



NATIONS UNIES

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Ref: ACCC/C/2014/101

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ

ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ  
КОМИССИЯ

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR EUROPE

Palais des Nations, Room 429-2  
CH-1211 GENEVA 10

9 September 2014

Robert Konrad  
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Belgium

Angelika Wiedner  
Aarhus Team Leader, DG Environment  
Unit A2, Compliance promotion, governance and legal issues  
BU-5 00/158, Rue de la Loi 200, 1049 Brussels  
Belgium

Dear Mr. Konrad, Ms. Wiedner,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the European Union in connection with the proposed construction the “High Speed 2” railway (ACCC/C/2014/101)**

On 15 April 2014, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by the European Union with the provisions of the Convention in connection with its alleged failure to comply with article 7 of the Convention regarding the proposed construction by the United Kingdom of the “High Speed 2” railway from London to the West Midlands, Manchester and Leeds. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

Please find enclosed a copy of the communication, which is being forwarded to you at the request of the Committee in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to decision I/7.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2014/101, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The main documentation relating to the communication will be shortly available on the Committee’s web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/pubcom.html>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its forty-fifth meeting (29 June-2 July 2014), has on a preliminary basis determined it to be admissible in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

Having regard to paragraph 23 of the annex to decision I/7, you are kindly invited to submit to the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest within five months of the date of this letter (i.e. by **9 February 2015**), any written explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the meantime.

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

Yours sincerely,



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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. Christopher Stanwell, Nabarro LLP
- Enc: Communication ACCC/C/2014/101  
Preliminary determination on admissibility  
Datasheet on the communication