From: ECE-Aarhus-Compliance

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 8:32 AM

To: Bouman, N.W.M. (Nicolette) - DGMI < >; Duin, Michelle

Cc: gev [MINBUZA] < ; j ; j ; Bondine Kloostra |>; summer kern Attracta

Subject: Decision VII/8m (Netherlands) - Party concerned's letter of 7 March 2023

Dear Ms. Bouman, Dear Ms. Duin,

I refer to your letter of 7 March 2023 and legislation and caselaw enclosed therewith.

I write to inform you that, at its seventy-eighth meeting (Geneva, 21-24 March 2023), the Committee considered the documentation submitted by the Party concerned on 7 March 2023, as well as the further clarification submitted by the Party concerned on 21 March 2023.

Having considered the information received, the Committee has asked me to inform you that the information provided on 7 and 21 March 2023 does not address the content of the recommendation in paragraph 3 (b) of decision VII/8m, through which the Meeting of the Parties "recommends that the Party concerned take the necessary legislative, regulatory and administrative measures to ensure that... public officials, including the judiciary, are under a legal and enforceable duty to ensure that documents relating to, or referring to, the imperative reasons of overriding public interest regarding a Natura 2000 site are considered to be environmental information within the meaning of article 2 (3) (b) of the Convention".

At its seventy-ninth meeting, which will take place this week from 13-16 June, the Committee will continue its deliberations on its advice on paragraph 3 (a) of decision VII/8m, with a view to its finalization and adoption taking into account the comments received on its draft advice.

Please do not hesitate to let me know 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 Aarhus Convention secretariat Environment Division United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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