Comments by the RA "Dalma-Sona" Human rights & Environmental protection Fund

On Draft Report concerning Compliance by Armenia

Based on the considerations mentioned in our Letter, we would kindly ask the Compliance Committee to take into account our suggestions and comments below and revise the Draft Report (in further "Draft") according the real situation in Armenia.

In general, the situation is as follows:

- a) Armenia doesn't adopt the new EIA Law, as was planned by its Action Plan,
- b) in Draft EIA law, which is currently in process of review by the RA National Assembly, there are not included the detailed procedures for public participation at all levels in decision-making on the activities referred to Articles of the Aarhus Convention. On this matter we had already sent our Comments both to Compliance Committee and RA National Assembly in October 2013;
- c) there are not undertaken none of appropriate practical measures to ensure effective access to justice concerned to the violations of Convention provisions by Armenia, including the availability of adequate and effective remedies to challenge the legality of decisions on matters regulated by articles 6 and 7 of the Convention;
- d) the findings and conclusions of the Committee had not taken into account in consideration of the specific matters raised by the Effected community and Interested public.

However, we would kindly ask:

- 1. from the 1-st paragraph 7 of Draft /page 3/ *to remove* the whole Sentence "The Committee found that the Party had demonstrated considerable progress with regard to access to justice." and the next word "However,";
- **2.** to take note, that in Draft there are two paragraphs numbered 7 /seven/, -we guess that it and further numeration should be *fix*ed;
- **3.** in the 2-nd paragraph 7 *to add* the word "not" before the words "serious" and "active", because the last 10 years life of Dalma Gardens' land users is vivid evidence of "**Not** serious and **Not** active engagement of and progress "made by the Armenia concerned in implementing decision III/6b;
- **4.** *to mention* in the name of the Part II "decision III/6b" too, as that Part may named as: "Summary of follow-up actions with *decisions III/6b and IV/9a*";
- 5. **in Part IV to include the Recommendations** of the Committee mentioned in paragraph 8 (a), (b), (c) of *Decision III/6b* dated 26 September 2008 (ECE/MP.PP/2008/2/Add.10).

Ruzanna Ghazaryan

Chairman of Board of Trustees of "Dalma-Sona" Fund,

II Grade Civil Service Counceller,

Professor of Ecological Law at the International Scientific-educational Center of the Scientific National Academy of Armenia,

Address: #13, 24 Arno Babajanyan Str., 0064, Yerevan, Armenia

Phone: (37410) 72-08-03, (37494) 568-333,,e-mail: <u>ghazaryanr@yahoo.com</u>;

ghazaryanr@mail.ru