

Plan of action for decision VIII/8p (Romania)

Through paragraph 3 (a) of decision VIII/8p concerning the compliance of Romania, the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention has requested the Party concerned to submit a plan of action, including a time schedule, to the Committee by 1 July 2026 regarding the implementation of the recommendations contained in that decision.

The text of decision VIII/8p is available at: <https://unece.org/env/pp/cc/decision-viii8p-concerning-romania>

In preparing its plan of action, the Party concerned was invited by the Compliance Committee to take into account the Committee's information note for Parties on preparing their plan of action. The Committee's information note, which contains step-by-step guidance for Parties on how to complete their plan of action, is available at: <https://unece.org/env/pp/cc/implementation-decisions-meeting-parties-compliance-individual-parties>

A. Description of the process by which the plan of action has been prepared

The plan was prepared by the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests (MEWF), based on the previous plan of action which was prepared for decision VII/8o. According to the Report of the Compliance Committee from 13 November 2025, Romania met some of the requirements of decision VII/8o. For the rest of the requirements which were not yet fully implemented, the Committee recommended the Meeting of the Parties to re-affirm the previous requirements.

In addition to previous consultations with other competent authorities that were carried out for the implementation of Decision VII/8o, MEWF opened a dialogue with the Council of Competition in order to advance in identifying the permitting procedures carried out in Romania, which might require public participation under Articles 6(3) and 7 of the Convention.

The draft plan of action was published in Romanian language, on the MEWF's website, on 08.06.2026 at the following link: <https://mmediu.ro/transparenta/conventia-de-la-aarhus/>

The public was invited to send comments and suggestions for a period of 30 days from publication (until 07.07.2026). During the consultation period, no comments were received.

At the end of the consultation period, the final plan of action was published both in Romanian and English language, on the MEWF's website, at the above-mentioned link.

B. Detailed plan of action	
Recommendation: Para. 2 (a) of decision VIII/8p	In paragraph 2 (a) of decision VIII/8p, the Meeting of the Parties requests that the Party concerned: (a) Provide the Committee with evidence that it has provided training to public officials concerning the duties set out in paragraph 2 (a) (i)–(iii) of decision VII/8o;
Short description of the measure(s) proposed to fulfil recommendation and how each measure will contribute to doing so	Organising a round table at central level regarding the Aarhus Convention, for disseminating relevant new information to the Romanian authorities, including the recommendations concerning Romania and the duties of public officials which are set out in paragraph 2 (a) (i)–(iii) of decision VII/8o. Request addressed by MEWF to other public authorities to disseminate the above-mentioned duties.
Outline of the main steps that need to be taken to implement the proposed measure(s), including timeframe by when each step is expected to be completed	Organising a round table. Sending letters to other public authorities for requesting them to disseminate the duties set out in paragraph 2 (a) (i)–(iii) of decision VII/8o.
List of the government departments and other actors whose involvement will be needed to implement each of the above steps	MEWF Other public authorities
Final date by when implementation of recommendation will be completed	2027

Recommendation: Para. 2 (b) of decision VIII/8p	In paragraph 2 (b) of decision VIII/8p, the Meeting of the Parties requests that the Party concerned: (b) Review its legal framework in order to identify cases where decisions to permit activities within the scope of article 6 of the Convention are conducted without effective participation of the public (art. 6 (3) and (7)), and to take the necessary legislative and regulatory measures to ensure that such situations are adequately remedied;
Short description of the measure(s) proposed to fulfil recommendation and how each measure will contribute to doing so	Analysis by the competent authorities of the permitting procedures for activities listed in Annex I to the Aarhus Convention, for which public participation is required under Articles 6(3) and 7 of the Convention, in order to identifying, where appropriate, remedial solutions.
Outline of the main steps that need to be taken to implement the proposed measure(s), including timeframe by when each step is expected to be completed	Analysis of the licencing inventory for Romania, developed within a project developed by the Council for Competition with OCDE technical assistance, in order to identify the permitting procedures for different types of permits for activities listed in Annex I to the Aarhus Convention, for which public participation is required under Articles 6(3) and 7 of the Convention. Consultations with permitting authorities in order to identifying, where appropriate, remedial solutions.
List of the government departments and other actors whose involvement will be needed to implement each of the above steps	MEWF Other public authorities
Final date by when implementation of recommendation will be completed	2028

Recommendation: Para. 2 (c) of decision VIII/8p	In paragraph 2 (c) of decision VIII/8p, the Meeting of the Parties requests that the Party concerned: (c) Review its legal framework and undertake the necessary legislative, regulatory and administrative measures to ensure that the court procedures for access to environmental information are timely and provide adequate and effective remedies;
Short description of the measure(s) proposed to fulfil recommendation and how each measure will contribute to doing so	Analysis of the possibility to include aspects regarding timely procedures and adequate and effective remedies in court procedures for access to environmental information, within the training courses addressed to judges. Analysis of any legislative amendments in the field of administrative litigation adopted over the past five years, followed by the assessment of the need to adopt new legislative provisions to streamline the handling of cases presented before national courts which concern access to environmental information, with a focus on granting priority to cases involving the refusal to allow access to environmental information and on establishing a time limit for the courts to resolve such cases.
Outline of the main steps that need to be taken to implement the proposed measure(s), including timeframe by when each step is expected to be completed	
List of the government departments and other actors whose involvement will be needed to implement each of the above steps	MEWF, Ministry of Justice
Final date by when implementation of recommendation will be completed	2028

Recommendation: Para. 2 (d) of decision VIII/8p	In paragraph 2 (d) of decision VIII/8p, the Meeting of the Parties requests that the Party concerned: (d) Provide adequate practical arrangements or measures to ensure that the activities listed in subparagraphs (b)–(c) above are carried out with broad participation of the public authorities and the public concerned;
Short description of the measure(s) proposed to fulfil recommendation and how each measure will contribute to doing so	Dissemination of information about actions taken in the context of this plan of actions on the MEWF's website.
Outline of the main steps that need to be taken to implement the proposed measure(s), including timeframe by when each step is expected to be completed	
List of the government departments and other actors whose involvement will be needed to implement each of the above steps	MEWF
Final date by when implementation of recommendation will be completed	At the time of each action taken in the context of this plan of actions