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May 6, 2010

Mr. Jeremy Wates  
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**Comments to the draft findings and recommendations of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee regarding communication ACCC/C/2009/36.**

In the first place, I want to recognize in my name and that of my colleagues the excellent work and professionalism of the members of the Committee who have dealt with this communication. We are filled with gratitude and admiration that you decide to admit it considering only the facts denounced, without taking into account the tiny entity of the association that presented it.

In the second place, I acknowledge the commitment and belief in the Convention transmitted by each and every one of the members of the Committee; no doubt encourage us to continue working for the environment.

We fully agree with the conclusions reached by the Committee after a detailed study of the cases reported in the communication.

We are convinced that when Spain signed the Aarhus Convention, it was with the firm resolution to fulfill it, so we hope that the Spanish Government considers the Committee's recommendations as simple tips for implementing the Convention while remaining true to its founding spirit because otherwise would make no sense to ratify a Convention if it is not clear intention to comply.

Finally, we thank the Committee that the recommendations made by the Spanish state reveals that the spirit of Aarhus is still alive, and that the course taken years ago, is bearing fruit, even in "small trees." That Kofi Annan was not wrong when he said: "The Aarhus Convention represents the most ambitious venture in the area of environmental democracy taken under the auspices of the United Nations."

With kindest regards,

Almendralejo, May 6, 2010

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light yellow background. The signature consists of a stylized 'F' followed by 'elix' and 'Lorenzo' written below it.

Félix Lorenzo Donoso  
Presidente de la Plataforma Contra la Contaminación de Almendralejo