From: ECE-Aarhus-Compliance

Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2023 11:04 AM

To: bzn-sgr ; Aarhus Punto Focal Fernández Diez-Picazo, ; asociacionpetondolobo Martin amigoseamigasdosbosques ; lavey ; Rubio Rubio, Juan **Cc:** rep.ginebraoi [MAEC] MIRANDA Ana ; Minería SGHN- Presidente ; PDRA pernando.barrena ; diana.ribaigine tatjana.zdanoka

Subject: ACCC/C/2017/153 (Spain) - postponement of hearing proposed for Committee's 78th meeting

Dear Mr. Fernández,

Dear Mr. López Pérez and Ms. Varela Velo,

I refer to the correspondence received from the Party concerned and the communicants on 27 February and 2 March 2023, respectively, regarding the Committee's invitation to take part in the hearing to discuss the substance of communication ACCC/C/2017/153 at its upcoming 78th meeting (Geneva, 21-24 March 2023). I also refer to the correspondence received from the observers Ecologistas en Acción on 27 February 2023, Galician Society of Natural History and Plataforma en Defensa da Ría de Arousa on 28 February 2023, and Ms. Ana Miranda on 3 March 2023.

The Committee has considered all the correspondence received. The Chair of the Committee has asked me to inform you that, since neither the communicants nor the Party concerned are in a position to attend the hearing scheduled for 22 March 2023, the Committee will clearly not be able to proceed with the hearing at its upcoming 78th meeting as planned.

The Committee instead proposes to reschedule the hearing to **Thursday, 15 June 2023**, during its 79th meeting (Geneva, 13-16 June 2023). The start and end time of the hearing on that date will remain the same.

I would accordingly be grateful if the Party concerned and the communicants would each confirm their availability to participate in the hearing on the rescheduled date of 15 June 2023 as soon as possible, and by **23 March 2023** at the latest. Following confirmation from both the Party concerned and the communicants that they are available to participate in the hearing on the rescheduled date of 15 June 2023, we will provide you with further details regarding practical arrangements for the hearing on that date.

The Committee appreciates the observers' efforts to attend the hearing on 22 March 2023, as originally proposed. It is most unfortunate that some observers had proceeded to book their travel and accommodation before either the communicants or the Party concerned had confirmed their participation in the hearing.

The Committee looks forward to the participation of the Party concerned, the communicants and the observers at the hearing on its proposed rescheduled date of Thursday, 15 June 2023.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the above.

Kind regards,

Fiona



Fiona Marshall

Legal Officer – Secretary to the Compliance Committee and Assistant to the Special Rapporteur on Environmental Defenders

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