

Statement by Ambassador of the Netherlands on the ISU/Oslo 12 September

Mr Chairman,

In conformity with your request I will limit my comments to the question of the procedure to be followed and will not go into the substance of the matter.

1. We would have preferred to take a decision on the establishment of an ISU at this Conference.
2. If however in your judgment that is not possible, we are willing to follow your suggested course of action: to continue negotiations and consultations on this issue.
3. Our preference for the best way to finance an ISU is well known. Let me at this instance just say, that despite our preference (for an assessed contribution model) we were ready to accept -albeit reluctantly- a hybrid model as contained in the proposal of the Lebanese Presidency. But whatever we will decide in future on the issue of finance, it is clear to us that a decision on this issue is a prerequisite for the establishment of an ISU.
4. One point on which I would be grateful for clarification. In your proposal I read that a decision shall "preferably" not taken later than at the 4th MSP. Does that mean that a decision can also be taken earlier? If that is indeed the case how would that take place? I would appreciate your clarification. I apologize beforehand if this question has been addressed earlier.
5. To conclude, if need be we are willing to go along with further negotiations and consultations as suggested by you. Please be assured that we will do our utmost to help you to find a solution that allows for the earliest possible establishment of an ISU.

Thank you.