



Aarhus Convention:

22th Working Group of the Parties (WGP22)

(Geneva, 19-21 June 2018)

Contribution by the EU and its Member States

Agenda item 5: Accession to the Convention by States from outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region and other relevant developments and interlinkages related to the promotion of the Convention and its principles

Statement delivered on 19 June

In this regard, the EU and its Member States also warmly welcome the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Convention) following Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, recently adopted by 24 Latin American and Caribbean countries, which is the first binding treaty on environmental rights for this region.

Statement delivered on 20 June

The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Secretariat for the extensive work done to promote and raise awareness about the Convention and its Protocol at the international level as presented in the Report on the implementation of the work programmes for 2015–2017 and 2018–2021. We welcome these efforts by the Secretariat and we will appreciate to be informed in more detail for the practical results and the feedback these activities have yielded by the future Secretariat's reports.

We welcome and appreciate the efforts by the Secretariat in promoting the principles of the Convention in and promote interlinkages with various international forums.

The EU and its Member States welcome the developments in the area of accession to the Convention by States from outside the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region and other relevant developments and interlinkages related to the promotion of the Convention and its principles.

Finally, we welcome the fact that Guinea-Bissau has completed all procedural steps according to decision IV/5 and we look forward to Guinea-Bissau's application for the upcoming MoP 7 in 2021.
