

**Tenth meeting of the Task Force on Access to Justice
under the Aarhus Convention
(Geneva, 27-28 February 2017)**

Statement

by Armenia on legislative reforms

During the period of December 2016-February 2017 some legislative reforms implemented in Armenia, which is a significant progress in the field of justice and which will strengthen the role of NGOs in decision making process.

In this context, the Republic of Armenia has carried out some legislative reforms which enabled to give solutions to some issues which were subject to discussion since 2006. Particularly, this reforms allow the NGOs to defend, in the field of environmental protection, the legitimate interests of their beneficiaries at court.

The RA Law “On Non-Governmental Organizations” and the RA Law “On Amendments to the Administrative Code”, which stipulate the above provisions, were adopted on December 16, 2016 and came into force on February 4, 2017.

We are convinced, that through the legislative reforms mentioned above the adequate representatives of the society, who are interested in establishing justice, will have access to the court, in case of violation of any right, hence ensuring the implementation of the requirement of Article 9 of Aarhus Convention. We consider this legislative reform to be a serious step toward the reduction or elimination of the barriers to access to justice.

The texts and the links to the relevant articles of legislative amendments were submitted to the Secretariat of Aarhus Convention.

Note by the secretariat: The above mentioned information is available from
http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/compliance/MoP5decisions/V.9a_Armenia/frPartyV9a_31.01.2017_further_information.pdf