

NATIONS UNIES

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UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE POUR L'EUROPE

ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Environment, Housing and Land Management Division Bureau 332
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Phone: +41-22-917 2384 Fax: +41-22-917 0634 E-mail: jeremy.wates@unece.org Website: www.unece.org/env/pp

12 January 2009

Mr. Johannes Pfeifer Rathausplatz 3 8940 Liezen Austria

Tel: + 43 1 3612 22 309 Fax: + 43 1 3612 24 088

Dear Mr. Pfeifer,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning decision-making on road-planning and tonnage restrictions for lorries in the Enns Valley, Austria (Ref. ACCC/C/2008/26)

With reference to our letter of 26 September 2008 concerning the above matter, we would like to inform you that at its twenty-second meeting (17-19 December 2008), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee decided that the substance of communication ACCC/C/2008/26 would be considered at the Committee's twenty-third meeting, to be held on 31 March – 3 April 2009 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

The discussion is currently scheduled to start at 10 am on Thursday, 2 April 2009.

In accordance with chapter IX of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, both the Party concerned and the communicant are entitled to participate in the discussion on the subject matter of the communication, though not in the preparation or adoption of any findings, measures or recommendations of the Committee.

Should you or any other representative of the communicant wish to attend the meeting, the attached registration form should be sent to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, attention of Ms. Maricar de la Cruz (fax: +41 22 917 0634), by 1 March 2009. If you would require financial support to cover travel costs and daily subsistence allowance in order to be able to send a representative to the meeting, please notify the secretariat.

According to a decision of the Committee at its fifth meeting, discussions on communications will generally take the following form:

- introduction by the Chair and opening of the discussion (by the Chair or the special rapporteur);
- presentations by the communicant and by the Party concerned, including possible joint proposals;
- questions from Committee members, responses from the Party concerned and the communicant;
- comments from observers at the invitation of the Chair;
- final comments by the communicant;
- final comments by the Party concerned.

The Committee has indicated that the meeting should not be used as an occasion to introduce substantial amounts of information that could or should have been provided to it at an earlier stage, unless this is unavoidable (e.g. because it concerns very recent developments). Should you wish to present any (further) substantial written material related to the matter, you should take into account that where such information is received less than two weeks before the scheduled meeting, it is doubtful whether the Committee would be able to take it into consideration when it is discussing the matter, even where the information is provided in English.

Please note that the working language of the Committee is English. No interpretation for the twenty-third meeting of the Committee is currently envisaged.

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Wates

Secretary

Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Cc: Ms. Muner-Bretter, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Environment and Water Management of Austria

Encs. Copy of letter to Ms. Muner-Bretter, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Environment and Water Management of Austria

Datasheet of the communication
Registration form for the 23rd meeting of the Compliance Committee