



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Executive Secretary

Under-Secretary-General

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28 April 2014

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the note verbale of 26 March 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations Office at Geneva, which transmitted the text of the Law on Nature Protection of Turkmenistan adopted on 1 March 2014. I also refer to the text of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreign Nationals of Turkmenistan provided to the Compliance Committee of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) by the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan on 26 February 2014.

Furthermore, I have the honour to refer to the letter of 9 December 2013 from H.E. Mr. Esen Aydogdyev, Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva. In his letter, Mr. Aydogdyev kindly forwarded information on the ongoing work within the Government of Turkmenistan to bring the national legislation into accord with the provisions of the Aarhus Convention and requested the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to transmit the enclosed information to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee in order that it might be taken into account in the preparation for its recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention at its fifth session (Maastricht, 30 June and 1 July 2014). This has been done.

At its forty-third meeting (Geneva, 17-20 December 2013), the Compliance Committee took note of the letter of 9 December 2013 and enclosed information while expressing its regret that the Party concerned had provided the information after the deadline of 30 November 2013, and so close to the date of the meeting that it had not been possible to obtain an official translation of the information provided.

His Excellency
Mr. Rashid Meredov
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan
Ashgabat



At its forty-fourth meeting (Geneva, 25-28 March 2014), the Committee continued the preparation of its draft report on the implementation of decision IV/9g of the Meeting of the Parties. The Committee took note of the note verbale of 26 March 2014 from the Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan, announcing that the Law on Nature Protection was adopted on 1 March 2014, and expressed its regret that this information was provided to the Committee for the first time during the forty-fourth meeting itself. The Committee also took note of the text of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreign Nationals, provided by the Permanent Mission on 26 February 2014. The Committee completed its draft report on the implementation of decision IV/9g and requested the secretariat to forward the draft report to the Party and the communicant (communication ACCC/C/2004/5) for their comments.

I now have the honour to forward to you, at the request of the Compliance Committee, the Committee's draft report on the implementation of decision IV/9g for your consideration and possible comments. The Committee invites you to provide your comments on the draft report as soon as possible and to indicate whether you agree with its recommendations. If you disagree with any of the Committee's findings, the Committee would welcome your detailed response explaining the reasons. Taking into account the comments received, the Committee will finalize and adopt its report on decision IV/9g using its electronic decision-making procedure and submit it to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session.

I strongly encourage Turkmenistan to provide its comments on the draft report as soon as possible and no later than **16 May 2014**, in order that they may be taken into account in the finalization of the Compliance Committee's report to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session.

On behalf of ECE, I would like to express the willingness of the secretariat to work with the Government of Turkmenistan on matters related to the Aarhus Convention. Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat (aarhus.compliance@unece.org) if you require any further information.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Michael Møller
Acting Executive Secretary

cc: Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
H.E. Mr. Babageldi Annabayramov, Minister of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan
H.E. Mr. Begmyrat Muhammedow, Minister of Justice of Turkmenistan