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Ref: Decision V/91

21 August 2015

Mr. Batyr Ballyev
Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan
Ashgabad
Turkmenistan

Dear Mr Ballyev,

**Re: Decision V/91 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention
concerning compliance by Turkmenistan**

I write to inform you that at its forty ninth meeting (Geneva, 30 June – 3 July 2015), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee considered the draft statement submitted by the Government of Turkmenistan on 27 June 2015. In its report of its forty-ninth meeting, the Committee recorded:

“Regarding decision V/91 (Turkmenistan), the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Party concerned had on 27 June 2015 submitted a draft of the statement envisaged to be provided by the Party concerned through paragraph 6 of decision V/91 and had asked the Committee for its feedback as to whether the proposed statement would indeed meet the requirements of that paragraph.

The Committee welcomed the draft statement from the Party concerned and agreed that, if properly submitted in the form of an official statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, it would indeed meet the requirements of paragraph 6 of the decision. However, the Committee requested the secretariat to invite the communicant of communication ACCC/C/2004/5 to provide possible substantive comments it may have on the draft statement within two weeks. If the communicant had no comments on the draft proposal or was satisfied with the draft statement, the secretariat should thereafter inform the Party concerned that it may wish to proceed with submitting an official statement from the Minister of Foreign Affairs. If the communicant provided comments on the draft statement, the Committee would take these into account before finally deciding, using its electronic decision-making procedure, whether the draft statement met the requirements of paragraph 6 of decision V/91.

The Committee also underlined that the official statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs should be made public throughout the territory of the Party concerned as it would

be important to inform both members of the public and officials of the Party concerned that the Law on Nature Protection and the Act on Public Associations were to be applied in practice in accordance with the statement.

The Committee also recalled that the Party concerned is expected by 30 November 2015 to submit its report on the meetings it has organized to fulfil the requirements of paragraph 7 of the decision. The Committee agreed to review the official statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs regarding paragraph 6 and the Party's report regarding paragraph 7 at its fifty-first meeting (15-18 December 2015)."

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

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

Cc: Permanent Mission of Turkmenistan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Alexei Andreev, BIOTICA Ecological Society, communicant of communication ACCC/C/2004/5
Yolbars Kepbanov, Legal Advisor, Aarhus Center of Turkmenistan