

23 May 2018

Mr. Thomas Legoupil  
Policy Advisor, Global Affairs Unit  
Department of Climate Change and Sustainable Development  
Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive  
Transition  
France

Dear Mr. Legoupil,

**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)**

The Compliance Committee has asked me to write to you regarding the above communication to see your view as to whether you consider it would be appropriate for the Committee to proceed to commence its deliberations on the substance of the communication without holding a hearing.

Having considered the information received from each party to date, the Compliance Committee is of the view that it is in a position to commence its deliberations on the substance of the communication without holding a hearing.

Before doing so, however, the Compliance Committee has asked me to write to seek the view of each party on whether you consider there to be a particular reason why a hearing is needed prior to the Committee commencing its deliberations in this case.

I would be grateful to receive your views by **Wednesday, 6 June 2018** on whether you consider a hearing in this case is needed. If you consider a hearing is indeed necessary, please provide a brief explanation of the reason for this in your reply.

If the Party concerned and the communicant are each of the view that a hearing is not needed, the Committee will commence its deliberations on the substance of the communication at its upcoming 61<sup>st</sup> meeting (Geneva, 2-6 July 2018). In advance of that meeting, each party will be invited to provide any final written submissions it would wish the Committee to consider when commencing its deliberations. The deadline for providing any final written submissions will be **Wednesday, 27 June 2018**.

Alternatively, if by 6 June 2018 either party has informed the secretariat that it is of the view that a hearing is required in this case, the above deadline for providing final written submissions will not apply. Rather, the Committee will consider the explanation provided for why a hearing is needed and if, after taking into account that explanation, the Committee determines that indeed a hearing should be held, the hearing will be scheduled for its 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting (Geneva, 4-8 November 2018).

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you have any questions regarding the above.

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