



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

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

**Agenda item 13: Adoption of outcome**

Thank you for accommodating our request, Ms Chair. The following statement was shared yesterday with the Secretariat.

The EU and its Member States recognize the high workload for the members of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee.

We would like to thank the Chair of the Committee for his proposals to revise the Guide for Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee. We will consider these carefully and if appropriate will submit written comments.

Our initial view is that in light of the consultative nature of the compliance mechanism and the fundamental principles relating to the right to be heard, we consider it is essential that any decision not to hold a hearing can only be taken with the prior consent by the Party concerned and the Communicant.

This statement is without prejudice to the position that the EU and its Member States will adopt once and if such proposed amendments will be tabled in writing.

Thank you for your attention.

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