Mr President,

The UK is very appreciative of your efforts to continue to address the financial challenges facing the convention. We welcome your efforts to explore financial measures that will address the ongoing issues of non-payment and late payment in this Convention.

Your paper provides a useful summary of the measures we as signatories and observers have taken to try and stabilise the Convention’s financial situation. The measures we have already implemented will help improve the financial situation and stability of the Convention over time. We must continue to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these measures. But further steps are needed to return the Convention to a sound financial position in the longer term. We recall that the only guarantee of financial stability is for States Parties to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time.

It is essential that we continue to look at options to address the build-up of arrears. The UK supports the recommendations presented for consideration, such as setting up payment schedules for States Parties in arrears, and improving predictability of payments for States Parties with the preparation of multi-year cost estimates.

In closing, we continue to call upon all States Parties participating in Conventional meetings that have arrears to address this promptly.

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