

**Intergovernmental Science-Policy
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**Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services****Fifth session**

Bonn, Germany, 7–10 March 2017

Agenda item 2 (b)

**Organizational matters: status of the membership of the
Platform**

Enhanced participation of the European Union in sessions of the Plenary of the Platform

*The Plenary,**Recalling* ongoing discussions on the status of regional economic integration organizations in the Platform,*Taking note* of the request of Slovakia as contained in document IPBES/5/INF/27 and the commitment of the European Union to providing active support to the Platform,*Noting* the unique nature of the Platform,

1. *Decides*, in this context, to allow the enhanced participation of the European Union in its capacity as observer in the sessions of the Plenary of the Platform;
2. *Also decides* that such enhanced participation includes the right to speak in turn; the right to reply; the right to introduce proposals; the right to provide views; and the ability to support the implementation of the work programme of the Platform through financial support, among other means;
3. *Further decides* that the rights referred to in paragraph 2 above are exclusive and do not grant the ability to vote or to be elected to the Bureau of the Platform;
4. *Decides* that the foregoing paragraphs apply on an interim basis, pending the resolution of the status of regional economic integration organizations in the Platform in the rules of procedure.