

16 September 2023

Ms. Elaine Kennedy
Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications
Ireland

Dear Ms Kennedy,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
concerning compliance by Ireland with respect to charges for
access to environmental information (ACCC/C/2023/199)**

On 30 April 2023, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received the above communication from Right to Know CLG addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by Ireland with articles 1, 3 (1), 4 (8), 5 (3), 6 (6), and 9 (4) of the Convention. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2023/199, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. All documentation relating to the communication is available on the Committee's website at: <https://unece.org/env/pp/cc/communications-from-the-public>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its seventy-ninth meeting (Geneva, 13–16 June 2023), has on a preliminary basis determined it to be admissible in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

Having regard to paragraph 23 of the annex to decision I/7, you are kindly invited to submit to the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest within five months of the date of this letter (i.e. by **16 February 2024**), any written explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the meantime.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Dr. Fred Logue, representing the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2023/199

Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility