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29 March 2011

Ms. Jane Barton
International and European Coordination Division
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Area 1B, Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR
United Kingdom

Dear Ms Barton,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with provisions of the Convention in connection with the proposed displacement of central Edinburgh traffic (Ref. ACCC/C/2010/53)

On 26 November 2010, 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 addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with provisions of the Convention in connection with the proposed displacement of central Edinburgh traffic into residential Moray Feu. 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.

Please find enclosed a copy of the communication, which is being forwarded to you at the request of the Committee in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to decision I/7.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2010/53, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The main documentation relating to the communication will be shortly available on the Committee's web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/pubcom.htm>.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its thirty-first meeting (22-25 February 2011), 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.

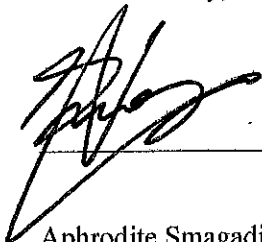
At the same time taking into account that a complaint on this matter was also submitted to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO), the Committee decided to suspend any further consideration of the communication until further information is provided on the progress of the complaint before the SPSO.

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 no later than five months of the date of this letter (i.e. by 29 August 2011), any written

explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the mean time. However, due to the fact that the Committee has decided to suspend the consideration of the case until further information is provided on the progress of the complaint before the SPSO, you are also invited to provide any relevant information on the progress on this complaint, if you wish, and you may be invited to submit information in this regard at a later stage, when more information is available.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Aphrodite Smagadi', written over a horizontal line.

Aphrodite Smagadi
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office
and other international organizations in Geneva
Mr. Alistair MacIntosh, The Moray Feu Traffic Subcommittee of Lord Moray's Feuars Committee, Edinburgh

Encs. Communication ACCC/C/2010/53 (including annexes)
Preliminary determination on admissibility
Datasheet on the communication