

ENVIRONMENT
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LEGAL AFFAIRS COORDINATING UNIT
COORDINATION OF LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Communication No. 112/2014

Mexico City, 4 November 2021

PAOLO SOLANO TOVAR
DIRECTOR, LEGAL AFFAIRS AND
SUBMISSIONS ON ENFORCEMENT MATTERS UNIT

Dear Sir,

The subject of this letter is submission SEM-21-002 (*Vaquita porpoise*), which the Center for Biological Diversity, the Animal Welfare Institute, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) submitted on 11 August 2021 before the Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC), in accordance with the submissions on enforcement matters process provided for under the Environment Chapter of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and the Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (ECA).

In this context, I would like to inform the CEC Secretariat that, in order to respond to this submission, information was requested from various agencies, bodies and administrative units within the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, such as the Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection, the National Commission for Protected Natural Areas and the Wildlife Department, as well as from the Ministry of the Navy and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, among others.

However, it is the Legal Affairs Coordinating Unit's view that it is necessary to request additional information from certain administrative units and agencies to establish the legal reasoning underlying the Party response to the submission.

Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Article 19.9 of the *Guidelines for Submissions on Enforcement Matters* and Articles 14 and 15 of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, and based on the abovementioned grounds, I hereby inform you that the Party response in question shall be delivered no later than the 31 March 2022.

This deadline extension is in accordance with USMCA Article [sic], which establishes that the Secretariat will continue to operate under the modalities in place as of the entry into force of this Agreement, including its rules, policies, guidelines, procedures, and resolutions, to the extent these modalities neither oppose nor contradict the provisions of the USMCA and the current Agreement on Environmental Cooperation.

Kind regards,

Dr. Guadalupe Espinoza Saucedo
Director, Legal Affairs Coordinating Unit

cc: Miguel Ángel Zerón Cid, Director, International Affairs Coordinating Unit. For your information.
Iris Adriana Jiménez Castillo, International Cooperation Coordinator. For your information.