From: Dowran Yagmurow
Sent: 17 January 2019 6:07 AM
To: Ella Behlyarova Fiona Marshall
Summer Lee Kern
Subject: State Committee of Turkmenistan on Environmental Protection and Land Resources

Dear Madam Secretary

First I would like to introduce myself: I am Dowran Orazdurdyevich Yagmurow, Deputy Director of the Environmental Protection Department at the State Committee.
I am contacting you in regard to some complications with the situation around Turkmenistan's 2014 Act on Public Associations and the adoption of the Law of Turkmenistan of 4 February 2017 on the insertion of amendments and additions to the Act on Public Associations.

We are now in the process of studying the questions in HE Mrs Olga Algaerova's letter of 5 September 2018 to HE Mr Raşit Meredov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, asking for clarification of the provisions of the amendments and additions made to Turkmenistan's Act on Public Associations. On this matter, the Turkmenistan State Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources has recently sent a request to the Ministry of Justice to assist us in providing responses to the questions asked in the letter about the above-mentioned Law. In tackling this issue, we want to ensure that discussion of the provisions of the Act on Public Associations that do not comply with the provisions of the Aarhus Convention is framed at inter-ministry level. Naturally, we need a certain amount of time for discussion and resolution of this matter. At present we cannot give you a precise time frame, but we will do our utmost not to delay this issue.

In addition, we are currently in the process of appointing a new State Committee contact person for the Aarhus Convention, since Batyr Ballyev recently left us after successfully applying for a post at one of the UNDP's projects in Turkmenistan.

Deputy Director of the Environmental Protection Department

Dowran YAGMUROW

State Committee of Turkmenistan on Environmental Protection and Land Resources