Briefing under item 9. Financial issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols

Presented by the CCW Implementation Support Unit

2023 Meeting of High Contracting Parties
Overview of financial situation

- As of 31 October, there is still a deficit of $84,393 on the 2023 accounts. The total estimate for the year was $1,362,200. This means approximately 6% is still outstanding.
- The ISU was fully staffed this year, and all meetings have been able to go ahead as there was a contingency of 5% built in the approved costs estimates allowing for the collection of sufficient funds.
• As you may see from this slide, there is still a challenge in funding the Convention. The full funds for the Meeting of HCP to CCW were fully received only in October, that is, much later than 90 days before the meeting. Next year, if the pattern of late and non-payments is repeated, we can expect to have to reduce the scope of one or more meetings taking place at the end of the year, even with the 5% contingency in place.
High Contracting Parties with the highest amounts due for the current year

- Out of $84K outstanding amount for 2023, the top 16 States are shown in the graph.
- These States Parties are considered late payers for 2023.
- States Parties in arrears are encouraged to settle outstanding payments as soon as possible.

- This slide shows the High Contracting Parties with the highest amounts due for the current year.
- We call on High Contracting Parties that have not yet paid their assessed contributions for 2023 to do so as soon as possible.
Summary of assessments issued and payments received

- As of 31 October 2023 the total outstanding amount for CCW is approx. $257K.
  Out of this amount:
  - $84K is unpaid for 2023
  - $173K is unpaid for prior years
- Overpayments (unused credits) for the prior years amount to $2.1M

- This slide shows the summary of assessments issued and payments received.
- As of 31 October 2023, the total outstanding amount for CCW for all years is approximately $257K.
- As mentioned earlier, there is a shortfall of approximately $84K for 2023.
- Unpaid amounts for earlier years amount to $173K.
- We have also received some very small early payments for 2023.
• Now that the 2018 to 2022 accounts have been closed following the introduction of the new financial measures at the end of last year, we are recognizing a large amount in overpayments ($2.1M). These credits have been made available to High Contracting Parties on invoices for 2023 and recently on invoices for 2024 assessed contributions; High Contracting Parties are encouraged to apply these credits to settle their assessments, or alternatively they may wish to contribute some of the amount to the working capital fund. The CCW working capital fund remains largely underfunded, with only 40% of the target achieved.
This slide shows the CCW Working Capital Fund as at 31 October 2023.

- The current total amount in the fund is $227,221K. As mentioned, this represents about 40% of progress toward the target level of $562,800K.
- Since October 2022, there was only one contribution received to the WCF, which was $32K, from Spain.
- We thank Spain for their contribution and encourage all other High Contracting Parties in a position to do so to contribute to the Working Capital Fund.