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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
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Palais des Nations, Room 429-4
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Ref: PRE/ACCC/C/2015/129

18 August 2015

Jim and Mary Redmond
Highbury
London
United Kingdom

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Redmond,

Re: Communication PRE/ACCC/C/2015/129 to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Ireland in connection with public participation in decision-making on the sale of forestry land

I refer to the communication submitted by you to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee on 26 April 2015. The communication alleges non-compliance with articles 6, paragraphs 1(b) and 2 and articles 9, paragraph 4 and 5 of the Convention with respect to public participation in decision-making on the sale of forestry land.

As previously outlined to you by telephone, the Chair and the Vice Chair of the Compliance Committee have requested that, prior to the Compliance Committee considering your communication for preliminary admissibility at its fiftieth meeting (Geneva, 6-9 October 2015), you provide further information on two points as set out below:

1. What is the legal basis for your allegation that the sale of the Kilcooley Abbey Forestry is subject to article 6, paragraph 1(b) of the Convention? Please explain your answer with reference to the second sentence of article 6, paragraph 1(b), namely "To this end, Parties shall determine whether such a proposed activity is subject to these provisions".

2. What domestic remedies existed for you or other members of the public to challenge (i) the decision to sell Kilcooley Abbey Forestry and (ii) the lack of a public participation procedure regarding that decision? To what extent did you use those remedies and what were the outcomes of the resulting procedures? What other domestic remedies, if any, exist and why have you to date not used them?

I would be grateful to receive your reply to the above questions by **Tuesday, 2 September 2015**. The Party concerned will thereafter have **one week** to provide any comments that it may wish to make on your response.

The Compliance Committee will take into account your reply and any comments received from the Party concerned when considering the communication for preliminary admissibility at its fiftieth meeting.

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

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Marguerite Ryan, Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, Ireland