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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
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Palais des Nations, Room 429-4
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Ref: ACCC/C/2008/32

13 May 2015

Ms. Anaïs Berthier
ClientEarth
Bruxelles
Belgium

Dear Ms. Berthier,

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

We are writing to inform you that the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee will discuss the substance of part II of communication ACCC/C/2008/32 at its forty-ninth meeting (Palais des Nations, Geneva, 30 June – 3 July 2015).

The discussion of the above communication is scheduled for **Wednesday, 1 July 2015**, starting at 10:30 am and concluding by 5.00 pm.

In accordance with chapter IX of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, both parties 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.

According to the Committee's normal practice, the discussion of the communication, which will be held in open session, will be interspersed with at least one closed session in which the Committee will begin the process of preparing draft findings. It is envisaged that the first part of the discussion in open session will take the following form:

- introduction by the Chair;
- opening of the discussion by the curator for the case (10-15 minutes);
- concise presentations by the communicant and by the Party concerned, including possible joint proposals (10-15 minutes each);
- comments from observers at the invitation of the Chair (5 minutes);
- questions from Committee members, responses from the Party concerned and the communicant (30 minutes);
- additional comments from observers at the invitation of the Chair (5 minutes);
- final comments by the communicant (5-10 minutes);
- final comments by the Party concerned (5-10 minutes).

During the second part of the discussion (i.e. following the closed session), the Committee may pose additional questions to you or the communicant, or invite reactions to any tentative conclusions it has reached. Further details concerning the timetable for the discussions during the day will be provided nearer the time.

Should you or any other representative(s), as appropriate, wish to attend the meeting, the attached registration form should be completed for each participant and sent to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, attention of Ms. Maricar de la Cruz (aarhus.compliance@unece.org), by **16 June 2015**. All participants are encouraged to cover their own costs as far as possible, but in case you would require financial support to cover travel and subsistence costs in order to be represented at the meeting, please complete the attached financial support request form and send it to Ms. de la Cruz by return and in any case no later than **26 May 2015**.

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.

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

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

- Cc: Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Mr. Robert Konrad, Head of Unit, DG Environment, Belgium
Ms. Angelika Wiedner, Aarhus Team Leader, DG Environment, Belgium
Ms. Carol Day, on behalf of the Coalition for Access to Justice for the Environment, observer of communication ACCC/C/2008/32
- Enc: Registration form for the forty-ninth meeting of the Compliance Committee
Financial support request form