



NATIONS UNIES

**COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE
POUR L'EUROPE**

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ

**ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ
ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ**

UNITED NATIONS

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE**

Environment, Housing and Land Management Division
Bureau 332
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Phone: +41-22-917 2384
Fax: +41-22-917 0634
E-mail: jeremy.wates@unece.org
Website: www.unece.org/env/pp

1 October 2007

Ms. Line Bjørklund
Legal Advisor
Environmental Protection Agency
Ministry of the Environment
Strandgade 29
DK-1401 COPENHAGEN K
Denmark
Fax: +45-32.660.404

Dear Ms. Bjørklund,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning
access to procedures to challenge acts and omissions which contravene
provisions of national law relating to the environment in Denmark
(Ref. ACCC/C/2006/18)**

With reference to our letter of 2 April 2007 concerning the above matter, we would like to inform you that at its seventeenth meeting (26-28 September 2007), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee decided that the substance of communication ACCC/C/2007/18 will be considered at the Committee's eighteenth meeting, to be held on 28-30 November 2007 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

In accordance with chapter IX of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, both the Party concerned and the communicant are entitled to participate in the discussion on the subject matter of the communication, though not in the preparation or adoption of any findings, measures or recommendations of the Committee.

Should a representative of the Government of Denmark wish to attend the meeting, the attached registration form should be sent to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, attention of Ms. Andrea Hegedus (fax: +41 22 917 0634), by 1 November 2007.

According to a decision of the Committee at its fifth meeting, discussions on communications will generally take the following form:

- introduction by the Chair and opening of the discussion (by the Chair or the special rapporteur);
- presentations by the communicant and by the Party concerned, including possible joint proposals;

- questions from the Committee, responses from the Party concerned and the communicant;
- comments from observers at the invitation of the Chair;
- final comments by the communicant;
- final comments by the Party concerned.

The Committee has also indicated some of the issues that it intends to raise during the discussion on this communication at its eighteenth meeting. While it did not feel that it needed any further written input from the parties concerned in advance of the meeting, the Committee considered it useful to indicate the issues in advance of the discussion. These included:

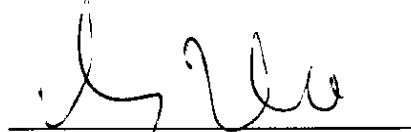
- Which remedies are available for members of the public - i.e. individuals and NGOs – to challenge acts and decisions by public authorities that may have a negative impact on wildlife?
- What opportunities individuals and NGOs have to request action by supervisory authorities to prevent occurrence of negative impact on wildlife?
- What opportunities individuals and NGOs have for bringing action before the court against a decision to cull bird population?
- How is the criterion for standing – i.e. legal interest – applied in cases concerning wildlife with regard to individuals and NGOs?
- Would anyone – be it an individual or an NGO – have been able to challenge the municipality's decision to cull the rook population?

The Committee has indicated that the meeting should not be used as an occasion to introduce substantial amounts of information that could or should have been provided to it at an earlier stage, unless this is unavoidable (e.g. because it concerns very recent developments). Should you wish to present any (further) substantial written material related to the matter, you should take into account that where such information is received less than two weeks before the scheduled meeting, it is doubtful whether the Committee would be able to take it into consideration when it is discussing the matter, even where the information is provided in English.

Please note that the working language of the Committee is English. No interpretation for the meeting in November is currently envisaged.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleague Ms. Marianna Bolshakova (marianna.bolshakova@unece.org, ph. +41-22-917-2650, fax +41-22-917-0634) if you require any further information concerning the meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Jeremy Wates
Secretary

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

Cc: Mr. Wium-Andersen

Incl. Registration form for the 18th meeting of the Compliance Committee
Copy of the letter to Mr. Søren Wium-Andersen