Our Ref: ___________________________  Date: 29 November 2011

Economic Commission for Europe

Regional Preparatory Meeting for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20

1-2 December 2011, Geneva

Mr. Rodion BAJUREANU, Deputy Minister of Environment of the Republic of Moldova

Item 6. High-level multistakeholder round-table discussions under item 6 on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We believe that only due to strong support and promotion from the national governments and commitment from business community, the green economy principles could be promoted. The comprehensive economic, financial, social and environmental policies should be developed in synergy, in order to support the achievement of this goal.

In this context, we consider the Astana Declaration “Save water, grow green!” – one of the fundamental documents for the promotion of Green economy in the region. Its focus on the major development and environmental goals of the countries of the region has the aim to strengthen the efforts, undertaken both at institutional/governmental level and at private sector and civil society levels in this domain. This is also underlined in the thematic UN ECE document, developed for the Astana Conference, on the role of Education for Sustainable Development in shifting to a green economy. We consider ESD as major driving force, together with the political will and interest of private sector, for the establishment of a background and efficient Green economy promotion.

At the national level, in the Republic of Moldova, the start of promotion of the Green Economy was subject of debates at the level of Parliament, including a round table, carried out with the support from UNDP Moldova and OECD as part of National Environmental Policy Dialogue. Inclusion of the promotion of Green Economic Development as the major objective of the National Environmental Strategy for 2012-2022 demonstrates the commitment of our country towards the promotion of this development model in the nearest future.
In addition, I would like to inform you about the opportunities, provided to countries for the transfer of best practices, through the Workshops on Green Economy, organized with the support of UNEP and UNDP. In Moldova we plan such an event for the first part of December, as part of our national preparatory process for Rio+20, and we hope that the participation at this event of business, industry, commerce, agriculture and other sectors representatives and of NGOs will mark a new stage in the promotion of this promising and globally recognized model of development in our country. Due to strong dependence from external energy and resources supply, we did not have too many alternatives in the filed of economic development, rather than a sustainable, environmentally friendly and social oriented development.

I would like to benefit from the opportunity, provided by this special round table in order to reconfirm the commitment of our country towards the promotion of Green Economic Development, in harmony with social and environmental goals and objectives. And we will continuously undertake practical measures to be part of this global and regional initiative.

Thank you!