

Agenda item 2: War in Ukraine and implementation of the Convention

UK Statement

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

Russia's assault on Ukraine is an unprovoked, premeditated and barbaric attack against a sovereign democratic state. It is the defining struggle of our generation.

The UK condemns the Russian government's reprehensible actions. They are an egregious violation of international law and the UN Charter. They seriously undermine environmental democracy and the principles of the Aarhus Convention.

Now is the time to double down on our support so Ukraine not only wins the war, but emerges from it as a strong, sovereign, and free country. By doing so, we make sure Russia pays the price and their efforts to undermine global stability are stopped in their tracks. If we allow Russia to lay waste to this stability, the risks to the world order and to us all are grave.

Thank you Chair.