

1 September 2023

Ms. Dalia Gudaitienė Holiman
Ministry of Environment
Vilnius, Lithuania

Dear Ms. Gudaitienė Holiman,

**Re: Decision VII/81 concerning compliance by Lithuania
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 3 (a) of decision VII/81 of the Meeting of the Parties, Lithuania 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)-(b) of decision VII/81.

The Committee has also asked me to remind you that, 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/81 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/81 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 Lithuania demonstrate to the Committee that it has fully met the requirements of decision VII/81 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 Lithuania to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Communicant of communication ACCC/C/2013/98
Observers of decision VII/91