

**From:** ECE-Aarhus-Compliance

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022 8:37 PM

**To:** ECE-Aarhus-Compliance <aarhus.compliance@un.org>

**Subject:** Opportunity for Parties and stakeholders to comment on Compliance Committee's draft advice on decision VII/8m (Netherlands)

**To: National focal points of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and stakeholders**

Dear Colleagues,

I write at the request of the Chair of the Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention to inform you of the opportunity to comment on the Committee's draft advice on paragraph 3 (a) of decision VII/8m concerning the Netherlands.

As you may be aware, pursuant to paragraph 36 (a) of the annex to decision I/7, the Committee, in consultation with the Party concerned, may provide advice and facilitate assistance to individual Parties regarding the implementation of the Convention.

To this end, on 22 April 2022, the Netherlands submitted a request to the Committee seeking its advice on the implementation of paragraph 3 (a) of decision VII/8m. Decision VII/8m is available at: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/Decision\\_VII.8m\\_eng.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/Decision_VII.8m_eng.pdf)

The Netherlands' request to the Compliance Committee for advice is available at: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/frPartyVII.8m\\_22.04.2022\\_questions.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/frPartyVII.8m_22.04.2022_questions.pdf)

On 24 August 2022, the Compliance Committee sent its draft advice, and accompanying annex, to the Party concerned and communicants for their comments pursuant to paragraph 34 of the annex to decision I/7. The Committee's draft advice and accompanying annex are available at the following links:

- Draft advice: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/VII.8m\\_advice\\_draft\\_for\\_comment.docx](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/VII.8m_advice_draft_for_comment.docx)
- Annex to draft advice: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/Annex\\_Applying\\_article\\_6\\_to\\_reconsiderations\\_updates\\_extensions\\_and\\_changes\\_draft\\_for\\_comment.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/Annex_Applying_article_6_to_reconsiderations_updates_extensions_and_changes_draft_for_comment.pdf).

With a view to addressing the questions raised by the Netherlands in its request dated 22 April 2022, the Committee's draft advice and accompanying annex provide practical advice on how to apply article 6 of the Convention to the reconsideration, update, change or extension of permits. This includes advice on the relationship between article 6 (10) and paragraph 22 of Annex I to the Convention.

Considering that the issues addressed in its draft advice may be of relevance for other Parties to the Convention also, the Compliance Committee requested the secretariat to inform Parties and stakeholders of the opportunity to comment on the Committee's draft advice. The Committee would be grateful to receive any comments on its draft advice and accompanying annex by **Wednesday, 9 November 2022**.

The Committee will thereafter finalize its advice, including its accompanying annex, taking into account the comments received by the above deadline.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat at [aarhus.compliance@un.org](mailto:aarhus.compliance@un.org) if you have any questions regarding the above.

Best regards,  
Ella



**Ella Behlyarova (Ms)**

Secretary

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and  
Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)

Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Protocol on PRTRs)

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