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UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

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21 January 2010

Mr. James Thornton, CEO
ClientEarth
3 Chapel Place
London EC2A 3DQ
United Kingdom
Fax: + 44 20 7729 45 68

Dear Mr. Thornton,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the European Community with provisions of the Convention in connection with access by members of the public to review procedures (Ref. ACCC/C/2008/32)

At its twenty-sixth meeting, the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee continued the deliberations on its findings with regard to the above referenced communication. It noted that since the discussion of the communication at its twenty-fifth meeting (22-25 September 2009), the Lisbon Treaty had entered into force on 1 December 2009. Further to the changes introduced in the legal and institutional framework of the European Union (such as the new article 263 replacing article 230, new provisions on democratic principles and the entry into force of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights), the Committee would like to invite you to submit your views on how these changes may impact the merits of the communication.

Please provide your comments at your earliest convenience, but no later than 1 March 2010 so as to enable the Committee to consider your submissions at its twenty-seventh meeting (Geneva, 16-19 March 2010).

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Wates
Secretary

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

CC Ms. Anaïs Berthier, ClientEarth, Belgium
Mr. Daniele Franzone, Aarhus Convention Focal Point, Environment Directorate-General, European Commission
Ms. Carol Hatton (Solicitor), WWF-UK, United Kingdom