

## NATIONS UNIES

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## **UNITED NATIONS**

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ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION** FOR EUROPE

Palais des Nations, Room 429-4

CH-1211 GENEVA 10

Ref: PRE/ACCC/C/2015/127

Tel:

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6 October 2015

Alain Lebrun Avocat Place de la Liberté 4030 Grivegnéé Belgium

Dear Mr. Lebrun,

Re: Pre-admissibility communication PRE/ACCC/C/2015/127 to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Belgium in connection with costs for access to justice

At its forty-ninth meeting (Geneva, 30 June – 3 July 2015), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee considered the preliminary admissibility of the communication submitted on 6 February 2015 by Mr Henry Maquoi and Mrs Clare Dalemans. The communication alleged non-compliance with the Convention with respect to article 9, paragraphs 3 and 4 regarding the cost of access to justice.

After hearing the views of the Party concerned and observers present at its forty-ninth meeting, the Committee agreed to defer its preliminary determination of admissibility and to request the secretariat to ask the communicants to further substantiate the allegations with respect to the following issues:

- how the communication concerns provisions of national law relating to the environment (i) within the scope of article 9, paragraph 3 of the Convention; and
- the extent to which regulation of judicial costs under Coordinated Laws on the Conseil (ii) d'Etat (Council of State) is applicable to cases within the scope of article 9, paragraph 3 of the Convention, supporting that answer with relevant statistics and case law.

We would be very grateful to receive the requested information by Tuesday, 10 November 2015. The communication may thereafter be further considered for preliminary admissibility by the Committee at its fifty-first meeting (Geneva, 15-18 December 2015).

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

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Marshall

Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Mr. Joseph van der Stegen, Department of European Policies and International Agreements, Belgium

Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva