



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Executive Secretary

Under-Secretary-General

Ref: ECE / ENV / 2015 / 67

5 March 2015

Excellency,

I have the honour to write to you in connection with your country's obligations under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), to which the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is a Party. At its fifth session (Maastricht, the Netherlands, 29 June–1 July 2014), the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention expressed its deep concern that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had still not submitted its national implementation report for the third reporting cycle — the only country not to do so — and called upon the Compliance Committee under paragraph 13 (c) of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties to consider this ongoing failure to report for the third cycle.

In addition, through paragraph 8 of decision V/8 adopted at the fifth session, the Meeting of the Parties called upon the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the other two Parties that had not yet submitted their reports for the fourth cycle to submit their national implementation report to the secretariat by 1 October 2014, for subsequent consideration, inter alia, by the Compliance Committee.

I have the honour to convey the English language versions of the report of the fifth session and decision V/8 herewith for your attention.

Upon the request of the Meeting of the Parties, the Compliance Committee has agreed to address the failure of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to comply with its obligation under article 10, paragraph 2, of the Convention to provide regular reports of its implementation of the Convention. The case has been given the reference ACCC/M/2014/1, which you are invited to cite in all correspondence on this matter.

His Excellency
Mr. Nurhan Izairi
Minister of Environment and Physical Planning of
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Skopje



In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to decision I/7 on compliance, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should within three months from the date of this letter, that is by **5 June 2015**, submit its national implementation reports for the third and fourth cycles to the Compliance Committee for its consideration. If the Government will not be in a position to submit its national implementation report for the third or fourth cycle by that date, it should by that date provide a detailed and reasoned explanation to the Committee of its ongoing failure to comply with its obligation under article 10, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

On behalf of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, I would like to express the willingness of the secretariat to work with the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in meeting its obligations under the Aarhus Convention. Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat (aarhus.compliance@unece.org) should you require any further information.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CFB', is positioned above the name of the signatory.

Christian Friis Bach

Enclosures (2)