ACCESS TO FACILITY-SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION



COLOMBIA

As a signatory to the <u>Aarhus Convention</u> and several other international agreements, Colombia has adopted modern environmental information access rules. Law 1712 of 2014 known as the "Law of Transparency and the Right to National Public Information" provides wide access rights. The <u>Ministry of Environment website</u> provides a description of the procedures followed. <u>Decree 103 of 2015</u> also details the basis for public access to information in Colombia and the procedures.

Colombia also was one of the signatories of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Affairs in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2018. This convention contains the standard Aaarhus exemption for disclosure "when disclosure would create a clear, probable and specific risk of substantial harm to law enforcement, prevention, investigation and prosecution of crime," Article 6(d). This has been interpreted in other countries under the Aarhus convention as not being applicable to past violations or enforcement actions. See also "Acceso a la información, la participación y la justicia en asuntos ambientales en América Latina y el Caribe," Report by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (2018).

Licenses granted under environmental laws are viewable online.

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