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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

Environment
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

19 August 2011

Ms. Lieselotte Feldmann
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, Environment
and Water Management
General Environmental Policy Dept./EU affairs environment
Stubenbastei 5
1010 Vienna, Austria

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 (ACCC/C/2010/48)

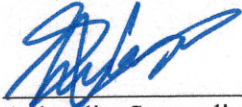
Please find enclosed the draft findings of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee regarding communication ACCC/C/2010/48 (Austria). At its thirty-third meeting (Chisinau, 27-28 June 2011), the Committee completed its draft findings in closed session, with the exception of a few minor points, which were then finalized by using the electronic decision-making procedure.

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-fourth meeting (Geneva, 20-23 September 2011). Hence, we would be grateful if you would provide any comments by **16 September 2011**. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account any comments you submit on the draft by the set deadline.

The text has been drafted on the assumption that your Government agrees with the Committee making recommendations in accordance with paragraphs 36 (b) and 37 (b) of the annex to decision I/7. If this is not the case, please indicate this in your reply. The Committee considers that the making of recommendations directly to the Party concerned during the intersessional period, coupled with timely action by the Party to implement such recommendations, would enable the matters to be resolved in the most expeditious way.

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

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, Managing director, OEKOBUEURO, Austria
Mr. Thomas Alge, Head Environmental Law, OEKOBUEURO, Austria

Enc: Draft Findings on communication ACCC/C/2010/48