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ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ ЛЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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11 March 2008

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Mr. Alzhan Braliev Vice-Minister for Environment Protection Ministry of Environmental Protection 35-A Street, House 8, "Ministries House" Astana 010000 Kazakhstan

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Dear Mr. Braliev,

Re: Draft Report on Compliance by Kazakhstan with its obligations under the Aarhus Convention

Please find enclosed a draft report on compliance by Kazakhstan with the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), prepared at the nineteenth meeting of the Convention's Compliance Committee held in Geneva on 5-7 March 2008.

The report has been prepared by the Committee for submission to the Meeting of the Parties following the Committee's review of the implementation by Kazakhstan of the recommendations contained in decision II/5a of the Meeting of the Parties and of the recommendations made in connection with communication ACCC/C/2004/06 adopted by the Committee in accordance with paragraph 36 (b) of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2006/4/Add.1). It contains updated findings and recommendations, the latter addressed to the Meeting of the Parties. The review was carried out, inter alia, on the basis of the report provided by Kazakhstan pursuant to paragraph 8 of decision II/5a.

It is envisaged that, once finalized, the enclosed report will be issued in the form of an addendum to the Committee's report to the Meeting of the Parties.

The Committee agreed that it would forward this draft for comment to the Party concerned, as well as to the communicants whose communications initially triggered the review of compliance by the Party.

Taking into account the very tight deadlines for finalizing all the documentation being prepared for the Meeting of the Parties and the fact that the current document is at least in part an update on the earlier version of the Committee's findings and recommendations, the Committee agreed that the comments should be provided within five working days of circulation of the drafts. We would therefore appreciate if you could provide your comments, if any, by **18 March 2008**.

Following this, the Chair, in consultation with the curator and with the assistance of the secretariat, will draw up a proposal for dealing with the comments, if any, received from the Party concerned and the communicants, whereupon the Committee will finalise and adopt the draft using its e-mail decision-making procedure.

Yours sincerely,

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Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Encl. Draft report on compliance by Kazakhstan