

Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Seventh session

Geneva, 18–20 October 2021

Excerpt from the addendum to the report of the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.PP/2021/2/Add.1)*

Decision VII/8h concerning compliance by Hungary with its obligations under the Convention

Adopted by the Meeting of Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters at its seventh session

The Meeting of the Parties,

Acting under paragraph 37 of the annex to its decision I/7 on the review of compliance,¹

Taking note of the findings of the Committee on communication ACCC/C/2014/105 concerning compliance by Hungary in connection with access to information and public participation in the decision-making on plans to build new units at Paks nuclear power plant,²

Encouraged by the willingness of Hungary to discuss in a constructive manner with the Committee the compliance issues in question,

1. *Endorses* the findings of the Committee that, by not publishing the “assessment analysis” of the draft 2007–2020 energy policy prepared under articles 43 (1) and 44 (2) of the Environmental Code, the Party concerned failed to comply with article 7, final sentence, in conjunction with article 5 (7) (a) of the Convention;

2. *Recommends* that the Party concerned take the necessary legislative, regulatory, administrative and practical measures to ensure that “assessments analyses” of policies relating to the environment prepared under articles 43 (1) and 44 (2) of the Environmental Code, or any legislation that supersedes them, are made available to the public so that it can effectively exercise its opportunities to participate under article 7, final sentence, of the Convention;

3. *Requests* the Party concerned to:

(a) Submit a plan of action, including a time schedule, to the Committee by 1 July 2022 regarding the implementation of the above recommendation;

(b) Provide detailed progress reports to the Committee by 1 October 2023 and 1 October 2024 on the measures taken and the results achieved in the implementation of the plan of action and the above recommendation;

* The full text of addendum to the report of the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.PP/2021/2/Add.1) will, in due course, be available in English, French and Russian from https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/Aarhus_Convention_MoP7.

¹ ECE/MP.PP/2/Add.8.

² ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2021/16, forthcoming.

(c) Provide such further information as the Committee may request in order to assist it to review the progress by the Party concerned in implementing the above recommendation;

(d) Participate (either in person or by virtual means) in the meetings of the Committee at which the progress of the Party concerned in implementing the above recommendation is to be considered;

4. *Undertakes* to review the situation at its eighth session.
