



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Executive Secretary

Under-Secretary-General

Ref: ECE / ENV / 2013 / 232

11 July 2013

Excellency,

I refer to my letter of 14 August 2012, informing the President of Ukraine about the outcome of the discussion Compliance Committee of the UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) at its thirty-seventh meeting (Geneva, 26-29 June 2012), that the caution issued through decision IV/9h of the Meeting of the Parties (fourth session, Chisinau, 29 June – 1 July 2011) could not be lifted.

I also refer to the secretariat's recent letter of 2 May 2013, informing Ukraine about the discussion of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee at its fortieth meeting (Geneva, 25-28 March 2013) on implementation of decision IV/9h by Ukraine and the request that Ukraine comment on the statement made by the observer present at the Committee's fortieth meeting (Geneva, 25-28 May 2013) that: "the current changes to the new draft were not open to public comment; that there was currently no draft legislation before the parliament with respect to public participation; and that public participation, especially in the context of the State ecological *expertiza*, had significantly deteriorated, while at the same time the scope of review by the competent authorities was much more limited"; and also that Ukraine submit an advance copy of the new draft law, before its submission for parliamentary approval. The response is due by 31 July 2013.

At the request of the Committee (forty-first meeting, Geneva, 25-28 June 2013), I remind you about the request and the deadline of 31 July 2013.

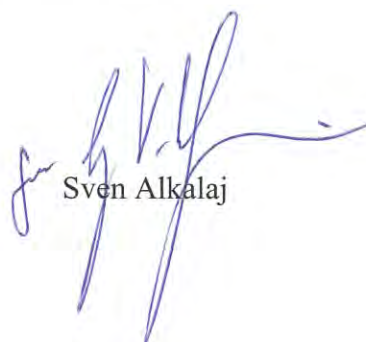
His Excellency
Mr. Leonid Kozhara
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine
Kiev



The Committee will review the situation in detail at its forty-second meeting to be held in Geneva on 24-27 September 2013. At that meeting, the Committee will also consider its recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties (fifth session, Maastricht, 30 June – 2 July 2014), including whether the caution should remain in place.

On behalf of UNECE, I would like to express the willingness of the secretariat to work with the Government of Ukraine in meeting its obligations under the Aarhus Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Sven Alkalaj

cc: Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office
and other international organizations in Geneva
Mr. Taras Tretyak, Assistant focal point for the Aarhus Convention and
the PRTR Protocol, Ministry for Ecology and Natural Resources
Ms. Yelyzaveta Aleksyeyeva, Environment-People-Law
(former Ecopravo-Lviv), communicant ACCC/C/2004 /03
Mr. Andriy Andrusyevych, Resource & Analysis Center
“Society and Environment”, observer in ACCC/C/2004 /03