



*Ministero dell'Ambiente
e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare*

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLE POLITICHE PER L'INNOVAZIONE,
IL PERSONALE E LA PARTECIPAZIONE

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE

Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
United Nations
Economic Commission for Europe

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Re: Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)
Compliance Procedure ACCC/C/2015/130.

Dear Madam,

We are writing regarding the above-mentioned procedure, concerning the alleged non-compliance of Italy with regards to the Aarhus Convention principles with regards to the costs of access to justice in environmental matters in our procedural system, presented by WWF Italy.

We would like to sincerely apologise for not having replied in due course to Your request of October 7th for a pronouncement about a participatory hearing dedicated to the Case. The delay is due to internal organisation issues as a consequence of the internal reorganisation process underway within our Ministry, taking also in due account the current sanitary emergency.

With the present act, we adhere to the communication from WWF Italy about the non-necessity of a hearing. We believe that all the aspects related to the Case in the discussion were already exhaustively considered and cross-examined in the documentation produced by the Parties, already included in Acts of the Committee to which we entirely refer in defence of the position of this Administration.

Being the legislative and factual framework unchanged since the Commission's examination, provided the analogy between that very case and the current one, we believe that the deductions presented by Italy are still valid also for the conclusion of the latter.

Taking in due account the importance and sensitivity of the topic under discussion, and considering the specific nature of the issue, we have been proposed to establish a technical working group also

involving officials from the Ministry of Justice, with the purpose to consider and evaluate proposing regulatory action or intervention in this field.

In conclusion, for the reasons already represented in the documentation in possession of this Honourable Committee and in light of the proposal to establish an inter-ministerial working group, we would ask to postpone the hearing scheduled for Tuesday, 24 November 2020.

Respectfully

Dr.ssa Maria Carmela Giarratano