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Palais des Nations, Room 429-4
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Ref: ACCC/C/2013/90

29 June 2015

Mr. Ahmed AZAM
Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)
London
United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Azam,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by the United Kingdom with the provisions of the Convention in connection with forest management (ACCC/C/2014/115)

On 16 July 2014, the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) received the above communication addressed to the Compliance Committee of the Convention. The communication concerns compliance by the United Kingdom with articles 4, 6, and 9 of the Convention in connection with the management of the Newborough Forest. The communication was submitted in accordance with the provisions of chapter VI of the annex to decision I/7 of the Meeting of the Parties.

After deferring its preliminary determination of admissibility in order to request the communicant to clarify and further substantiate his allegations, the Committee determined the communication to be admissible on a preliminary basis at its forty-seventh meeting (16-19 December 2014) in accordance with paragraph 20 of the annex to decision I/7. A copy of the preliminary determination on admissibility is attached. Please note, however, that the Committee has not reached any conclusions with respect to the compliance issues referred to in the communication.

The communication has been registered under the symbol ACCC/C/2014/115, which you are invited to cite in future correspondence on the matter. The communication and all documentation submitted by the communicant to date are available on the Committee's web site at: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/pubcom.html>.

Having regard to paragraph 23 of the annex to decision I/7, you are kindly invited to submit to the Committee, as soon as possible but at the latest within five months of the date of this letter (i.e. by **29 November 2015**), any written explanations or statements clarifying the matter referred to in the communication and describing any response that may have been made in the meantime.

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 the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Ian Miller (communicant of communication ACCC/C/2014/115)

Enc: Preliminary determination of admissibility