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**REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEETING ON
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Fourth meeting
Geneva, 1–2 December 2009

**REPORT OF THE FOURTH REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEETING ON
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The fourth regional implementation meeting on sustainable development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) was held in Geneva on 1 and 2 December 2009 pursuant to a decision adopted by the Commission at its sixty-third session (E/ECE/1448, para. 23 (b)). The purpose of the meeting was to evaluate the progress made in achieving sustainable development goals in transport, chemicals and waste management as well as in changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production. The meeting addressed both breakthroughs and obstacles encountered in the region as well as the policies and measures required for further progress. Participants also discussed specific linkages between the thematic clusters and with cross-cutting issues. The meeting's key messages and policy recommendations are captured in the Chairpersons' summary, which will be submitted as the region's input to the global-level discussions at the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, to be held in May 2010 in New York.

2. The present document contains the information on meeting attendance and its organizational matters. The substance of the meeting is reflected in a separate document - the Chairpersons' summary - contained in the addendum to this report (ECE/AC.25/2009/2/Add.1).

II. ATTENDANCE

3. Approximately 220 delegates participated in the meeting, representing governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other major groups.
4. Representatives from 39 UNECE member States participated: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America and Uzbekistan. Representatives of the European Commission participated.
5. The following units of the United Nations Secretariat and specialized agencies of the United Nations system participated: the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. Secretariat support for the meeting was provided by UNECE.
6. The Nordic Council of Ministers and the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC-CEE) were also represented.
7. The following NGOs and private-sector organizations were represented: Baha'i International Community (BIC, United Kingdom), British Council (Switzerland), Central Asian Sustainable Development Information Network (CASDIN, Kazakhstan), Centre for Sustainable Production and Consumption (Kazakhstan), One Earth Initiative Society of Citizens Network for Sustainable Development (CITNET, Canada), Consumers International (United Kingdom), Dutch Women's Council, Eco-Accord (Russian Federation), European Youth Forum, European Association of Mining Industries (Euromines), Friends of the Earth (Ukraine), Green Liberty (Latvia), Green Union of Armenia, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI, Italy), IDC Moscow, International Charity Organization "Green Dossier" (Ukraine), International Council for Science (ICSU, France), International Council of Chemical Association (ICCA), International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW), International Road Transport Union, Regional Centre of Expertise (Austria), Northern Alliance for Sustainability (ANPED), Panteion University (Greece), Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living (PERL, Norway), Ukrainian National Environmental NGO "Mama-86", the Union for the Defence of the Aral Sea and Amudarya (Uzbekistan), University of Piraeus (Greece), Waste Advisers on Urban Environment and Development (Netherlands), Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF), World Federation of Engineering Organizations, World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) and Zelena Akcija/FOE Croatia (Green Action Croatia).

III. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

8. The meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Tania Valerie Raguz, First Secretary to the Permanent Mission of Croatia to the United Nations in New York and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Sustainable Development's eighteenth session for the East European States, and by Mr. Ulf Jaeckel, Head, Division Product-related Environmental Protection and

Standardization of the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission's eighteenth session for the Western European and Others Group.

9. Mr. Marco Keiner, Director, Environment, Housing and Land Management Division, UNECE, delivered the opening speech. The Director of the UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, Ms. Sylvie Lemmet, gave a keynote address.

10. The meeting's sessions focused on transport, chemicals management, waste management, mining, the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns and the cross-cutting issues, interlinkages and implementation of the decisions of the Commission's seventeenth session. Each session included a number of keynote addresses, which were followed by interactive discussions with broad stakeholder participation.

11. A preparatory meeting on sustainable consumption and production had been organized by UNEP with support from UNECE back to back with the fourth regional implementation meeting (Geneva, 30 November 2009). The preparatory meeting brought together experts and officials to consider the possible elements for a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns. The outcomes of the meeting contributed to the discussions at the regional implementation meeting.

12. The session on transport was chaired by Ms. Raguz. Mr. Edmond Haxhinasto, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Public Affairs, Transport and Telecommunication (Albania), Mr. Jens Hügel, Head, Sustainable Development, International Road Transport Union, and Mr. Tomislav Tomasevic, Director, Green Action, Croatia, gave keynote addresses.

13. The session on chemicals management was chaired by Ms. Raguz. Keynote addresses were delivered by Mr. John Matuszak, Division Chief for Sustainable Development and Multilateral Institutions, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Office of Environmental Policy, Department of State (United States of America), Ms. Astrid Schomaker, Head of Unit, Chemicals and Nanomaterials, Directorate General Environment, European Commission, Mr. Jerzy Majka, Inspector in the Bureau for Chemical Substances and Preparations, Poland (as regional focal point for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management), and Mr. Hubert Mandery, Council Secretary, ICCA and Director General, European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic).

14. The session on waste management was chaired by Mr. Jaeckel. Mr. Novruz Guliyev, Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources (Azerbaijan), Mr. Corneliu Mârza, Deputy Minister of Environment (Republic of Moldova) and Ms. Verele de Vreede, Information Officer, Waste Advices on Urban Environment and Development, delivered keynote addresses.

15. The session on mining was chaired by Ms. Raguz. Mr. Patrick Chevalier, Director, Strategic Outreach and Partnerships Division, Department of Natural Resources (Canada) and Mr. Johannes Drielsma, Euromines, on behalf of ICMM, gave keynote addresses.

16. The session on a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns was chaired by Mr. Jaeckel. Mr. Erik Hammarskjöld, Ambassador for Environment, Ministry of Environment (Sweden) reported on the outcomes of the preparatory

meeting on sustainable consumption and production. Keynote addresses were delivered by Mr. Paolo Soprano, Director, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (Italy), Mr. Gennady Gatilov, Director, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Russian Federation) and Ms. Leida Rejhout, Acting Secretary-General of ANPED.

17. The session on cross-cutting issues, interlinkages and implementation of the decisions of the Commission's seventeenth session was chaired by Mr. Jaeckel. Ms. Carol Kramer-LeBlanc, Director, Sustainable Development, Department of Agriculture (United States of America) gave a keynote address on progress achieved vis-à-vis implementation of the decisions of the Commission's seventeenth session. In addition, keynote addresses on cross-cutting issues and interlinkages were made by Ms. Nadine Gouzee, Head of the Task Force on Sustainable Development, Federal Planning Bureau (Belgium) and Mr. Jan-Gustav Strandenaes, Senior Policy Adviser, ANPED.

18. The meeting agreed that the two Chairpersons would present their summary of the meeting's discussions to the Commission's eighteenth session.

19. Meeting documents and materials are available on the UNECE website¹.

¹ http://www.unece.org/env/SustainableDevelopment/4Session/RIM_4.Dec2009.htm