

5 March 2024

Ms. Laura Gornicioiu  
DG Environment  
European Commission

Dear Ms. Gornicioiu,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the European Union in connection with access to environmental information regarding the New Exploration Technologies project (ACCC/C/2024/207)**

On 2 January 2024, 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 Fundación Montescola, an environmental non-governmental organization, addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by the European Union with article 4 (1) and (4) of the Convention in connection with access to environmental information regarding the New Exploration Technologies project. 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/2024/207, 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 eighty-second meeting (Geneva, 20–23 February 2024), 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 **5 August 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,



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Fiona Marshall  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

- Cc: Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva  
Fundación Montescola, the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2024/207
- Enc: Preliminary determination on admissibility