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Ref: ACCC/C/2012/66

8 January 2013

Branka Pivcevic Novak  
Head of Department  
Department for General Environmental Policy  
Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection  
Ul. Rep, Austrije 14  
10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

Zrinka Jakl  
President of Managing Board  
Association for Nature, Environment and Sustainable Development "Sunce"  
Obala hrvatskog narodnog preporoda 7/III  
21 000 Split, Croatia

Dear Ms. Novak, Dear Ms. Jakl,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Croatia with provisions of the Convention in relation to public participation in the adoption of waste management plans (ACCC/C/2012/66)**

On behalf of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, I would like to thank the participants in the discussion of the above referenced communication at the thirty-ninth meeting of the Compliance Committee (Geneva, 11-14 December 2012).

The report of the meeting, including information concerning the discussion on the communication at issue, will be shortly accessible at the following link <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/ccMeetings.htm>.

You may recall that during the discussion of the communication, the Committee requested you to submit some additional information, as detailed in the questions annexed to the present letter. You are invited to reply to the questions as soon as you can, but no later than **11 February 2013**. In providing your responses, please address the questions of the Committee in a brief and explicit manner and provide the text of the relevant supporting documents in English.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Aphrodite Smagadi  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

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

**Annex**  
**Questions with regard to communication ACCC/C/2012/66**

**To the Party concerned**

1. Please clarify the relationship between article 14 of the Regulation on Information and Participation of the Public and Public concerned in Environmental Matters; and articles 16, paragraph 3, and 142, paragraph 1, of the Environmental Protection Act.
2. On the basis of the clarification provided under question 1 above, please consider to what extent and how the requirements of article 6, paragraphs 3, 4 and 8, of the Convention are implemented in the environmental decision-making leading to the adoption of waste management plans.
3. What are the time-frames provided by law and practice for the public participation procedure?
4. What is the law on how comments from the public should be taken into account? What is the practice followed in this respect?
5. What is the law implementing the requirement of article 7 of the Convention that the necessary information is provided to the public? What is the practice followed in this respect?
6. The communicant provided "provisional" translations in English of the legal instrument at issue. Please review the translations and confirm that you agree with the translated text provided to the Committee.
7. The communicant alleges that out of more than 100 waste management plans in Croatia, many were adopted without public participation. From the total of these waste management plans adopted, how many included public participation? Please provide evidence (such as, a copy of the public notice on the web site of the relevant authority) to show that the general pattern is that the decision-making procedure for the adoption of waste management plans includes public participation.

**To the communicant**

1. Please clarify the relationship between article 14 of the Regulation on Information and Participation of the Public and Public concerned in Environmental Matters; and articles 16, paragraph 3, and 142, paragraph 1, of the Environmental Protection Act.
2. On the basis of the clarification provided under question 1 above, please consider to what extent and how the requirements of article 6, paragraphs 3, 4 and 8, of the Convention are implemented in the environmental decision-making leading to the adoption of waste management plans.
3. What are the time-frames provided by law and practice for the public participation procedure?
4. Please provide a copy of a waste management plan accompanied by a brief outline of the contents in English.