



**Aarhus Convention**  
**22th Working Group of the Parties (WGP 22)**  
**(Geneva, 19-21 June 2018)**

**Contribution by the EU and its Member States**

**Agenda item 6: Implementation of the work programmes for 2015–2017 and 2018–2021, including financial matters**

The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Secretariat for providing the Report on the Implementation of the Convention's work programmes for 2015-2017 and 2018-2021.

We welcome and highly appreciate the efforts by the secretariat to ensure synergies with activities under other United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) multilateral environmental agreements, United Nations agencies and other partners in implementing the work programme for 2018-2021. We encourage the continued use and expansion of such an approach further in implementing the work programme.

We welcome the progress made by the secretariat in making its activities more resource and time efficient through the use of electronic tools. We invite the secretariat to explore further opportunities for use of electronic tools such as phone and video conferences, webinars and email consultations in respect of the compliance mechanism and participation in various task forces.

We believe that identifying synergies and common activities among the multilateral environmental agreements and continued and extensive use of electronic tools are promising ways to meet the financial challenges due to continuing uncertainty as to the availability of sufficient funds.

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