

## **CCM 7MSP**

### **Statement by Sweden**

#### **Agenda item 8 (i) Implementation of the financial procedures on the financing of the ISU**

Mr President,

Sweden welcomed the decision by the First Review Conference in 2015 that effectively mandates States Parties to contribute to the financing of the ISU, based on calculations of the approved budget and the existing UN scale. In our opinion, this was a reasonable decision.

However, due to financial regulations and restrictions on the use of certain budget lines, we continue to have difficulties in the technical execution of our due payment, as based on a letter from our esteemed Chair. All other costs for these Meetings as per Article 14 of the Convention are billed from the United Nations Office at Geneva. We understand the reasons given for keeping these payments separate but we would like to state that it would simplify matters greatly if the part relating to the ISU could be included in the same bill from the UN, so as not to have separate mandatory payments to different recipients.

We look forward to a more detailed discussion on possible new measures to streamline the financial process at the next review conference. In the meantime, let me say that we would welcome a clear and specific invoice from the ISU, as has been suggested. I would also like to underline that, for reason of budgetary clarity, bills submitted should allow for payment in the same budgetary year as the activity in question.

For Sweden, it is also important to make a distinction between payments for the running costs of the ISU and for payments that could go into a buffer fund. Funds from the budget lines available to us for a voluntary contribution to the ISU will need to be used up, in the budgetary year that they are paid out, for the running costs of the ISU. This condition for our voluntary contribution is clearly stated in our funding decisions.

Meanwhile, I am happy to declare that we managed to find a temporary solution and have paid our mandatory contribution for this year, and that we are considering also a voluntary contribution over and above that for 2017.

Thank you Mr President.