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## INFORMATION NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	<p>Espoo Convention: Ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, resumed, and Fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, resumed (Geneva, 10 December 2024) - Statements by the EU and its Member States</p>

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Delegations will find in the Annex, for information, a compilation of statements delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States at the abovementioned meetings, as transmitted by the Presidency.

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**Ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact  
Assessment in a Transboundary Context, resumed,  
and Fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact  
Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the  
Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, resumed**

**(Geneva, 10 December 2024)**

**- Statements by the EU and its Member States -**

**High-level segment**

**Agenda item 1. Resuming the high-level segment**

On behalf of the EU and its Member States, we would like to thank Mr. George Kremlis, Chair of the Bureau, for re-opening the high-level segment of the resumed MoP9/MoP5 sessions. By resuming the joint meeting of the Parties to address the matters set out in the agenda, it offers a possibility to officially close the MoP9/MoP5 session that was regrettably not possible to be closed in 2023.

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**Agenda item 2. Organizational matters**

**Agenda item 2. a) Status of officers for the high-level segment**

The EU and its Member States extend their sincere congratulations to H.E. Mr. Vladimir Cuc, Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to UNOG, nominated by the Republic of Moldova on his election as Chair of the high-level segment of the resumed MoP9/MoP5. The EU and its Member States wish to express their appreciation to the previous chair Ms. Iordanca Rodica Iordanov (Republic of Moldova) for her efforts to conclude the MoP9/MoP5 sessions last year.

**Agenda item 2. b) Report of the Bureau**

The EU and its Member States would like to express their gratitude to the Bureau for its persistent work done since the MoP9/MoP5 sessions last year. Indeed, its efforts were remarkable in organising the resumed joint session of the meetings of the Parties in order to officially close the last intersessional period of the Convention and its Protocol.

## **Agenda item 2. c) Adoption of the agenda**

The EU and its Member States would like to express appreciation for the Secretariat and Bureau's efforts in developing the agenda, and wish to accept it as presented.

## **Agenda item 2. e) Status of the Convention and its amendments and the Protocol**

The EU and its Member States recognize the significance of ratifying the amendments to the Convention and the Protocol, and invite the Meeting of the Parties to urge those Parties that have not yet done so as to take the necessary steps towards ratification. Additionally, the EU and its Member States express their appreciation for the efforts of those Parties that have made progress in ratifying the amendments and the Protocol, and welcome the completed ratifications thus far.

*[This EU position was delivered at agenda point at 5. a)]*

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## **Agenda item 3. Adoption of decisions**

### **Agenda item 3. b) Decisions to be taken by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention**

The EU and its Member States would like to express their appreciation for the hard work of the Implementation Committee. Furthermore, we also thank the Secretariat for their continuous support. On behalf of the EU and its Member States, as there is no consensus between the Parties we are not in a situation to present a unified position. The EU and its Member States wish to confirm that the Members will be participating in the upcoming voting procedure individually.

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## **Agenda item 4. Adoption of the declaration**

The European Union and its Member States extend their sincere appreciation to the Bureau and the Secretariat for their considerable efforts in preparing the draft Geneva Declaration. We are in agreement with its content.

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## **Agenda item 5. Other business**

*[No EU position was delivered on this agenda point]*

### **Agenda item 5. a) Status of the Convention and its amendments and the Protocol**

*[EU position prepared for agenda point 2. e) was delivered at this point]*

### **Agenda item 5. b) Information on new pledges**

The EU and its Member States emphasize the importance of addressing and resolving the financial situation of the Espoo Convention. The Espoo Convention and its Protocol are widely recognized for their significance with an increasing interest by other countries in joining these instruments. The EU and its Member States reaffirm the necessity for all Parties to provide stable and sufficient financial resources to further support these objectives.

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### **Agenda item 6. Conclusion of the session**

#### **Agenda item 6. b) Closing of the session**

In the highly likely event that „*MoP9/MoP5*” is successfully closed by the „*resumed MoP9/MoP5*”

The EU and its Member States wish to express their sincere appreciation to the Secretariat, the Chair, and the Co-Chair and all officers elected for the high-level segment of the resumed joint sessions for the seamless organization and execution of the meeting.

The EU and its Member States would also like to express their gratitude to the interpreters and all the participants for their insightful and valuable contributions.

We wish everyone a safe journey home and a joyous holiday season.

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