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ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
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Ref: ACCC/C/2013/85 and ACCC/C/2013/85 (United Kingdom)

23 February 2015

Ahmed Azam  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Nobel House (Area 2E)  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR  
United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Azam,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with the access to justice provisions of the Convention in relation to the in relation to the Legal Aid, Sentencing and the Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (ACCC/C/2013/85)**

**and**

**Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom in connection with access to justice in private nuisance proceedings (ACCC/C/2013/86)**

At its forty-seventh meeting (Geneva, 16-19 December 2014), the Compliance Committee completed its draft findings regarding communications ACCC/C/2013 and ACCC/C/2013/86 in closed session.

The draft findings are now forwarded at the request of the Committee for your consideration and possible comments pursuant to paragraph 34 of the annex to decision I/7. The Committee intends to finalize and adopt the findings at its forty-eighth meeting (Geneva, 24- 27 March 2015). Hence, we would be grateful if you would provide any comments by **23 March 2015**. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account any comments you submit on the draft by the set deadline.

The text has been drafted on the assumption that your Government agrees with the Committee making recommendations in accordance with paragraph 36 (b) of the annex to decision I/7. If this is not the case, please indicate this in your reply. Given the lengthy timeframe until the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties, Committee considers that the making of recommendations directly to the Party concerned, coupled with timely action by the Party to implement such recommendations, would enable the matters to be resolved in the most expeditious way.

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

Yours sincerely,



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Fiona Marshall  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and international organizations in Geneva  
Gareth Morgan, Hugh James Solicitors, on behalf of the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2013/85, Environmental Law Foundation  
Paul Stookes, Richard Buxton Environmental & Public Law Solicitors, on behalf of the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2013/86, Alyson Austin

Enc: Draft findings