EU and its Member States contribution

Agenda item 5: Programme of work and operation of the Protocol

(a) Implementation of the work programme for 2015-2017

The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Secretariat and the Bureau for the report on the implementation of the work programme and for the report on contributions and expenditures in relation to the implementation of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers for 2015–2017.

We would like to thank the Secretariat and the Bureau for the comprehensive assessment of the implementation of the work programme, contributing to keep the implementation of the work programme on track, increasing public awareness and promoting the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols at the international level.

(b) Progress in implementing the strategic plan for 2015 – 2020

The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Secretariat and the Compliance Committee for their work on preparing the report on the status of implementation of the Protocol and overview of progress in implementing the strategic plan.

We would like to express also our appreciation of the work on continuously increasing the development of technical assistance via electronic means and usage of more electronic tools including e-mail consultations, phone conferences, online databases, the clearinghouse mechanism and the PRTR.net global portal. We believe that the use of electronic tools should facilitate implementation of the work programme and generate savings in costs and time.

We call on all Parties and Signatories to further promote the use of electronic tools.

(c) Future work programme


The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol and Secretariat for their work in drafting decision on the work programme for 2018-2021.
We understand that due to the prolongation of the period covered by the work programme, careful estimation of costs requires taking into account the risks and uncertainties mentioned in the draft document.

We welcome the opportunity to consider this draft Decision as well as the fact that our proposal for extension of the intersessional period to four years was taken into account.

We can support the draft Decision on the work programme for 2018-2021.

Financial arrangements will be discussed under a different agenda item; and the total of contributions to the PRTR Protocol might affect the workability of the work programme. We therefore invite the Bureau and the Secretariat to identify those activities of the work programme which might be considered as priorities, and at the same time to consider these with respect to the remaining activities, as well as the links between both of them.

(d) Financial arrangements

(is addressed in a separate EU+MS contribution)