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24 May 2011

Ms. Galina Volchuga
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
10, Kollektornaya St.
220048 Minsk
Belarus

Dear Ms. Volchuga,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Belarus with provisions of the Convention in connection with the proposed construction of a nuclear power plant (Ref. ACCC/C/2009/44)

Please find enclosed the draft findings of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee regarding communication ACCC/C/2009/44 (Belarus). At its thirty-second meeting (Geneva, 11-14 April 2011), the Committee completed its draft findings in closed session, with the exception of a few minor points, which were then finalized by using the electronic decision-making procedure.

The draft findings are now forwarded at the request of the Committee for your consideration and possible comments pursuant to paragraph 34 of the annex to decision I/7. The Committee intends to finalize and adopt the findings at its thirty-third meeting (Chisinau, 27-28 June 2011). Hence, we would be grateful if you would provide any comments by **21 June 2011**. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account any comments you submit on the draft by the set deadline.

The text has been drafted on the assumption that your Government agrees with the Committee making recommendations in accordance with paragraphs 36 (b) and 37 (b) of the annex to decision I/7. If this is not the case, please indicate this in your reply. The Committee considers that the making of recommendations directly to the Party concerned during the intersessional period, coupled with timely action by the Party to implement such recommendations, would enable the matters to be resolved in the most expeditious way.