

Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention

Third extraordinary session

Item 4 (a)

Statement by Albania

The Ministry of Tourism and Environment of the Republic of Albania considers that the establishment of the function of the Special Rapporteur for Environment is a needed milestone in the process of a better implementation of the Aarhus Conv in all its member parties.

With the recently reported cases in some areas of serious violations of rights of either env NGOs or persons, we pledge our full support to all env NGOs and environmental defenders wherever they are experiencing or may undergo obstacles to accomplish their functions and missions in protecting the environment and public right to have its say and be heard.

We thank all of our 4 excellent candidates for this very important position and are fully supportive of a consensual process of selecting the new Special Rapporteur.

Concluding, we reiterate our full support to the Special Rapporteur that we will jointly trust to carry on with this very important mission.

Thank you!