Dear Mr. Khachatryan,

Thank you for your participation by audio conference during the open session on decision V/9a concerning Armenia at the Committee's fifty-sixth meeting (28 February - 3 March 2017).

As a follow-up to the discussion at the Committee’s fifty-sixth meeting, the Committee would be grateful if you could provide the following information as referred to during the session:

1. You indicated that you were preparing a draft amendment to the EIA law, in particular affecting article 14 thereof. Please provide the text of any relevant proposed amendment, as well as an English translation thereof as soon as possible.

2. You informed the Committee that you intended to discuss the time-limits set out in the EIA law with civil society. Please inform the Committee of any developments in that regard as soon as possible. If it may be of assistance, in advance of your discussions with civil society, you are most welcome to contact the secretariat to discuss the Committee's past findings on appropriate time-frames for public participation.

3. You indicated that the requirement in article 16.3 (2) of the NGO law and article 216.6(1) of the Administrative Procedure Code, which states that environmental organizations need to have participated in the previous administrative procedure before being able to challenge the decision before a court, would undergo further domestic discussion. Please inform the Committee of the outcome of these discussions as soon as possible.

4. You indicated that you had obtained further information on the trainings conducted last year. Please provide the Committee with information on these trainings, in particular attendance, lecturers, feedback from participants, media reports, articles in the specialized media provoked by the trainings, as soon as possible.

The Committee would be grateful to receive the above information as soon as possible, and at the latest by 1 April 2017, in order that it may be taken into account in the finalization of the Committee's report to the Meeting of the Parties on decision V/9a.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you wish to discuss any aspect of the above.

Kind regards,

Fiona

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