

**MINISTRY
OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

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United Nations Economic Commission for
Europe

To the Chair of the Compliance Committee for
the Convention on Access to Information,
Public Participation in Decision-making and
Access to Justice in Environmental Matters,
Mr Jonas Ebbesson

Dear Mr Ebbesson

We wish to express our gratitude to the Compliance Committee of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters ('the Aarhus Convention') for the opportunity to provide information on measures being taken in Belarus in the aim of implementing Decision VI/9c [*sic*] of the Meeting of the Parties and would like to add the following to the information in our earlier letter (30 March 2018, Ref. No. 3-2-24/33-ino).

A draft resolution amending and adding to Resolution No. 687 of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of 1 June 2011 ('the draft resolution') has been prepared on the initiative of the Ministry of Architecture and Construction of the Republic of Belarus, with the active support of Ms Anna Kanopatskaya, Member of the House of Representatives of the Sixth Convocation of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus. **One aspect of this work is** the preparation of a new version of the Regulations on the Conduct of Public Discussions in the field of Architectural, Urban Development and Construction Activities, aiming to improve the procedure for conducting public discussions about architectural, spatial planning and construction activities, taking into account law enforcement practices and the requirements of the Aarhus Convention.

While the draft resolution was being produced, public discussions of the document were held and there were several working meetings involving the Aarhus Centre and NGOs including the public association, Ecohome. The draft resolution is passing through its final stages of approval: by mid-October this year, it will be forwarded to the Council

of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus for adoption.

The relevant ministries and authorities in the Republic of Belarus are currently working to improve the procedure for conducting state reviews relating to the construction of installations. A number of amendments will be made to the legislation of the Republic of Belarus, taking into consideration various proposals formulated.

In this context, the recommendations set out in Decision VI/9c [*sic*] of the Meeting of the Parties will be taken into account when amendments are made to the Environmental Protection Act and to other laws and regulations of the Republic of Belarus.

Yours sincerely,

First Deputy Minister

[signature]

I. V. Malkina