



NATIONS UNIES

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE
POUR L'EUROPE

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ

ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ
КОМИССИЯ

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

Environment, Housing and Land Management Division
Bureau 429
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Phone: +41-22-917 3294
Fax: +41-22-917 0634
E-mail: public.participation@unece.org
Website: www.unece.org/env/pp

8 April 2010

Ms. Lieselotte FELDMANN
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Environment and Water Management
General Environmental Policy Dept./EU affairs environment
Stubenbastei 5
A-1010 VIENNA, Austria
Fax: +43 151 522 73 01

Dear Ms. Feldmann,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Austria with provisions of the Convention in connection with access to justice in environmental matters in general (Ref. ACCC/C/2010/48)

On 13 March 2010, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by Austria with provisions of the Convention in connection with access to justice in environmental matters in general. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

Please find enclosed a copy of the communication, which is being forwarded to you at the request of the Committee in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to decision I/7.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2010/48, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter.

The Compliance Committee, having considered the admissibility of the communication at its twenty-seventh meeting (16-19 March 2010), has on a preliminary basis determined it to be admissible in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

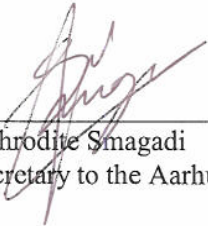
Having regard to paragraph 23 of the annex to decision I/7, you are kindly invited to submit to the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest within five months of the date of this letter, any written explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the mean time.

Additionally, a number of questions have been sent to the communicant in a letter, a copy of which you will receive shortly. Should you wish to address any of these questions, you are welcome to do so.

The main documentation relating to the processing of the communication will be accessible at the following link: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/compliance/Compliance%20Committee/48TableAustria.htm>.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Aphrodite Smagadi
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

CC.

Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations Office and Specialized Institutions in Geneva
Mr. Markus Piringer, OEKOBUERO, Austria
Mr. Thomas Alge, OEKOBUERO, Austria

Encs. Communication ACCC/C/2010/48
 Preliminary determination on admissibility
 Datasheet on the communication