From:	Aarhus Punto Focal
To:	Aarhus Punto Focal; aarhus compliance
Cc:	Gomez Garcia-Ochoa, Maria Jose; Fiona Marshall
Subject:	RE: Following up with decision IV/9f of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention
Date:	20/11/2013 09:41
For Follow Up:	Urgent Priority.
Attachments:	RESPUESTA FEMP.pdf

Dear Ms. Marshall, dear colleagues,

Regarding the action taken by Spain to ensure that urban planning and building fees are the same as for information related to environment, in our last report we informed that *"a letter has been sent to the Secretary General of the FEMP stressing the importance of a reasonable fee scheme in matters relating to urban planning and building, along with a petition to circulate this information among the municipalities"*

Please find now enclosed the response from the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP) to our letter. In their response, the Secretary General of the FEMP inform us about the resolution of the FEMP's Environment Comission to circulate this information through their website and other publications.

With best regards,

MARÍA JOSÉ GÓMEZ GARCÍA-OCHOA
National Focal Point of the Aarhus Convention
Ministry of the Agriculture, Food and Environment
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De: Aarhus Punto Focal
Enviado el: lunes, 16 de septiembre de 2013 16:54
Para: aarhus compliance
CC: Gomez Garcia-Ochoa, Maria Jose; Fiona Marshall
Asunto: RE: Following up with decision IV/9f of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention

Dear Ms. Smagadi, dear colleagues,

Please find enclosed two documents in response to your invitation to provide information with respect to recommendations on access to information and public participation.

Regarding access to justice, we are sorry to inform that our study is not finished yet, even in it's preliminary version. We estimate that it will be finished in some three or four weeks. Our purpose is to upload it to the Ministry's webpage no later than 15 October, for the general public to submit further comments, observations and suggestions. We'll keep you informed of this upload and will send the complete text and link.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further clarification on our response.

With best regards,

MARÍA JOSÉ GÓMEZ GARCÍA-OCHOA
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De: Aphrodite Smagadi [Aphrodite.Smagadi@unece.org] En nombre de aarhus compliance [aarhus.compliance@unece.org]
Enviado el: viernes, 30 de agosto de 2013 13:44
Para: Aarhus Punto Focal
CC: Gomez Garcia-Ochoa, Maria Jose; Fiona Marshall
Asunto: Following up with decision IV/9f of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention

Dear Ms. Gomez,

You may recall that through decision IV/9f, the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention invited Spain to carry out a study with regard to injunctive relief in environmental cases, award of legal aid to environmental NGOs, and the rule of dual representation. The decision also also invited Spain to report on the progress with respect to: (a) the fees by public authorities for provision of information relating to urban planning and building to ensure that such fees are the same as for information relating to the environment; and (b) the time frames applicable in public participation according to the Spanish laws.

I would like to thank you for the update you provided to the Committee on 12 June 2013, with regard to the studies on access to justice currently underway.

According to the decision, Spain is expected to report on the progress achieved by December 2013.

However, the Committee at its next meeting (24-27 September 2013) will already consider its recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session. For this reason, we would appreciate if you could share with the Committee, through the secretariat, any information you might have with respect to:

a) Access to information: the fees by public authorities for provision of information relating to urban planning and building to ensure that such fees are the same as for information relating to the environment;

b) Public participation: the time frames applicable in public participation according to the Spanish laws

c) Access to justice (if possible to share with the Committee the preliminary draft/outcomes of the ongoing study, in Spanish, if not available in English yet)

Having considered the information, the Committee will share with you its draft recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties. You will then have the opportunity to comment to these recommendations along with your final report expected in December 2013. The Committee will adopt its recommendations in December 2013.

With kindest regards,

Aphrodite Smagadi
Aarhus Convention secretariat