



## **Contribution by the EU and its Member States to the 14<sup>th</sup> Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (WGP 14)**

### **DRAFT DECISION ON ACCESSION BY NON-ECE STATES**

#### item 6. (a) 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) However on further consideration of the text, we consider that one further change is necessary to the text of the draft decision. It was brought to our attention that the text in the last paragraph is legally not correct as it implies that the approval of the MOP leads to the immediate accession of the State.

(3) We would therefore propose a short amendment to changing in point “e” of paragraph 4 (para 4.e.) to clarify the position. We propose to delete referring to “to approve the accession to the Convention by the State concerned” and replace it with “to give approval to the State concerned to accede to the Convention”.

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

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