



LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA
THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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**CONCERNING THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECISIONS CONCERNING LITHUANIA ADOPTED BY THE THIRD MEETING OF
THE PARTIES TO THE AARHUS CONVENTION**

Dear Mr. Jeremy Wates,

In response to your letter of 30 October, 2009, we would like to inform you that information on the aim and content of the amendments of the legal acts envisaged in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Decisions Concerning Lithuania Adopted by the Third Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (approved on 26 August 2009 by Resolution No. 979 (*Valstybės žinios* (Official Gazette) No. 108-4542, 2009)), is provided in the 3rd column "Measure" of the table. The draft amendments of the legal acts will be worked out in accordance with the timetable as provided in the 5th column „Time limits for implementation" of the table. The amendments of the legal acts will be adopted by different institutions – Ministries, Government and the Parliament. Therefore the precise time of the implementation of each measure depends on the agendas of those institutions.

The measures already implemented:

1. Measure No 4 – Order No D1-693 On Amendment of the Order No 80 of the Minister of Environment of 27 February 2002 On the Rules on Issuance, Updating and Abolition of the Permits for Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control, has been adopted on 29 December 2008 by the Minister of Environment. Deleted word „motivated“ to provide for an opportunity to submit various comments for members of the public. Extended the deadline from 14 days to 21 days to public suggestions and comments.

2. Measure No 13 – Order No IV-506 On Amendment of the Order No IV-150 of the Minister of Culture of 15 April 2005 On Description of the Criteria for the Evaluation and Selection of Immovable Cultural Properties, has been adopted on 22 September 2009 by the Minister of Culture. Added that the cultural heritage objects and areas that do not meet the age qualification be assessed if they are strong local communities to historical consciousness and identity.

The measures to be implemented soon:

1. Measure No 2 – the Draft Amendment of the Resolution No 1175 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 22 October 1999 on the Approval of the Procedure for Public Access to Environmental Information in the Republic of Lithuania is planned to be passed to the Government by the end of the year. The revised concept of „public authority“ adding a provision that natural or legal persons performing public administrative functions under national law, including specific duties, activities or services in relation to the environment, in accordance with the Aarhus Convention. Established the support to public seeking information about environment and their rights.

2. Measure No 3 – Draft Law Amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Environmental Protection is under consideration in the Parliament and is planned to be adopted in the 1st quarter, 2010. Introduced the concept of „the public concerned“ in accordance with the Aarhus Convention. Transferred provisions of Article 9, paragraph 1 of the Aarhus Convention.

3. Measure No 7 – Draft Law Amending the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on the Assessment of the Environmental Impact of Economic Activities is under the consideration with the public authorities. Deleted word „motivated“ to provide for an opportunity to submit various comments for members of the public, specified the concept of „the public concerned“, implemented the public right of access to justice for the adoption of environmental matters.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Best regards,
Chancellor of the Ministry

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several sweeping, interconnected loops and curves, extending from the left side of the page towards the right.

Robertas Klovas