

## **INTERVENTION**

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### **6A) ROUND TABLE ON**

#### **INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY CONCERNS INTO NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, ON INSTITUTIONAL DIALOGUE AMONG MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS, AND SUCCESSFUL POLICY INTEGRATION**

Republic of Montenegro is devoted to achieving development model which will reduce risks of unsustainable growth, appearance of unsustainable consumption and production growth, creating opportunities for sustainable development of current and future generations. By adopting the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, that was prepared through a participatory process in 2007, the basis for action oriented activities toward sustainable development principles implementation has been established. This is the first Strategy for sustainable development in SEE region, prepared following UNCSD requirements, based primarily on Agenda 21 and JPI, and OECD methodology. It is harmonized with Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development and the EU Sustainable Development Strategy. The National Council on Sustainable Development, chaired by Prime minister, was also expanded to ensure wider stakeholder representation, and has taken a more prominent role in inter-sectoral co-ordination and the integration of environmental concerns into policy making. Some experiences have been gained with new tools for the integration of sustainability requirements into policy making, through, for example, Strategic Environmental Assessment pilots for the National Spatial Plan and Energy Strategy.

The National Council on Sustainable Development adopted plan for implementation of NSSD and its related five years Action Plan. Although coordination mechanisms and clear division of the responsibilities between different stakeholders, are in place, many obstacles in regard the efficient implementation of the strategy are recognized. Even though the 'ecological state' concept and sustainable development are generally supported by a wide range of stakeholders and even though the number of sustainability instruments is growing, risks of unsustainable development choices still is present. Thus, we believe EU accession process would act as the supportive framework in SD action plan implementation and more decisive integration of sustainable development principles and environmental concerns in the mainstream economic and social development policies.

Therefore, I use opportunity to invite relevant stakeholders on a more decisive action toward strong cooperation in order to achieve the synergy in acting for the purpose of creation of the clear vision how practically to achieve sustainable development through environmental concerns integration in economic strategies, transparent participation of all relevant stakeholders in decision making process, enforcing dialogue and negotiations between concerned sides. In achieving this, the synergy in acting between EU institutions, present in SEE region in the scope of the accession and stabilization processes, and UN agencies is necessary leading vehicle toward institutional dialogue among major stakeholders and successful policy integration.

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