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Ref: ACCC/C/2015/135

11 March 2016

Mr. Nicolas Fairise
Head of Global Affairs Unit
Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy
Directorate for European and International Affairs
Department of Climate and Sustainable Development)
France

Dear Mr. Fairise,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance
by France with the provisions of the Convention on access to justice in relation to standing
(ACCC/C/2015/135)**

On 4 November 2015, 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 France with the provisions of the Convention on access to justice in relation to standing. 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.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2015/135, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The communication and any documentation relating to the communication are available on the Committee's website at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/pubcom.html>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its fifty-first meeting (15 - 18 December 2015), 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 **11 August 2016**), 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 Delegation of the France to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Mr Patrick Janin, communicant of communication ACCC/C/2015/135

Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility