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Ref: ACCC/C/2014/102

19 February 2015

Ms. Iya Malkina
First Deputy Minister
Ministry Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
10, Kollektornaya Str.
220048 Minsk
Republic of Belarus

Mr. Ivan Narkevitch
Head of the Department of International Conventions and Agreements
Department of International Conventions and Agreements
RUE "Bel SRC "Ecology"
76 Yakubova Str.
220095 Minsk
Republic of Belarus

Dear Ms. Malkina, Mr. Narkevitch

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Belarus in connection with harassment of anti-nuclear activists (ACCC/C/2014/102)

On 22 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 Belarus with the provisions of the Convention in connection with its alleged failure to comply with article 3, paragraph 8 of the Convention in connection with harassment of anti-nuclear activists. 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/2014/102, 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 **19 July 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,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

- Cc: Permanent Mission of the republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Ms. Irina Sukhiy
Mr. Andriy Andrushevych
- Enc: Communication ACCC/C/2014/102 (including 9 supporting documents)
Preliminary determination on admissibility