Aarhus Convention
23rd Working Group of the Parties (WGP 23)
(Geneva, 26-28 June 2019)
Contribution by the EU and its Member States

Agenda item 3(d): Genetically modified organisms

The EU and its Member States welcome the work done by the Aarhus Convention Secretariat in promoting the GMO amendment.

We welcome the ongoing collaboration between the Secretariats of the Aarhus Convention and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the preparatory work regarding the organization of a joint global round table (Geneva, 16-18 December 2019), which will address key issues related to access to information and public participation with respect to LMOs/GMOs. In this regard, we support the promotion of the information sharing in relation with GMOs within the next specific Implementation Plan of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

We encourage the remaining Parties whose ratification of the GMO amendment would count towards its entry into force to take serious steps to achieve this goal and, mindful of the importance of this amendment, we promote its ratification in the near future by other interested Parties.

The EU and its Member States will further take note of the progress made regarding the entry into force of the amendment on GMOs.