

Spark Street Advisors' submission for the INB12

Thank you.

Our statement pertains to Chapter 3 discussions scheduled for this evening, specifically on the accountability and compliance measures under Article 21.

Put simply, accountability is fundamental to ensuring implementation of this – or any treaty.

There are numerous examples from agreements in other issue areas showing that strong and independent monitoring mechanisms mean that states are more likely to comply, in practice, with their commitments, on paper.

That means the principles that underpin the agreement are more likely to be respected.

Given the painstaking work that has gone into these negotiations, by all involved, and the importance of its mission we would – again – like to encourage member states to consider and strengthen the current Bureau text Article 21.2(bis) establishing an independent monitoring committee for the implementation of the Agreement that would report to the Conference of Parties.

The monitoring committee would review state compliance with agreed-upon provisions of the Agreement. It would consider a range of information, including from non-state actors. The Committee's reports would also be made public to promote transparency and accountability.

Thank you.