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 7: Implementation of the work programme for 2018-2021, including financial matters


We further encourage the Secretariat to pursue synergies with other United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) multilateral environmental agreements, United Nations agencies and other partners in order to maintain a satisfactory number of activities and share implementation costs.

The EU and its Member States would like to encourage the Parties to the Convention to submit their contributions at the beginning of the financial year in order to ensure certainty and availability of sufficient funds for the effective implementation of the work programme.

We appreciate the progress made by the Secretariat in extending the use of electronic tools, such as email consultations, web-based conferencing, video or telephone technology, online databases and the Aarhus Clearinghouse for Environmental Democracy, with the aim of making its activities more resource- and time-efficient.

We believe that the implementation of the different work programme areas will further contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals across the whole 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG 16.