

**FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE  
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN  
DECISION-MAKING AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
(AARHUS CONVENTION)**

13 October 2021, virtual

**REPORT OF THE MEETING<sup>1</sup>**

**ATTENDANCE**

*Bureau members:* Ms. Maia Bitadze (Georgia, Chair), Ms. Beate Berglund Ekeberg (Norway, Vice-Chair), Ms. Nicolette Bouman (Netherlands, Vice-Chair), Ms. Malaj Enkelejda (Albania), Ms. Chiara Landini (Italy) and Ms. Zsuzsanna Belenyessy (European Union).

*Observers:* Mr. Jeremy Wates (NGO Observer, European Environmental Bureau (EEB) representing European ECO Forum).

*Apologies:* Ms. Alla Loboda (Ukraine).

**I. Opening and adoption of agenda**

1. Ms. Maia Bitadze, Chair, outlined the main objectives of the meeting, namely, to consider any new or pending issues that need to be addressed by the Bureau with regard to preparations for the seventh session of the Aarhus Convention's Meeting of the Parties (Geneva, 18-21 October 2021). The Bureau took note of the information provided by the Chair and adopted the provisional agenda of the meeting.

**II. Update on preparations for the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention**

2. The Bureau considered several issues, notably the required factual update for several draft decisions, including decisions on reporting requirements and on public participation in decision-making. The Bureau also took note of a draft supplementary report prepared by the Compliance Committee with regard to decision VI/8c concerning the compliance of Belarus<sup>2</sup>. The Bureau agreed to wait for the comments of the Party concerned on the draft supplementary report, and for the subsequent finalisation of the supplementary report by the Committee, and to take any possible further steps, as appropriate, through electronic decision-making.

**III. Closing**

3. The Chair thanked the Bureau for constructive work and the secretariat for its support and closed the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> This document was not formally edited.

<sup>2</sup> The report and the related documentation is available on the following webpage:  
<https://unece.org/env/pp/cc/decision-vi8c-concerning-belarus>