<u>United Kingdom statement regarding the War in Ukraine and implementation of</u> the Convention:

Thank you Chair and thank you to the distinguished representatives from Ukraine for their statement.

The United Kingdom remains unwavering in our support for Ukraine's sovereignty and independence. We continue to stand with the people of Ukraine, and we stand with their right to determine their own future.

We have heard from the representatives of Ukraine on the immense and tragic challenges facing their country due to Russia's unprovoked, premeditated assault.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a violation of international law, including the UN Charter, and has furthermore shown a blatant disregard for UNECE principles as well as the principles of the Aarhus Convention. The war has challenged environmental democracy and the protection of human rights.

The United Kingdom condemns the Russian invasion of Ukraine in the strongest possible terms, and we will continue our steadfast solidarity with and support of Ukraine.

Thank you Chair.