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5 April 2012

Ms. Lieselotte Feldmann  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Environment and Water Management  
General Environmental Policy Dept./EU affairs environment  
Stubenbastei 5  
A-1010 Vienna, Austria

Mr. Josef Unterweger  
Buchfeldgasse 19a  
A-1080 Vienna

Dear Ms. Feldmann,  
Dear Mr. Unterweger,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Austria with provisions of the Convention in connection with access to justice in criminal proceedings regarding the contravention of national environmental law (ACCC/C/2011/63)**

At its thirty-sixth meeting (27-30 March 2012), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee took note of the letter of the Party concerned on 10 January 2012 requesting the Committee to reconsider the preliminary admissibility of the communication in the light of the Committee's findings on communication ACCC/C/2010/48; and of the letter of the communicant on 19 January 2012, expressing its views on this request of the Party concerned. The Committee then taking into account the views expressed by the parties, confirmed its decision on the preliminary admissibility of the communication and also that the deadline of 22 May 2012 for the Party concerned to respond on the communication was still valid. The Committee agreed that it would discuss the substance of the communication at its thirty-seventh meeting (26-29 June 2012).

The advance unedited copy of the report of the thirty-sixth meeting, including information concerning the communication at issue, will be shortly available at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/ccMeetings.htm>.

Yours sincerely,

Aphrodite Smagadi  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations Office and specialized institutions in Geneva