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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: [aphrodite.smagadi@unece.org](mailto:aphrodite.smagadi@unece.org)  
Website: [www.unece.org/env/pp](http://www.unece.org/env/pp)

23 August 2010

Ms. Galina Volchuga  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection  
10, Kollektornaya St.  
BY-220048 Minsk  
Belarus  
Fax: +375-17-2005583

Dear Ms. Volchuga,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Belarus with provisions of the Convention in connection with access to information and public participation in decision-making on a hydro power plant project on the Neman River (Ref. ACCC/C/2009/37)**

We refer to our letter of 3 August 2010 and to the draft findings of the Compliance Committee with regard to communication ACCC/C/2009/37 attached to that letter. We would like to remind you that the Compliance Committee is expecting your comments by 31 August 2010. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account your comments on the draft.

The Committee has prepared the draft findings on the assumption that your Government agrees with the Committee making recommendations in accordance with paragraphs 36 (b) and 37 (b) of the annex to decision I/7. If this is not the case, please indicate this in your reply. The Committee considers that the making of recommendations directly to the Party concerned during the intersessional period, coupled with timely action by the Party to implement such recommendations, would enable the matter to be resolved in the most expeditious way, allowing the Committee's report to the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to concentrate more on progress achieved than on outstanding problems.

Should you have any questions with regard to the procedure, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

Yours sincerely,

  
Aphrodite Smagadi  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: The communicant

Mr. Andriy Andrushevych, European ECO Forum

Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland

Mr. Ivan Narkevitch, Head of the Department of International Conventions and Agreements, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Belarus

Ms. Irina Sukhy, Council of Public Association "Ecohome"

Mr. Aleh Novikau, Belarussian Party of "Greens"

Mr. Thomas Alge Oekobuero – Coordination office of Austrian Environmental Organizations