



NATIONS UNIES
COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE
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ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ
ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ
ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

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12 May 2009

Dr. Åsa Sjöström
EUIC, Defra
Area 1 Nobel House, 17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR
+44 207 2385080

Dear Dr. Sjöström,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with provisions of the Convention in connection with the scope of judicial review, costs, timing and other issues related to access to justice (Ref. ACCC/C/2008/33)

At its twenty-third meeting (31 March – 3 April 2009), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee discussed its forthcoming programme of work, including the agenda and timetable for its twenty-fourth meeting which will take place from 30 June to 3 July 2009. In this context, it took note of the fact that the deadline for submission of comments by your Government in connection with the above communication is 24 May 2009.

As a general rule, the Committee aims to start the formal discussion on a particular communication at the first meeting that takes place more than two weeks following either the receipt of a response to the communication from the Party concerned or the applicable deadline if no response has been received by then (see the Committee's guidance on its modus operandi, p.17).

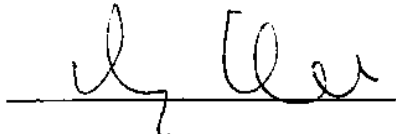
Due to practical considerations related to the workload of the Committee, we are not in a position to state whether the discussion of ACCC/C/2008/33 will take place at the twenty-fourth meeting of the Committee. If it is decided to schedule a discussion on communication ACCC/C/2008/33, you will be given due notice.

In the meantime, if you are able to give an indication of when we may expect to receive your response, this would facilitate the planning of the Committee's twenty-fourth meeting.

We are copying the communicant on this message and thereby providing advance notification, subject to further confirmation, of the possibility that the communication will be discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the Committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information concerning the procedure.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Wates', is written over a horizontal line.

Jeremy Wates
Secretary

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

Cc: Mr. James Thornton, ClientEarth
Mr. Simon Brockington, Marine Conservation Society
Mr. Robert Latimer