

25 November 2024

**CG4**

**Article 14 National plans:**

PH has strong reservations about the use of “may” in relation to the development and implementation of a national plan, and strongly urge parties to make the development and implementation of national plans mandatory, and use “shall”. This has precedent in other MEAs such as the CBD and UNFCCC. The national plan is one of the environmental lawmaking tools that have proven to facilitate implementation and compliance, and is considered as among the best practices of environmental lawmaking. We believe that this is also consistent with the customary international law of due diligence, which is an obligation of effort, and not of result. -

On para 2, periodic updates may be necessary to align with any collective plan.

On guidance, we would have preferred assurance that provision of means of implementation to developing countries will be included in the national plans. But we can be flexible in terms of the timing, and will be open to addressing this in broad terms in this instrument, and will hope to address this through the COP.