



Contribution by the EU and its Member States to the 14th Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (WGP 14)

DRAFT DECISION ON PROMOTING THE APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONVENTION IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS

item 4. (e) of the provisional agenda for MOP 4

(1) The EU and its Member States appreciate the efforts of the Bureau and the Secretariat to take into consideration the proposal made by the EU at the thirteenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties (WGP 13).

(2) At this final stage on the preparations for the Fourth Meeting of the Parties (MOP 4) we would like to draw attention to the fact that two relevant parts of our proposal have not taken into account in the current draft decision.

(3) We consider that it is very important to continue the discussion on Promoting the application of the principles of the Convention in international forums and that the WGP holds a substantial discussion annually on the basis of information provided by Parties and the Secretariat. However, we requested the deletion of the reference to additional reporting requirements in paragraph 8.(a) of the current draft decision because we take the view that the annual intersessional review should not imply an extra mandatory reporting requirement upon the Parties. Furthermore we requested further information on the forum for capacity-building proposed in paragraph 8. (b). We understand "capacity building" as a discussion exercise about problems, challenges and possible solutions.

(4) We therefore propose to delete paragraphs 8(a) and 8(b) and replace them with the following: Agrees that the Working Group of the Parties shall oversee progress and challenges encountered in implementing article 3, paragraph 7 of the Convention by Parties, Signatories and other stakeholders to promote the application of the principles of the Conventions in international forums, through, inter alia, annual thematic sessions on the subject.

(5) With regard to paragraph 12 (b) (i.e. tasks for the Secretariat), we propose to add at the end of the sentence "and to inform the WGP on new practices developed in such forums".

(6) We have submitted this drafting suggestion to the Secretariat.
