



**NATIONS UNIES**  
COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE  
POUR L'EUROPE

**ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ**  
ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ  
ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ

**UNITED NATIONS**  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR EUROPE

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29 March 2007

Attn. Ms. Angela Filipas  
National Focal Point for the Aarhus Convention  
Director, Impact Assessment, Pollution Control and Risk Management Directorate  
Ministry of Environment and Water Management  
12 Libertatii Blvd., sector 5, Bucharest  
Romania  
Fax: +4021 410 04 21

Dear Ms. Filipas,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning decision-making on Rosia Montana gold mine (Ref. ACCC/C/2005/15)**

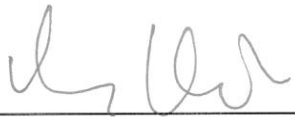
With reference to communication ACCC/C/2005/15 pending before the Compliance Committee concerning the Rosia Montana environmental impact assessment (EIA) procedure currently being undertaken by the Romanian authorities, the Committee requested the secretariat to inform you that it is actively following the developments in the proceedings.

In February 2007, the Committee received supplementary information from the communicant stating that the proceedings were reaching a final stage. This information was forwarded to you on 27 February 2007. It alleges that in recent months, a number of public hearings have taken place which were conducted in a manner which puts in question their conformity with the obligations arising under the Aarhus Convention. Moreover, the allegation was made in an open letter sent by the communicant to the Minister of Environment of Romania on 17 January 2007 and copied to the Committee, that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Alba-Iulia refused to comply with a court order to provide documents concerning mining licences to the communicant. The Committee, in its goal of facilitating compliance and implementation of the Convention, would like to draw your attention to these allegations, taking into account the requirement that the overall EIA procedure be conducted in conformity with the Convention.

Furthermore, the communicant brought to the attention of the Committee a letter by EPA of Alba-Iulia, dated 29 January 2007, which states that upon instructions of the National Environmental Protection Agency, only the conclusions of EIA reports are to be made public but not the entire reports unless the author of the report authorizes the publication (see footnote 2 of the supplementary information provided by the communicant).

The Committee invites you to comment on these allegations and their implications for the fulfilment of *inter alia* the obligations under articles 4 and 6 of the Aarhus Convention by Romania, in particular concerning the issues raised in the letter dated 29 January 2007.

Yours sincerely,



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Jeremy Wates  
Secretary  
Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access  
to Justice in Environmental Matters

Cc: Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations and other specialised agencies  
in Geneva  
Alburnus Maior