matter through the efforts of both parties.

At the same time, we request that JICA should continue to monitor and support the implementation of the necessary procedural arrangements for the Project so that the Project can be executed in accordance with JICA's Guidelines.

Thank you very much for your attention.