



# GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA

## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

NR. 94290 / SM / 31.03.2017

### General Directorate for Impact Assessment and Pollution Control

To: **Ms. Fionna MARSHALL, Secretary to the Aarhus Convention**

Ref: **Information concerning the implementation of recommendations contained in Decision V/9j compliance by Romania**

Dear Ms. Fionna MARSHALL,

First of all I would like to thank you very much for your collaboration and fairness which you have given proof regarding this subject.

Regarding the audio conference from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017, we would like to inform you the following aspects concerning the implementation of recommendations contained in Decision V/9j compliance by Romania:

Ministry of Environment is the central public authority responsible for implementing the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, signed at Aarhus on 25 June 1998 (Aarhus Convention), ratified by Romania by Law no. 86/2000.

The project "Training of staff of competent environmental authorities on environmental impact assessment and environmental assessment for 2014-2020" - stage 2 has started.

Between the period 29<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 took place the Initial Session training which last 2 days and the representatives of Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions (JASPERS) have presented the following topics:

- The cumulative impact (day 1);
- Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to justice in environmental matters (day 2).

Please find enclosed to this letter the presentations on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to justice in environmental matters.

The materials was elaborated and presented by Joint Assistance to Support Projects in European Regions (JASPER).

The target group was: nucleus of network of experts in the application of European legislation on environmental impact assessment and environmental assessment, staff of the Environment authorities (MM, NEPA), the three focal points on the Aarhus Convention: Access to Information and Public Participation in Decision –making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.

In the period April to June 2017, this presentations will be disseminate in training sessions to the participants from environmental authorities, managing authorities on operational programs and related intermediate bodies.

We mention that the nucleus of network of experts is constituted as a result of project implementation "Training of staff of competent environmental authorities on environmental impact assessment and environmental



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assessment for 2014-2020" - Stage 1 of representatives from the environmental authorities. The establishing of this body of experts is particularly appreciated by EC (DG Environment).

Ministry of Environment, maintain the action specified in address no. 96 841/DM/18.03.2016 regarding the organization of a roundtable with the representatives of other Romanian central authorities, in order to present the views of the Committee concerning the grounds for refusing access to environmental information. In the next period of the current year, these presentations on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to justice in environmental matters will be disseminate within the roundtable to the Romanian central authorities which manages the environmental information.

Regarding the reasonable time frames this will be changed in the near future because of the legislative amendments proposed by the new European legislation which have to be transposed into national legislation (e.g. Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, etc.).

We would like to assure you that Romania continues to comply with all the provision of the Aarhus Convention as well as the measures and recommendation taken by the Convention Compliance Committee.

Yours sincerely,

**GENERAL DIRECTOR**

**Dorina MOCANU**

**Camelia HINTEA**

Romanian National Focal Point for Access to Information and Public Participation in Decision – making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

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