

The Secretary General

His Excellency Mr Lauri Kuusing
Ambassador of Estonia
Embassy of the Republic of Estonia
Zeestraat 92
2518 AD THE HAGUE

Our Ref.: 20240625LJM01

The Hague, 25 June 2024

Dear Mr Ambassador,

Following the adoption of the Budget for Financial Year 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 (Financial Year 70) by the Council of Diplomatic Representatives (CDR) at its meeting of 21 May 2024, I am pleased to send you a copy of the final Budget as adopted.

I refer to Overview I for your State's contribution for Financial Year 2024-2025, which amounts to

€ 8,258.36

The attached **invoice of assessed contributions** provides the **total contribution** to be paid by your State for Financial Year 2024-2025.

According to Article 9(1) of the Regulations on Financial Matters and Budgetary Practices adopted on 1 January 2016, “[a]ssessed Contributions from Member States are due in full at the beginning of each Financial Year [i.e., on 1 July], and are required to be paid as soon as possible”. Against this background, I take the liberty of requesting that every effort be made to ensure your State's prompt payment of its contribution in order to avoid any disruption of the Permanent Bureau's operations in the coming weeks and months. Your efforts in this regard are greatly appreciated.

Furthermore, according to Article 11(1) of the same Regulations, “the Secretary General shall regularly inform the Council of Diplomatic Representatives of the status of payments of contributions”. As reflected in the attached overview of contributions, 17 Member States (19%) still have outstanding payments due for Financial Year 2023-2024, amounting to € 397,595.47 (8% of the total of assessed contributions for that Year). When the arrears from previous financial years, amounting to € 99,828.72, are added, the total of outstanding payments amounts to € 497,424.19. I am pleased to stress that Estonia is not among the Member States with arrears and I am most grateful for your State's diligence in this regard. Still, the amount of outstanding payments is a matter of concern and puts the operation of the Permanent Bureau at a serious, short-term risk. If no contributions are received in the next few weeks, the Permanent Bureau will have to start using the Revolving Fund as of July 2024.

Hague Conference on Private International Law Conférence de La Haye de droit international privé

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Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) Bureau régional pour l'Asie et le Pacifique (BRAP)

Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) Bureau régional pour l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes (BRALC)

It is recalled that the Revolving Fund can only finance two full months of the Permanent Bureau's basic operations. States are thus strongly encouraged to pay any outstanding amounts as swiftly as possible.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by 'B' and a horizontal line with a small flourish at the end.

Dr Christophe Bernasconi

Attachments mentioned.