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Date: 09/04/2018 13:19
Subject: RE: ACCC/C/2015/128 (European Union) - questions to the Party concerned

Dear Ms Marshall,

I refer to the note by the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee of 26 March 2018, asking the EU to reply to further questions concerning case ACCC/C/2015/128 in writing by 7 May 2018.

We would like to thank the Committee for this further possibility to provide important information for the instruction of this case.

However, our internal procedures for reply require consultation with other Commission services, to which procedural rules and deadlines (which also exclude holiday periods) apply that do not allow us to go back to you within 6 weeks.

We are aware that the Committee intends to consider this information at its upcoming 61st meeting in Geneva from 2-6 July 2018, and that the EU deadline is calculated accordingly. We would respectfully ask the Committee to consider postponing the further instruction of this case to the subsequent Committee meeting in November 2018, so that the deadline for the EU reply can be extended. We would like to ask the Committee to set us a new deadline for reply in respect of this subsequent meeting in November 2018, but not before 26 June 2018 which would allow 3 months for the EU reply.

We sincerely apologize for this inconvenience, but we consider that the importance of this case would warrant these questions to be tackled, in full respect of the right of defence.

We would be grateful if you could inform us by the end of this week, i.e. by Friday 13 April 2018, if the Committee can agree to prolonging the deadline for the EU reply, and in that case to indicate to us the new date.

Yours sincerely,

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