



**Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil**  
Environment, Community and Local Government

Tadhg McDonnell  
Meath County Council  
County Hall  
Navan  
Co. Meath

17 October 2013

### **Aarhus Convention: National Implementation Report**

Dear Tadhg

The second phase of public consultation on the National Implementation Report of the Aarhus Convention in Ireland was launched by Mr Phil Hogan, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September.

The Aarhus Convention lays down a set of basic rules to promote citizen's involvement in environmental matters and improve enforcement of environmental law. Its provisions are broken down into three pillars: Access to Information, Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making and Access to Justice. Ireland ratified the Aarhus Convention on 20 June 2012.

The Minister launched the first phase of the public consultation on June 7th 2013. Twenty-one submissions were received during this phase and these have been examined and, where appropriate, reflected in the second draft of the report.

A copy of the second draft report on which comments are now requested is available at [www.environ.ie/en/Environment/AarhusConvention/PublicConsultations/](http://www.environ.ie/en/Environment/AarhusConvention/PublicConsultations/)

In reflection of the importance of the Aarhus Convention to the work of your organisation, the Department draws your attention to the second phase of public consultation. This phase offers public authorities the opportunity to reflect the work they are undertaking to promote the practical implementation of the Convention in their work in the final report.

Comments on the second phase should be submitted by email or received by post no later than 5pm on Friday 1st November 2013 to the addresses below:

Email: [ACconsultation@environ.ie](mailto:ACconsultation@environ.ie)

Post: Environment Policy & Awareness Section  
Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government  
Newtown Road  
Wexford

All submissions received will be made available on the Department's website in the spirit of transparency which is integral to the Aarhus Convention.

The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government invites public authorities to promote this public consultation through their website and / or social media forums, by announcing that the public consultation is now open and that further information is available at: [www.environ.ie/en/Environment/AarhusConvention/PublicConsultations/](http://www.environ.ie/en/Environment/AarhusConvention/PublicConsultations/)

Yours sincerely



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