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ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

Tel: +41 (0)22 917 4226 (direct)
+41 (0)22 917 1234 (Palais des Nations)
E-mail: aarhus.compliance@unece.org

Palais des Nations, Room 429-4
CH-1211 GENEVA 10

Ref: ACCC/C/2014/113

18 November 2016

Ms. Aoife Joyce
Environment Policy and Awareness, Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment
Ireland

Mr. Kieran Fitzpatrick
Co. Galway
Ireland

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick, dear Ms. Joyce,

**Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning
compliance by Ireland in connection with the cost of access to justice (ACCC/C/2014/113)**

At its fifty-fourth meeting (Geneva, 27-30 September 2016), the Committee noted that a request had been made by the courts of the Party concerned to the Court of Justice of the European Union for a preliminary ruling on questions which seemed closely related to those raised in the communication. The Committee agreed to seek the views of the Party concerned and the communicant as to whether, in the light of that request, they considered that the Committee's deliberations should be postponed pending the delivery of the preliminary ruling. The Committee agreed that it would decide how to proceed with respect to the above communication in the light of the parties' views.

In keeping with the above, I would be grateful to receive your views regarding whether you consider that the Committee's deliberations on the above communication should be postponed pending the delivery of the CJEU's preliminary ruling, by **Friday, 2 December 2016**. Please send your reply to aarhus.compliance@unece.org, copying the other party.

The Committee will consider the replies received by the above deadline when deciding how to proceed with the communication at its upcoming fifty-fifth meeting (Geneva, 6-9 December 2016).

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F Marshall'.

Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of the Republic of Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Colm McKenna, Irish Times, observer
Attracta Ui Bhroin, Environmental Pillar, observer