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Ref: ENV/2013/20

Palais des Nations, Room 334 CH-1211 GENEVA 10

19 February 2013

Excellency,

Re: Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee concerning compliance by Kazakhstan with provisions of the Convention in connection with public participation in the conduct of state environmental review (expertize) for the South West Roads Project (Ref. ACCC/C/2011/59)

Please find enclosed the draft findings of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee regarding communication ACCC/C/2011/59 (Kazakhstan). At its thirty-ninth meeting (Geneva, 11-14 December 2012), the Committee completed its draft findings in closed session, with the exception of a few minor points, which were then finalized by using the electronic decisionmaking procedure.

The draft findings are now forwarded at the request of the Committee for your consideration (see enclosed) and possible comments pursuant to paragraph 34 of the annex to decision I/7. The Committee intends to finalize and adopt the findings at its fortieth meeting (Geneva, 25-28 March 2013). Hence, we would be grateful if you would provide any comments by 19 March 2013. In finalizing the findings, the Committee will take into account any comments you submit on the draft by the set deadline.

The text has been drafted on the assumption that your Government agrees with the Committee making recommendations in accordance with paragraphs 36 (b) and 37 (b) of the annex to decision I/7. If this is not the case, please indicate this in your reply. The Committee considers that the making of recommendations directly to the Party concerned during the intersessional period, coupled with timely action by the Party to implement such recommendations, would enable the matters to be resolved in the most expeditious way.

His Excellency Mr. Nurlan Kapparov Minister of Environment Protection Ministry of Environmental Protection Orynbor Street, House 8, entrance 14 "Ministries House" Astana, 010000 Kazakhstan

Should you have any questions with regard to the procedure, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat.

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

Yours sincerely,

Marco Keiner Director

Environment Division

cc: Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

Ruslan Bultrikov, Vice-Minister of Environment Protection Anatolii Dernovoj, Ministry of Environment Protection Diana Mukanova, Ministry of Environment Protection Maral Nugumanova, Ministry of Environment Protection

Bauyrzhan Momynjanaly Issaliyev, National Analysis and Information Resource,

Kazakhstan

Enclosure: draft findings on communication ACCC/C/2011/59