

Article 7: Public Information

1. Each Party shall ensure that its laws, regulations and administrative rulings of general application respecting any matter covered by this Agreement are promptly published or otherwise made available so that interested persons can become acquainted with them.
2. Each Party shall publish or otherwise make available in advance, to the extent possible, any such law or regulation that it proposes to adopt, so that the other Party or interested persons can provide comments.

Article 8: Private Access to Remedies

1. Each Party shall ensure that interested persons residing in or established in the territory of such Party may request the Party's competent authorities to investigate alleged violations of its environmental laws and shall give such requests due consideration, in accordance with its domestic law.
2. Each Party shall ensure that persons with a legally recognized interest in a particular matter under its environmental laws have appropriate access to administrative, quasi-judicial or judicial proceedings for the enforcement of the Party's environmental laws, and to remedies for violations of those laws.

Article 9: Procedural Guarantees

1. Each Party shall ensure that its administrative, quasi-judicial and judicial proceedings referred to in Article 8(2) are fair, equitable and transparent and to this end shall provide that such proceedings:
 - (a) are conducted by impartial and independent persons who do not have an interest in the outcome of the matter, that the Parties to the proceedings are entitled to support or defend their respective positions and to present information or evidence, and that the decision is based on this information or evidence;
 - (b) are open to the public, except where the administration of justice otherwise requires;
 - (c) entitle the parties to the proceedings to support or defend their respective positions and to present information or evidence; and