

EB 7L



NATIONS UNIES

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ

UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE  
POUR L'EUROPE

ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ  
КОМИССИЯ

ECONOMIC COMMISSION  
FOR EUROPE

Tel: +41 (0)22 917 3294 (direct)  
+41 (0)22 917 1234 (Palais des Nations)  
Fax: +41 (0)22 917 0123  
E-mail: aarhus.compliance@unece.org

Palais des Nations, Room 348  
CH-1211 GENEVA 10

Ref: ENV/2013/136

11 July 2013

Dear Sir,

**Decision IV/9b of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention)**

I refer to my letter of 2 May 2013, informing you about the discussion of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee at its fortieth meeting (Geneva, 25-28 March 2013) on the implementation of decision IV/9b of the Meeting of the Parties on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention.

At the request of the Committee (forty-first meeting, Geneva, 25-28 June 2013), I am now writing to remind you of the request in the above letter, that Belarus is expected to provide concrete information about the exact dates of the different stages of the legislative process to reach the objectives set in the action plan, originally submitted on 30 March 2012. You are also expected:

- (i) To report on how Belarus is addressing the recommendations on communication **ACCC/C/2009/44** (ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2011/6/Add.1, para. 90, in particular subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c)), which referred to the recommendations in communication **ACCC/C/2009/37** (see ECE/MP.PP//2011/11/Add.2), and which had been made with the agreement of the Party concerned; and
- (ii) To provide more specific information in response to the Committee Chair's letter of 5 October 2012 concerning the alleged arrest and detentions of environmental activists.

Mr. Vitaly Kulik  
First Deputy Minister of Natural Resources  
and Environmental Protection  
of the Republic of Belarus  
Minsk

Please provide your response by **31 July 2013**. The Committee will review the situation in detail at its forty-second meeting (Geneva, 24-27 September 2013). Depending on the information received by the deadline of 31 July 2013, the Committee will consider whether the matter should be discussed with representatives of the Party concerned and interested observers (in person or by tele- videoconference) on **26 or 27 September 2013**. Kindly **confirm your availability** on these dates, so that the secretariat can then proceed with the necessary administrative arrangements. At that meeting, the Committee will also consider its recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session with regard to implementation of decision IV/9b as well as to the progress with respect to the recommendations in communication ACCC/C/2009/44.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,



Marco Keiner  
Director

Environment Division  
United Nations Economic Commissions for Europe

cc: Mr. Ivan Narkevitch, Head of the Department of International Conventions and Agreements RUE "Bel SRC "Ecology", Belarus  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva  
Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, European ECO Forum, on behalf of the communicant ACCC/C/2009/37 and communicant ACCC/C/2009/44  
Mr. Thomas Alge, communicant ACCC/C/2009/44