Re: Intersessional Review of the Draft CEE for Continuation and Modernization of McMurdo Station Area Activities

by **Romania** » Mon 22 Apr 2019 2:28 pm Dear CEP colleagues,

Romania would like to thank the United States for the opportunity to comment on the 'Draft Comprehensive Environmental Evaluation for Continuation and Modernization of McMurdo Station Area Activities' (the draft CEE).

Please find attached a document presenting Romania's general comment on the draft CEE.

Kind regards, Florica Toparceanu Romanian CEP Contact Point

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Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) intersessional contact group (ICG) to review the 'Draft Environmental Evaluation for Continuation and Modernization of McMurdo Station Area Activities

General comment from Romania

Romania as CEP Member and Non-Consultative Party thanks the United States for the opportunity to comment on the Draft CEE entitled "Draft Comprehensive Environmental Evaluation for Continuation and Modernization of McMurdo Station Area Activities". This Draft CEE was made available to the public by the National Commission for Antarctic Research of the Romanian Academy.

The following Romanian brief general comment is related to the four Terms of References (ToR) of ICG to review this Draft CEE.

The draft CEE is generally well structured, however the presentation of some details would increase the final CEE clarity (ToR 4) on: (a) locations (ToR 1) of some modernization activities in the 2nd phase of the McMurdo Master Plan (2027-2033) (the siting of a new helicopter hangar and passenger terminal, and a new Dive Services facility have not yet been determined), (b) the consequences of Alternative B (No Action) (ToR 1), (c, d) the mitigation protocols and the monitoring methods (ToR 2) in an area already characterized in 2003 as "heavily disturbed", and, as a consequence, (e) enlarging the Conclusions in Chapter 10 vs Conclusions in Non-Technical Summary (ToR 3).