

6 February 2020

Massimo Cozzone  
Department for Sustainable Development, Environmental Damage  
European Union and International Affairs  
Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea  
Rome, Italy

Dear Mr. Cozzone,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Italy with provisions of the Convention related to the cost of judicial procedures (ACCC/C/2015/130)**

I write to inform you that the Committee proposes to hold a hearing to discuss the substance of communication ACCC/C/2015/130 at its sixty-sixth meeting to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on 9-13 March 2020.

The hearing of the above communication is scheduled for **Tuesday, 10 March 2020**, starting at 10:30 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, both parties are entitled to participate in the hearing 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 hearing 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 hearing in open session will take the following form:

- introduction by the Chair;
- opening of the hearing by the curator for the case (10-15 minutes);
- concise presentations by the communicant and by the Party concerned, including possible joint proposals (10-15 minutes each);
- questions from Committee members, responses from the Party concerned and the communicant (30 minutes);
- comments from other observers at the invitation of the Chair (10 minutes);
- final comments by the communicant (5-10 minutes);
- final comments by the Party concerned (5-10 minutes).

Further details concerning the timetable for the hearing will be provided in the provisional timeline for the meeting to be published nearer the time on the webpage for the sixty-sixth meeting, <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52990>.

During the second part of the hearing (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. In accordance with its usual practice, the Committee may also invite the Party concerned to indicate whether, should the Committee ultimately find the Party to be in non-compliance, it would agree to the Committee making its recommendations to it directly, in accordance with paragraph 36(b) of the annex to decision I/7.

I would be grateful if you would confirm before **Thursday, 13 February 2020** that the Government of Italy will participate in the hearing. Thereafter, each participant wishing to attend the meeting should register online at <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=z7N5XD> before **2 March 2020**.

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

Yours sincerely,



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Fiona Marshall  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva  
WWF Italia, communicant of communication ACCC/C/2015/130