

intervention DSCC LTC Report

Thank you Mr President

We have a very short comment related to the development of threshold values.

We associate ourselves with the intervention by DOSI.

This is a critical process and must be carried out with transparency, inclusivity and appropriate modalities.

To this end it is essential that this process not be undertaken behind closed doors but that these processes and the LTC meetings be open, consistent with the request by the Assembly in 2017. We support Costa Rica's and Germany's comments on this and other issues, including Germany's recommendation that more scientists be involved. We would also support the comments made by the Netherlands and Ireland with regard to the thresholds and transparency.

We would also recall our comments last year about the inappropriateness of taking decisions using the silence procedure. It should be limited to procedural matters which cannot otherwise be decided, such as urgent procedural decisions which need to be taken where a meeting cannot be organized on time due to reasons such as a pandemic.

Mr President, we saw a manifest breach of transparency today with the 2 pm meeting closed to civil society observers. There was no justification to exclude civil society from discussions of matters relating to civil society and transparency, and even less so when contractors were allowed to remain in the room. Holding meetings which contractors can attend but from which observers are excluded - on matters of interest to both parties whether or not they are on a state badge - is the antithesis of transparency.

Thank you,