

Statements by the United Kingdom at the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Geneva, 22 October 2021)

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**Item 5 statement on Decision on Development of the Protocol**

*We would like to thank the secretariat and bureau for their work preparing for the draft decision on the development of the Protocol. We look forward to participating in the discussions moving forward.*

**Item 6(c) statement on financial contributions towards PRTR protocol**

*We would like to thank both the Bureau and the Secretariat for the preparation of this document prior to the Meeting of the Parties, and for their delicate handling of the matter at recent meetings, cognisant of the recent lack of consensus regarding financial contributions, the implementation of the UN scale of assessments and the minimum contributions towards the functioning of the Aarhus Convention and Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR).*

*In the light of the discussions held at the last Meeting of the Parties, as well as the previous PRTR Working Group of the Parties, we would like to clarify our position on the matters relating to financial arrangements. We continue to view the voluntary scheme of discretionary financial arrangements to be the most suitable option at this time, as per draft decision IV/4 on financial arrangements under the PRTR Protocol.*

*The Bureau and the Secretariat conduct effective work in ensuring the functioning of the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol. With this in mind, we would like to ensure this work is safeguarded, and would support the minimum contribution by Parties or signatories to be raised from \$500 to \$1,000 USD per calendar year. We encourage fellow Parties and signatories of the Aarhus Convention and PRTR Protocol to provide certainty and further ensure the smooth running of the Bureau and Secretariat by ensuring that financial contributions are met in a timely manner at the start of each calendar year.*

**Item 11 statement during Closing segment**

*The UK would like to thank the secretariat for their hard work in preparing for the MOP and congratulate them in running a successful hybrid MOP under these circumstances. We would also like to thank the outgoing members of the bureau for their hard work, and to the chair for your brilliant chairing. And our warm congratulations to the incoming members. And thank you to translators and other parties for their participation.*

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