21st Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (WGP 21)  
(Geneva, 4-6 April 2017)  

Documents subject to consultation prior to the thirty-ninth Bureau meeting  
1st round (13-14 December 2016)  

Draft decision on promoting the application of the principles  
of the Convention in international forums  

Contribution by the EU and its Member States  

The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Secretariat and especially the Bureau for preparing  
the draft decision on promoting the application of the principles of the Convention in international forums.  

We appreciate and welcome the development of the draft decision on promoting the application of the  
principles of the Convention in international forums.  

We could support the draft decision on promoting the application of the principles of the Convention in  
international forums provided that the text be amended as follows:  

1. In para 4 we propose to replace at the beginning the word “Requests” by “Invites”. It would be  
more in line with the logic and wording of the following subparagraphs.  

2. In para 4 letter a) we propose to add at the beginning word “undertake”.  

3. In para 6 letter a) we propose to add “on a needs basis” in the sentence “To convene regularly  
a thematic session” in accordance with wording used in decision V/4, concretely: “(a) To convene  
regularly, on a needs basis, a thematic session on promoting the principles of the Convention in  
international forums as an item on the agenda of its meetings...”.  

4. We would like to add in para 6 letter b) “depending on the availability of resources”.  

5. In para 6 letter c) there is a reservation on the words “trade negotiations”, pending final decision  
making.