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Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 7:40 AM
To: ECE-Aarhus-Compliance <aarhus.compliance@un.org>
Cc: Aurimas Saladžius [REDACTED]; Vitalijus Auglys [REDACTED]; Beata Vilimaitė Šilobritienė [REDACTED]; Mindaugas Raulinaitis [REDACTED]
Subject: An updated information of Lithuania on Decision VII/8I

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Dear colleagues,

We are writing in regards to the discussion at the Compliance Committee's 77th meeting about the Action Plan of Lithuania on Decision VII/8I and the agreement to provide the official translations of legal acts mentioned in the Action Plan.

We would like to inform that a newly amended Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity (hereinafter referred to as "the Law on EIA") came into force on 1 January 2023. The amendments of the Law on EIA were drafted taking into account the recommendations made in the decision VII/8I concerning the compliance of Lithuania.

In December 2022, following the adoption of the amended Law on EIA, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") submitted a request for an official translation of the Law on EIA to the Chancellery of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania. Only this translation will be appropriate for submission to the Compliance Committee for an assessment. The translation of the Law on EIA is on the schedule, but unfortunately it is not expected to be translated until the second half of this year (2023).

Given that Lithuania will only be able to submit the translation by the end of the second half of this year, please note that the previous version of the EIA Law has been translated into English and made public. The official translation is available via this link: <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/97e1a98200d711ecb4af84e751d2e0c9?ifwid=11z9pyzh>.

Additionally, please find enclosed relevant provisions of the newly amended Law on EIA, related to public participation in the EIA process and its access to justice (Articles 8, 9, 11, 12 and 16), which were unofficially translated by the experts of the Ministry.

Please be informed that the Ministry is also currently drafting supplementary legislation on EIA, which will be approved by the Order of the Minister of Environment. After completion of the internal coordination procedures the drafts will be made publicly available and provided to relevant institutions and public for comments and proposals. It is expected that the supplementary legislation will be adopted in April 2023. It is worth mentioning, that the procedures for public information and participation in the EIA process are set out in a separate document, which we believe will make it easier for the public to find information on how to participate in the EIA process. When the supplementary legislation will be adopted, the

Ministry will organise the translation of the Order for Public Information and Participation in the EIA Process, prepare the procedural flowcharts and update the publication dedicated to the public participation in EIA.

Lithuania will inform the Compliance Committee of all planned actions and provide translations of the newly amended Law on EIA and the Order for Public Information and Participation in the EIA Process as soon as possible.

Best regards,

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