



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government



Ms. Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Compliance Committee
Aarhus Convention Secretariat
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Palais des Nations
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning
compliance by**

Ireland regarding the cost of access to justice (ACCC/C/2014/113)

Dear Fiona,

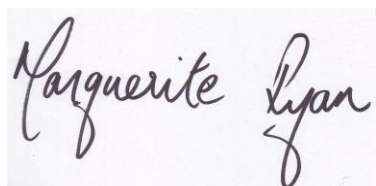
I am writing to enquire whether it would be possible to grant a short extension to the deadline of September 15th for Ireland to provide a formal response to the communication cited above ACCC/C/2014/113.

While we certainly recognise that 5 months are afforded for a Party to respond from the date of communication of a request, and that this is not an insignificant amount of time, it is however, the first case of this nature for Ireland. As such, setting up appropriate systems for case management has been more time consuming than anticipated.

In a very short period of time, Ireland has gone from having no ACCC communications, to having four separate cases, all of which have unique issues to be considered. In addition, preparation of a reply to this case has unfortunately coincided with the summer holiday period and the absence on leave of key persons.

An extension of six weeks is hereby requested and would be most helpful in allowing us to consider all elements of this particular communication more thoroughly to provide worthy submissions to the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Marguerite Ryan" in a cursive script. The first name "Marguerite" is written in a larger, more prominent hand, and "Ryan" is written in a smaller, more compact hand to its right.

Marguerite Ryan
National Focal Point Aarhus
Assistant Principal Officer
Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government