

Jonas Ebbesson
**Chair of the Compliance Committee under the UNECE Convention on Access to Information,
Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
(Aarhus Convention)**

Stockholm, 5 July 2016

Dear Sir,

**Re: Inquiry – Request from the Office of the President of the Republic of Albania
to the Aarhus Convention's Compliance Committee**

I would like to thank you for your letter of 21 June 2016. I very much appreciate the speed of your reply to my letter of 14 June 2016.

At its fifty-third meeting (Geneva, 21-24 June 2016), I informed the Compliance Committee of your letters of 5 May and 21 June and my letter to you of 14 June. In the light of your request, the Compliance Committee has asked me to invite you to reply to the following questions at your earliest convenience:

1. Does the Party concerned consider its request to be (i) a request for assistance in accordance with paragraph 36(a) of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties or (ii) a submission under paragraph 16 of the annex to decision I/7?
2. Is there a pending decision-making procedure regarding Tirana Lake Park? If so, is there currently an ongoing public participation procedure with respect to that decision-making? Please provide more information about the decision-making at issue and the various interests and concerns involved. Please also provide a chronology of the decision-making procedure and related events, including those you referred to in your letters of 5 May and 21 June.
3. Which actors have to date been engaged in the events and decision-making procedure(s) described above, including:
 - i. Which government agencies?
 - ii. Which local authorities?
 - iii. Which companies?
 - iv. Which NGOs and/or other representatives of civil society (including their area of expertise)?
 - v. Which international organizations, if any?
4. In the view of the Party concerned, what would be the main purpose and desired outcome of the Committee's involvement?
 - i. To provide practical guidance on how to carry out the upcoming or currently ongoing public participation procedure with respect to the decision-making procedure on the Tirana Lake Park in order to assist Albania to meet the Convention requirements?
 - ii. To examine the decision-making and related events concerning Tirana Lake Park to date and to make findings with respect to the compliance of those events with the Convention's requirements?
 - iii. Other purpose or desired outcome?
5. In the view of the Party concerned, what is the degree of urgency of its request and timeframe by which it would wish for the input of the Committee as answered in question 4 above?

I look forward to receiving your replies to the above questions at your earliest convenience, and to our ongoing productive cooperation. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat of the Convention if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,


Jonas Ebbesson

Mr. Florjan Nuri,
Office of the President of the Republic
Secretary General
Republic of Albania

Cc: Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania to the United Nations Office and other
international organizations in Geneva

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