

Statement of His Excellency

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Development*

ROMANIA

Implementation of UNECE Multilateral Environmental Agreements

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***Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

As it is well known, the UNECE conventions have had many successes and have made a significant contribution to the Pan European Region's environmental policy. Even so, ratification and region-wide implementation of UNECE Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) are not fully achieved and further actions are necessary to be urgent developed. At the same time, the elaboration and implementation of the recommendations of the Environmental Performance Reviews must continue.

Taking into consideration this aspect and the fact that UNECE agreements deal in particular with transboundary issues, regional or sub-regional cooperation is an important aspect of implementation. Also, it is well known that in a transboundary context, the integrated management of resources cannot be achieved by one country alone and requires cooperation among all the countries in the region.

In the last years, Romania made a lot of efforts in order to develop its legal framework on compliance with and implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Deeply aware on the importance of the UNECE's environmental conventions, Romania concluded to date the ratification of all five multilateral agreements as well as the necessary steps for the ratification of SEA and PRTR Protocols.

The national efforts were not limited to a simple transposition of these provisions into Romania's law, but they were aiming at the integration of the specific international objectives in our national strategies and policies. At the same time, we consider that we succeeded to increase the awareness and involvement the main population segments: local communities, private sector and civil society as regards the environmental protection and human health.

On the other hand, please let me consider the KIEV Guidelines for Strengthening Compliance with and Implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements in the ECE region an useful document for our regional level, in order to improve our actions and to avoid any possible obstacles in the implementation and compliance processes.

The regular reporting process and an increased exchange of information and technical data we consider being the main important element. At the same time, an active exchange of experience for analyzing the concrete modalities by which the implementation of these MEAs become more efficient, both at national, regional and international levels, is necessary.

Romania express its availability to develop this kind of relationships with all interested countries, considering that only through a direct approach of these problems and by avoiding the overlapping of the efforts, visible and rapid progresses will be registered on MEA's effectiveness.

At the same time, financial obligations which are supposed to be taken into account for the compliance with and implementation of MEAs is a challenging issue. Each country should participate by different types of funding mechanisms in order to put into practice the MEAs provisions. But the singular will of one state is not enough. We also need strong regional structures for the implementation of all the action programmes and partnerships.

We also consider that the capacity building and strengthening the partnerships should be a priority. All governmental institutions, the representatives of the business sector and civil society, as well as the financial institutions need to cooperate with the regional and international agencies and organizations.

Thank you for your attention.