

**24th Meeting of the Working Group to the Aarhus Convention
(Virtual, 1-3 July 2020)
Agenda item 7(d): Future Financial arrangements**

Norway

Norway thanks the Secretariat and the Bureau for preparing the documents on future financial arrangements.

As you know from previous discussions at the last MOP, Norway prefers a mandatory financial scheme based on adjusted UN scale of assessed contributions. We believe this would be the best solution based on the principles of an equitable sharing of the burden, stable and predictable sources of funding, accountability and sound financial management.

Judging from the previous discussions, the prospect of reaching consensus on the introduction of a mandatory scheme may not be great. However, we are not giving up on our aim to secure more predictable, stable and equitably shared funding of the activities under the Convention. And we still have some time left for discussions on this issue before the next Meeting of the Parties.

We would therefore support keeping the option of a mandatory contribution scheme based on an adjusted UN scale of assessments on the table, as proposed in the Accompanying document for the draft elements of possible financial arrangements under the Convention.

As for the option of recommendatory contributions, this could have been a possible compromise worth considering if it would have contained more specific recommendations as to the contributions from each Party.

Norway also supports the proposed amendments to include the goals of the financial arrangements in the preamble in the Accompanying document. We further support the proposal to increase the minimum amount expected to be contributed by each Party.

Thank you Chair