

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Executive Secretary

Under-Secretary-General

ECE/ ENV / 26 /2011/ L

14 January 2011

Excellency,

I refer to my letter to you of 1 November 2010 (enclosed for your convenience) and subsequent correspondence between the UNECE secretariat and the Ministry of Nature Protection regarding decision III/6e (ECE/MP.PP/2008/2/Add.13) on compliance by Turkmenistan with its obligations under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its third session held from 11 to 13 June 2008 in Riga.

In paragraph 5 of decision III/6e (also enclosed in English and Russian), the Meeting of the Parties decided to issue a caution to the Government of Turkmenistan, which became effective on 1 May 2009 in light of the findings established by the Compliance Committee.

At its thirtieth meeting (14-17 December 2010), the Committee noted that despite the reminder sent through the UNECE secretariat, Turkmenistan had still failed to submit the draft revised Act on Public Associations, that was due to be presented at the request of the Committee by 1 November 2010. The Committee requested Turkmenistan to submit this document no later than 14 February 2011 in order that the Committee may review it prior to its thirty-first meeting (22-25 February 2011).

His Excellency Mr. Rashid Meredov Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Ashgabat



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You should also be informed that at its thirty-first meeting the Committee will work on finalization of its report to the Meeting of the Parties regarding whether the Government of Turkmenistan has satisfactorily fulfilled the conditions contained in paragraph 5 of decision III/6e. The Meeting of the Parties will consider the Committee's report at its fourth session (Chisinau, 29 June–1 July 2011).

UNECE and the Committee welcome the Government of Turkmenistan's invitation to visit the country and stand ready to assist your country with the Convention's implementation.

Officers of the UNECE secretariat together with Mr. Veit Koester, the Chair of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, and Mr. Vadim Nee and Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, the members of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, are available to visit Turkmenistan from 19 to 21 April 2011 and meet with the officials and experts from your country. The dates of the mission were determined by the availability of the officers and experts involved and were also discussed earlier with the staff of the Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan. The provisional programme of this mission together with the list of the envisaged participants is enclosed.

I would kindly invite your officials to correspond directly with Ms. Ella Behlyarova, the secretary to the Aarhus Convention, to finalize arrangements for the visit.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

d. Kubiš

cc: His Excellency Mr. Babageldi Annabayramov, Minister of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan