

Appendix X

Undertaking of the Ministry of Environment and Water concerning relations with environmental and nature conservation civil society organisations

I. Forums with the participation of the Minister (or, in his absence, the political undersecretary of state) and the assistant undersecretaries of state

Description of the annual, six-monthly or priority duties and objectives of green organisations and of the Ministry:

- (a) the National Convention of environmental and nature conservation civil society organisations (annual).
Its objective is to make known the annual objectives of the green movement guided by green organisations and groups, and to meet newly elected civil delegates authorised to give opinions and make proposals in the environmental decision-making process on behalf of the green organisations,
- (b) consultation forum (biannually) with the elected civil delegates authorised to give opinions and make proposals in the environmental decision-making process on behalf of the green organisations.
Its objective is to present the professional plans of the KvVM for the forthcoming six-month period, and the measures and legislative measures during the previous six months.

II. Meetings organised primarily by the various technical fields, with the participation, if appropriate, of the Minister or, in his absence, of the political undersecretary of state

1. Forums for the discussion of strategic objectives and achievements

- (a) report on the efficiency and the achievements of the utilisation of the “Green Resources” fund appropriated for the support of green organisations during the previous year; proposals for the professional content and technical administration of the fund appropriated for the support of green organisations for the coming year,
- (b) establishment of the Educational Advisory Committee with the involvement of elected civil delegates authorised to give opinions and make proposals in the environmental decision-making process on behalf of the green organisations. The purpose of the Committee is to determine the annual priorities of the environmental education strategy and the coordination of the implementation of the tasks identified by the Committee.
- (c) discussion of the subjects of the annual opinion poll conducted by the KvVM and presentation of the findings of the survey.

2. Thematic consultation forums

- (a) with the participation of all delegates elected by the National Convention, concerning the work of the Committee,
- (b) with the participation of nature conservation organisations, on the state of conservation and on joint projects (biannually),
- (c) consultation with the managers and experts of the organisations affected on the materials complete on the conceptual level of various technical subjects previously selected from the annual/biannual legislation plan,
- (d) **setting up a working group for the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in Hungary and the assessment of legal and practical measures to date,**
- (d) other thematic meetings convened after consultation (organisation of campaigns).

III. Relations with local civil society organisations with a view to the coordination of regional and local environmental, conservation and water management issues, with the participation of the leaders of regional agencies

Regional agencies organise meetings as appropriate, but at least every six months responding to current projects and problems, where the organisations operating in the region can present their activities, and exchange opinions on current projects and issues.

IV. Commenting on draft legislation

The KvVM forwards its draft legislation to the movement for comments, which the Ministry finalises taking the comments of the movement into account as far as possible. The movement may select the provisions on which it is able to make substantive proposals and high-standard contributions as regards content prior to the finalisation of the concept by specifying them in an official letter sent to the Ministry on behalf of the movement. Based on the proposals received in due time, the KvVM develops the concept to be adopted and finalised by the meeting of ministers on the basis of the Ministry's professional priorities and options, taking into account the opinions and proposals received. At the meeting, the delegate of the Independent Public Relations Department represents the opinion of the civil society. The Independent Public Relations Department forwards the summary based on the concept adopted to the movement.

V. Exchange of information

Naturally, additional consultations may be held besides the meetings described in the proposal if required.

With respect to the forums referred to above (the National Convention and the Consultation Forum), the head of the KvVM's Public Relations Department maintains the communication, coordinating events organised by the Ministry and collecting subjects proposed. In order to coordinate the work, it is important that the Ministry is notified of any major professional projects or events of the green organisations. The KvVM also informs green organisations of its major professional events. On a reciprocal basis, the Ministry also expects to receive similar information on the campaigns and events organised by green organisations and requests that the KvVM is included on the civil society media list.

VI. Other issues

1. The KvVM admits the civil society delegates authorised by the National Convention or the Consultation Forum to give opinions and make proposals in the environmental decision-making process on behalf of the green organisations into the various bodies/committees operating with the involvement of green organisations, and ensures their participation and involvement.
2. If civil society delegates authorised to act on behalf of the green organisations are invited by the KvVM, the Ministry will use the appointment procedures and channels of the National Convention and the Consultation Forum. The green organisations undertake to appoint their representative without delay if such an invitation is received from the Ministry.