

1 September 2023

Ms. Mari Chakryan
Ministry of Nature Protection
Yerevan, Armenia

Dear Ms. Chakryan,

**Re: Decision VII/8a concerning compliance by Armenia
with its obligations under the Aarhus Convention**

The Compliance Committee under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) has asked me to write to you as a courtesy to remind you that, in accordance with paragraph 4(b) of decision VII/8a of the Meeting of the Parties, Armenia is requested to submit to the Committee its first progress report by **1 October 2023** on the measures it has by that date taken, and the results achieved, to implement the recommendations in paragraphs 2(a)-(d) of decision VII/8a.

The Committee has also asked me to remind you that, in paragraph 5 of decision VII/8a, the Meeting of the Parties decided to issue a caution to the Party concerned, to become effective on 1 January 2024, unless the Party concerned has fully satisfied the conditions set out in paragraph 2 (a), (b) and (c) of the decision and has notified the secretariat of this fact by **1 October 2023**.

As explained by the Chair of the Committee at the twenty-seventh meeting (Geneva, 26-28 June 2023), all the measures to implement decision VII/8a must be taken and reported on by no later than 1 October 2024 in order that they can be taken into consideration by the Committee in its report on decision VII/8a to the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

As you may recall, at its twenty-seventh meeting, the Working Group of the Parties to the Convention took note of the information provided by the Chair of the Compliance Committee and “urged all Parties subject to a decision of the Meeting of the Parties concerning its compliance to implement that decision in a timely and effective manner, especially where the implementation requires legislative measures”.¹

Finally, should Armenia demonstrate to the Committee that it has fully met the requirements of decision VII/8a by the time of its final progress report due on 1 October 2024, the Committee will report that fact to the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties. There would then be no need for a further decision on those points to be adopted at the eighth session.

¹ List of decisions and major outcomes of the meeting, p. 5,
<https://unece.org/environment/documents/2023/07/list-decisions-and-major-outcomes-meeting>

Should you have any questions with regard to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Communicants of communications ACCC/C/2004/8, ACCC/C/2009/43 and ACCC/C/2011/62
Observers of decision VII/8a