

5. Administrative and financial issues

b. Concept note on the financial situation of the Implementation Support Unit

In Norway's view, there is only one way to ensure sufficient, predictable and sustainable support for the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and that is through a revision of the current funding model. We were frankly surprised to see that this option is not mentioned in the concept note on the financial situation of the ISU, not even in the section on longer-term considerations.

We appreciate that previous discussions and proposals regarding the ISU's funding model have now been reflected in the paper "background and update on the financing of the ISU" just issued yesterday on 25 June. In particular, we subscribe to the statement in this paper that "the ISU is and always has been financed through a model that is inherently flawed (...)"

This paper also refers to the "need for the ISU's spending not to outpace a realistic projection of revenue." We agree that presenting a realistic budget is essential to secure adequate funding for the ISU and the budget will need to be continually adapted for this purpose.

If we continue with a voluntary model, the ISU will have to continue to spend significant time fundraising to cover its own operational costs. In our view, this is not an efficient system and does not serve the interests of States Parties. The serious funding gap that the ISU has been experiencing is likely to continue as long as we do not put in place an obliged funding model based on assessed contributions that can actually secure stable and predictable financing of the ISU.