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9 May 2012

Ms. Aida Iskoyan  
National Focal Point for the Aarhus Convention  
Ministry of Nature Protection  
Government Building 3, Republic Square  
375010 Yerevan, Armenia

Dear Ms. Iskoyan,

**Re: Decision IV/9a of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention**

As you are aware, at its fourth session (Chisinau, 29 June-1 July 2011), the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention adopted decision IV/9a on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention.

At its thirty-sixth meeting (27-30 March 2012), the Committee noted that you had notified the secretariat that the draft amendment to the environmental impact assessment (EIA) law had not been signed by the President and that a new draft would be prepared to better address the classification of activities, public participation and fees. The Committee instructed the secretariat to request you to submit **a translation in the English or at least in the Russian language of the draft EIA law.**

In addition, at that meeting in March, representatives of non-governmental organizations in Armenia made a statement criticizing the Party concerned for its continuous failure to take the necessary measures to implement the recommendations of the Meeting of the Parties decision and to organize appropriate public participation in mining activities. The Committee took note of the information and invited the NGOs to follow-up with the developments in implementing the decision.

In the meantime, on 12 April 2012, the secretariat received from you the action plan, initially due on 1 April 2012. The Committee will consider all the relevant information, including the now requested draft EIA law in English or Russian, at its next meetings.

If you require clarification of any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Aphrodite Smagadi  
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Amalia Kostanyan, Chairperson, Center for Regional Development/Transparency International Armenia  
Varuzhan Hochtanyan, Executive Director, "Transparency International Anti-corruption Center" Armenia  
Hrayr Savzyan, Executive Director, "Ecodar", Armenia  
Arthur Sakunts, Chair, "Helsinki Citizens' Assembly of Vanadzor", Armenia  
Sona Ayvazyan, Environmental Policy Expert, Armenia  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations Office and other international  
organizations in Geneva