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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

Environment, Housing
Bureau 332
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Phone: +41-22-917 2384
Fax: +41-22-917 0634
E-mail: public.participation@unece.org
Website: www.unece.org/env/pp

10 November 2011

Mr. Thomas Piringer, Managing Director
Mr. Thomas Alge, Head Environmental Law
OEKOBUEO - Coordination office of Austrian Environmental Organisations
Volksgartenstrasse 1
A-1010 Vienna
Austria

Dear Mr. Piringer,
Dear Mr. Alge,

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)

Please find enclosed the revised draft findings of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee regarding communication ACCC/C/2010/48 (Austria).

At its thirty-fourth meeting (Geneva, 20-23 September 2011), the Committee proceeded to finalize its draft findings in closed session, taking into account the comments received from the Party concerned and the communicant on 7 and 16 September 2011 respectively. It noted that the comments received by both parties shed light on several aspects of the facts, which had been insufficiently represented by the communicant in its communication and subsequently in its written and oral submissions, and were incorrectly reflected in the Committee's draft findings.

Due to the substantive changes introduced in the text of its findings, the Committee requested the secretariat to send the new draft findings to the Party concerned and the communicant for possible comment. In deciding to take the unprecedented step of circulating a new set of draft findings, the Committee stressed that that was an extraordinary event in light of the particular circumstances.

The draft findings are now forwarded at the request of the Committee for your consideration and possible comments pursuant to paragraph 34 of the annex to decision I/7. The Committee intends to finalize and adopt the findings at its thirty-fifth meeting (Geneva, 13-16 December 2011). Hence, we would be grateful if you would provide any comments by **10 December 2011**. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account any comments you submit on the draft by the set deadline.

Should you have any questions with regard to the procedure, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Acting Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

cc: Ms. Lieselotte Feldmann, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Environment and Water Management, Austria
Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations Office and specialized institutions in Geneva

Enc: Revised draft findings on communication ACCC/C/2010/48