



**Final comments of**

**THE NETHERLANDS**

50<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee  
Discussion of the Communication concerning compliance by the Netherlands in connection  
with decision-making on the extension of the design lifetime of the Borssele nuclear power  
plant (ACCC/C/2014/104)

**8 October 2015**

## FINAL COMMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE NETHERLANDS

- Mr Chairman, distinguished members of the Committee,
- I would like to thank you for your remarks and questions and for the constructive dialogue that we had on the Communication concerning compliance by the Netherlands in connection with decision-making on the extension of the design lifetime of the Borssele nuclear power plant.
- I would like to reiterate that there was no change to or extension of the installation, operating limits and conditions or operating time of the Borssele NPP. For this reason and the fact that the initial license is valid for an indefinite period and has not expired, there are no more or less favourable environmental impacts of the decision to extend the design lifetime of the Borssele NPP than those already considered in previous licenses.
- The fact that no environmental impact assessment was conducted does not mean that there was not sufficient information on environmental effects available to the public.

- The Government concludes that Article 6 of the Convention does not apply to the extension of the design lifetime of the Borssele NPP.
- Should the Committee come to the conclusion that Article 6 of the Convention does apply, we believe that all requirements for public participation under Article 6 of the Convention have been complied with.
- Mr Chairman, distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for your attention.