



NATIONS UNIES

COMMISSION ÉCONOMIQUE
POUR L'EUROPE

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ

ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ
КОМИССИЯ

UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE

Tel: +41 (0)22 917 4226 (direct)
+41 (0)22 917 1234 (Palais des Nations)
E-mail: aarhus.compliance@unece.org

Palais des Nations, Room 429-2
CH-1211 GENEVA 10

Ref: Decision IV/9b of the Meeting of the Parties

28 February 2014

Mr. Thomas Alge,
European ECO Forum Legal Focal Point
Head Environmental Law
OEKOBUERO - Coordination office of Austrian Environmental Organisations
Justice and Environment
Volksgartenstrasse 1,
A-1010 Vienna
Austria

Dear Mr Alge,

Re: Draft report of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee on the implementation of decision IV/9b of the Meeting of the Parties concerning compliance by Belarus and follow-up on the Committee's recommendations in ACCC/C/2009/44

At its forty-third meeting (Geneva, 17-20 December 2013), the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee reviewed the progress made by Belarus with regard to the implementation of decision IV/9b of the Meeting of the Parties concerning compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Aarhus Convention, as well as Belarus' progress in implementing the recommendations contained in the Compliance Committee's findings on ACCC/C/2009/44. Taking into account the information received, the Committee prepared its draft report to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session on the implementation of the decision and the Committee's recommendations, completing its draft report after the meeting using its electronic decision-making procedure.

The Committee's draft report is now being forwarded at the request of the Committee for your possible comments. You are invited to provide your comments as soon as possible, but no later than **21 March 2014**. Taking into account the comments received by the set date, the Committee will finalize and adopt its report and submit it to the Meeting of the Parties at its fifth session.

Please also find enclosed the comments prepared by the Compliance Committee on the draft "Law of the Republic of Belarus to introduce amendments and additions to certain laws of the Republic of Belarus with regard to public participation in making environmentally significant decisions and public access to environmental information". Please note that these comments have been provided as an assistance to support Belarus in its efforts to meet its obligations under the Convention, but do not preclude the Compliance Committee from examining the compliance of the draft law, once adopted, with the provisions of the Convention.

Please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat (aarhus.compliance@unece.org) if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Marshall
Secretary to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

- Cc: Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
Mr Vitaly Kulik, First Deputy Minister, Ministry Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus
Mr. Ivan Narkevitch, Department of International Conventions and Agreements, RUE "Bel SRC "Ecology"
Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, European ECO Forum Legal Focal Point for EECCA countries
- Enc: Draft report of the Compliance Committee on the implementation of decision IV/9b