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**OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER OF THE DMUN FOUNDATION TO THE
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AND BRETTON WOODS
INSTITUTIONS**

On Financial Rules Governing the Funding of the Conference of Parties and Secretariat

Mr. Konnor Fortini
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Second Preparatory Committee of the Agreement under the United Nations
Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of
Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ
Agreement)

PM 19 August 2025

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Thank you Co-Chairs for giving me the floor.

I am speaking on behalf of the DMUN Foundation.

We would like to first express our alignment to the statement made by the distinguished representative of the Major Group for Children and Youth on the need of a preambular language and proposed amendments to rule 4.4 bis.



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Chair, we express appreciation for the work invested in the draft financial rules, but we have identified several areas that require further improvements.

First, on assessed contributions for the Secretariat and funding for the Conference of parties, we are of the view that assessed contributions should be in alignment with the existing system of assessed contributions implemented in the UN, provided that the scales are adequately adjusted.

Second, we believe that provisions on transparency and accessibility of information should be expanded beyond the current language established by rule 5.6. We encourage the Secretariat to implement explicit measures on the circulation of relevant financial data and information.

Specifically, the circulation of such information should be distributed publicly, in platforms like the future website of the Secretariat and must be updated on a regular basis.

Third, we believe that states parties should consider cost sharing agreements between the proposed Secretariat and other UN System entities and multilateral environmental agreements. We believe that significant reduction of costs and other resources can be achieved through cross-convention synergy, which would contribute to increased efficiency in the functioning of the Secretariat.

Finally, we highlight the need for proper modalities to be established to facilitate the participation of observer organizations and other relevant stakeholders and rightsholders in future subsidiary bodies and working groups convened by the conference of parties for the purposes of funding and other financial matters.



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Chair, we recognize that funding remains a crucial means of implementation for the outcomes of this Agreement. However, we must ensure that the financial modus operandi of the Secretariat and Agreement remains open, transparent, and inclusive for all stakeholders.

We thank you.