

23 March 2020

Mr. Matthias Sauer
Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
Berlin, Germany

Dear Mr. Sauer,

**Preliminary determination of admissibility of communication to the Aarhus Convention
Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Germany regarding access to justice in the
context of tiered decisions and plans (ACCC/C/2020/178)**

On 27 January 2020, 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 from Ms. Artmann, representing the Aarhus Konvention Initiative, addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by Germany with articles 9(2), (3) (4), and 3(1) of the Convention with respect to access to justice in the context of tiered decisions and plans. 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/2020/178, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. All documentation relating to the communication is available on the Committee's web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/cc/com.html>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its sixty-sixth meeting (Geneva, 9-13 March 2020), 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 **23 August 2020**), 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 of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Dr. Verheyen, representative of the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2020/178
- Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility