

Aarhus Convention
25th Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (WGP 25)
(Geneva, 7-8 June 2021)

– Contribution by the EU and its Member States –

Agenda item 9(k): Draft decision VII/... Agenda of the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties

The EU and its Member States welcome the revised draft provisional Agenda of the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.PP/WG.1/2021/10).

We support the draft elements of the provisional agenda of the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention.

In line with the October Working Group session and the announcement from Georgia that it has to withdraw its commitment to host the sessions due to financial challenges linked to COVID-19 pandemic, the EU and its Member States support that in these circumstances the above Convention's session should be held in Geneva unless any Party would confirm its willingness to host it.

The EU and its Member States also support the Bureau's willingness to proceed with the preparations for the session as was planned.

We welcome initiatives such as side events that provide an opportunity for the Ministers and high-level representatives who will attend the Meetings of the Parties to exchange views, share best practices and get an update on concrete tools to uncover the relations between the Convention and the Protocol and specific targets under the SDGs.

Against this background, we can approve the current proposal for a draft provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties and we would ask the Bureau, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to prepare the document for final decision-making at MoP 7.