16th Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (WGP 16) (Geneva, 19 – 21 June 2013)

Agenda Items 8(d) and (e): the provisional agenda and preparatory timeline of MOP 5

Statement from EU and its Member States and Croatia

(1) The EU and its Member States and Croatia welcome the opportunity to input into the agenda of MOP 5 and welcome and support the offer by the Government of the Netherlands to host the event.

(2) The proposed mirroring of the agenda of MOP 4 with the removal of items that no longer require further discussion, while ensuring that it covers all substantive areas of work under the convention, is supported.

(3) The EU and its Member States and Croatia welcome further discussion on the matter of holding a high-level segment and the preparation of a short declaration by Parties, in order to maintain a focus on the importance of the Convention and the Protocol. It is suggested that the high-level segment and associated declaration relate jointly to the Aarhus Convention and the PRTR protocol.

(4) The preparatory timeline for the MOP is noted.