

NATIONS UNIES

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COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE POUR L'EUROPE

ВЕРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

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Ref: ACCC/C/2012/68 (EU and UK)

6 November 2012

Jean—Francois Brakeland
Head of Unit - DG Environment, Unit A2 - Compliance promotion, governance and legal issues
European Commission
BU-9 00/201
Rue de la Loi 200,
1049 Brussels
Belgium

Barbara Anning
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs - EU and International Coordination
Area 1B, Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR
United Kingdom

Dear Ms. Anning, Mr. Brakeland,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the European Union and the United Kingdom in relation to the implementation of the renewable energy programme in Scotland (Ref. ACCC/C/2012/68)

We are writing to inform you that the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee will discuss the substance of communication ACCC/C/2012/68 at its thirty-ninth meeting (Palais des Nations, Geneva, 11-14 December 2012).

The discussion of the above communication is currently scheduled for Wednesday, 12 December 2012, starting at 9:30 am and concluding by 4:30 pm.

In accordance with chapter IX of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention, all parties 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.

According to the Committee's normal practice, the discussion of the communication, which will be held in open session, will be interspersed with at least one closed session in which the Committee will begin the process of preparing draft findings. It is envisaged that the first part of the discussion in open session will take the following form:

- introduction by the Chair;
- opening of the discussion by the curator for the case;
- concise presentations by the communicant and by the Parties concerned, including possible joint

proposals;

- questions from Committee members, responses from the Parties concerned and the communicant;
 - comments from other observers at the invitation of the Chair;
- final comments by the communicant;
- final comments by the Parties concerned.

During the second part of the discussion (i.e. following the closed session), the Committee may pose additional questions to you or the communicant, or invite reactions to any tentative conclusions it has reached. Further details concerning the timetable for the discussions during the day will be provided nearer the time.

Should you or any other representative(s), as appropriate, wish to attend the meeting, the attached registration form should be completed for each participant and sent to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, attention of Ms. Maricar de la Cruz (public.participation@unece.org), by 23 November 2012.

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

Yours sincerely,

phrodite Smagadi

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

Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Christine Metcalfe, Community Councillor, Avich & Kilchrenan Community Council

Enc: Registration form for the thirty-ninth meeting of the Compliance Committee