

## **Statement by the European Union**

Item 7(c) of the provisional agenda – Draft decision IV/7 on financial arrangements

Mr. Chairman,

Let me reaffirm that the European Union fully recognises the need for stability, predictability and fair burden sharing in financial matters.

With regard to the contribution of the EU, I confirm that the European Union will maintain its annual pledge of €100,000 until that amount becomes 2.5% of the total estimated costs of activities under the work programme not covered by the United Nations regular budget.

This percentage represents the usual EU contribution in multilateral environmental agreements and is also reflected in the financial arrangements for the PRTR Protocol to the Aarhus Convention as adopted by the Meeting of the Parties last year.

This commitment is of course subject to annual endorsement by the budgetary authorities of the European Union and is without prejudice to the arrangements for State Parties.

I would be grateful if this statement could be reproduced in the minutes of this Meeting of the Parties.

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