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Aphrodite Smagadi
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
Economic Commission for Europe
Environment, Housing and Land
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Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

28 March 2013

Dear Ms Smagadi,

**AARHUS CONVENTION COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE ACCC/C/2012/77: RESPONSE
TO COMMUNICATION DATED 30 OCTOBER 2012**

Thank you for your letter of 30 October 2012 inviting the United Kingdom to comment on communication ACCC/C/2012/77.

Since the communication was received, the Committee will have noted our letter of 28 February 2013 in respect of Decision IV/9i.

Given that this communication also concerns article 9(4) and (5) of the Convention as regards costs, before being able to provide a more substantive response to this letter, we would find it helpful to understand the reasons for the Compliance Committee choosing to progress the communication. A communication may of course end up being discussed at a Committee meeting and at the Meeting of the Parties. It would, in particular, greatly assist us if the Committee could please clarify what specific issues it considers could usefully be addressed through this mechanism by the progression of this communication.

We will, of course, need to be able to consider our response to the communication in the light of any further clarification provided by the Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Ceri Morgan