



DET KONGELIGE  
HELSE- OG OMSORGSDEPARTEMENT

*The Royal Ministry of Health and Care Services*

See enclosed address list

Your ref

Our ref  
201002107-/MRW

Date  
12.10.2010

**Nomination for the Compliance Committee**

Dear Sir/Madame,

The Meeting of the Parties of the WHO/UNECE Protocol on Water and Health 23-25 November 2010 are supposed to elect new members to the Compliance Committee of the Protocol. We are pleased to inform you that we would like to support the candidature of Mr. Veit Koester.

Mr. Koester is an international lawyer, and has among others chaired the Compliance Committes of the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters *and* the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. We are sure that Mr. Koester would be an asset to the work of the Committee, with his professional background and experience. For more information, please see the attached Curriculum Vitae of Mr. Koester (short and long version).

Yours sincerely,

Kjetil Tveitan  
Assistant Director General

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October 2010

### **Veit Koester – brief CV**

Veit Koester is master of Law and Administration; Barrister; External professor at Roskilde University Centre in Denmark and visiting professor at United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies, Japan. He is also a guest lecturer in international environmental law at Copenhagen University, Faculty of Law, Denmark.

He serves as a consultant to various projects. He is (since 2003) chairperson of the Compliance Committee of the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters; and was until 1 January 2009 also chairperson of the Compliance Committee of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (he chaired the Working Group of the Parties which negotiated the Protocol). He is a member of the IUCN Commission of Environmental Law, of the European Council of Environmental Law as well as of the International Council of Environmental Law.

Veit Koester has served as elected chairperson or vice-chairperson at numerous COPs and other intergovernmental negotiating conferences as well as having represented the EU Presidency at such conferences. He has published numerous articles in Danish and English on Danish, EC and international environmental law (especially on biodiversity-related MEAs and the Aarhus Convention).

Veit Koester has received i.a. UNEP – the Global 500 Award (1996), the Elisabeth Haub Award (ICEL and Pace University) for “Environmental Diplomacy for the year 2000”, the CITES Golden Pin (2002) and has been designated as a “Wetland of International Importance Person in 2002 (“Person No. 3”). He has also received the Environmental Law Prize of the Danish Society for Environmental Law (2010).

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