

## **Agenda Symposium 'Best Practices on Access to Environmental Information'**

3 December 2018, *Haus der Demokratie und Menschenrechte*, Greifswalder Str. 4, 10405 Berlin

Facilitation: Prof. Dr. Thomas Schomerus, Leuphana University Lüneburg; Karl Stracke, UfU

09:30 a.m. Registration

10:00 a.m. Welcoming Speeches

*Dr. Nadja Salzborn*, Federal Environment Agency (UBA) and *Dr. Michael Zschiesche*, Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU e.V.)

### **Panel 1 Evaluation of National AtEI Acts**

10:20 a.m. Evaluation of the Dutch AtEI Act (2009) and its Impacts on the Practice of Access to Environmental Information

- *Marte van der Loop*, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations

10:50 a.m. Evaluation of the German AtEI Act: Main Challenges in the German Administrative and Legal Practice

- *Prof. Dr. Thomas Schomerus*, Leuphana University of Lüneburg (GER)
- *Karl Stracke*, Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU e.V.)
- *Dr. Kerstin Tews*, Environmental Policy Research Centre (FFU), Free University of Berlin (GER)

Questions of understanding / Discussion (15 min)

12:00 a.m. Light lunch

### **Panel 2 International Best Practices of Parties to the Aarhus Convention (AC)**

01:00 p.m. Overview on Best Practices on AtEI on the European Level

- *Daniele Franzone*, Principal Administrator, EU-Commission Directorate General Environment

Questions of understanding (10 min)

01:30 p.m. "Key Trends in the Implementation of the Access to Information Pillar of the Aarhus Convention"

- *Maryna Yanush*, Environmental Affairs Officer, Aarhus Convention Secretariat, UNECE

Questions of understanding (10 min)

### Panel 3 Best Practices of Parties to the AC for Selected Topics

02:00 p.m.	Topic: Mediation, Non-judicial Procedures  Input "Switzerland" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Elena Trigo</i>, Lawyer, Federal Environment Agency, Switzerland</li></ul> Questions of understanding / Discussion
02:30 p.m.	Coffee break/Sweets
03:00 p.m.	Topic: Internal Administrative Mechanisms Ensuring Swift Responses Within Short Timeframes  Input "Norway" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Cecile Bergmann</i>, Member of Oslo City Hall (tbc)</li></ul> Questions of understanding / Discussion
03:30 p.m.	Topic: Access to Information from Private Bodies under the UK Environmental Information Regulations  Input "United Kingdom" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Robert McCracken</i>, Barrister, Fellow of the Centre for European Law, King's College London</li></ul> Questions of understanding / Discussion
04:00 p.m.	Topic: The Advisory Role of the "Commission d'accès aux documents administratifs" (CADA)  Input "France" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Pearl NGUYEN-DUY</i> (Rapporteur-générale of the Commission d'accès aux documents administratifs, CADA) (tbc)</li></ul> Questions of understanding / Discussion

### Panel 4 Final Discussion and Further Best Practices in Parties to the AC

04:30 p.m.	Open Discussion  Attendees are invited to introduce further national best practices
05:15 p.m.	Closing Speech/Remarks <i>Dr. Nadja Salzborn</i> , Federal Environment Agency (UBA)
05:30 p.m.	End
06:30 p.m.	Optional joint dinner Restaurant "Al Dente", Greifswalder Straße 29, 10405 (on own expenses)

To register for the symposium please contact: **Karl Stracke**  
(E-Mail: [karl.stracke@ufu.de](mailto:karl.stracke@ufu.de); Phone +49 30 / 428 499 331)

Please find below the information about the conference venue in Berlin as well as possible Hotel options nearby.

### **Hotel-options close to the conference venue:**

- Hotel Zarenhof-Prenzlauer Berg \*\*\*\*

Schönhauser Allee 140, 0437 Berlin

<http://www.hotel-zarenhof.de/default.aspx?lang=en>

Info: For this hotel, we provided a contingent with special conditions. Please ask for these conditions during your booking process indicating the password "AARHUS".

- Hotel ALEX

Greifswalder Straße 3

10405 Berlin

<https://www.alex-hotel.de/?lang=en>

- Hotel Zarenhof-Mitte\*\*\*

Eichendorffstraße 4, 10115 Berlin

<https://www.hotel-zarenhof.de/hotel-zarenhof-berlin-mitte/?lang=en>