Georgia's response to the questions concerning financial arrangements under the Aarhus Convention

From: Ms. Nino Gokhelashvili Re: Aarhus matters arising from WGP and PRTR meetings [Date:] 06/09/2006

Dear Jeremy,

I am sending the comments to indicate our position with respect to the following questions:

(i) What general principles should guide and inform a longer-term scheme of financial arrangements? Are they the same or different from the principles contained in the preambles of Decisions I/12 and II/6? *answer: we are considering the this scheme should giude the same principles, contained in the Decisions I/12 and II/6.*

(ii) Should the scheme be a) purely voluntary, b) purely mandatory, or c) combining both voluntary and mandatory elements? *answer: voluntary.*

(iii) Who should contribute under the scheme? answer: in case the scheme is voluntary following bodies should/may contribute under this scheme: the contracting parties, signatories, other countries, international and regional organizations, etc.

(iv) Should the scheme indicate (prescribe, recommend or suggest) the amount to be contributed by each Party, and if so, what scale should be used for this purpose?

answer. in case the scheme is voluntary no definition of amount might be possible to indicate.

(v) What should be funded through the scheme? Should there be a differentiation between activities carried out under the auspices of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies on the one hand and activities aimed at supporting implementation in individual countries (e.g. capacity building) on the other? If so, should the latter be funded through a separate mechanism?

answer: we are considering there should be a differentiation between activities carried out under the auspices of the Meeting of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies on the one hand and activities aimed at supporting implementation in individual countries on the ather. But what separate funding mechanizm do you mean?

(vi) What should be the key requirements of the scheme with respect to management, monitoring and reporting?

answer: it will be very kind of you if secretariat or bureau prepares some draft of their position with respect of this issue and after this it will be easier to think out of the proposals from the side of contracting countries.

Best regards,

Nino Gokhelashvili