Norway

We welcome the reports from the Compliance Committee.

The increased number of communications is both positive and a source of concern.

It is positive in the sense that it could be taken as a sign of active public engagement for the environment and that the Convention and the Compliance mechanism are becoming increasingly known and recognised as a useful tool for raising concerns about the implementation and application of the Convention by the Parties.

It is a source of concern because it may also be taken as a sign that implementation and application of the Convention continues to raise challenges and leave room for improvements by the Parties.

The increasing number of communications makes it all the more important that the Compliance Committee and also the communicants and the parties continue to do their utmost to ensure that the mechanism functions as efficiently as possible.

We therefore welcome the possibility for communication via electronic tools as a useful supplement.

We therefore also welcome the newly adopted procedure for new communications, which we believe will contribute positively to further enhance the efficient functioning of the Compliance mechanism.