Proposals of the Republic of Kazakhstan on reforming of the «Environment for Europe» process

1. Considering the limited resources and growing needs for practical solving of the ecological problems (more than 10 billions $ are needed only for the water sector of the region) to reduce the number of regional priorities of the Program «Environment for Europe» up to 3, common for the whole Region:

   – the conservation of the water resources and water ecosystems;
   – the protection of lands and conservation of biodiversity;
   – energy efficiency and climate change.

2. For the integration of the existing fragmental and sectional methods to develop on their base more interconnected regional Environment and Sustainable Development program, which should be based on common ecosystems (subprograms), the quantitative target indicators and the partnership principles. The realizing mechanism of such a program should include more effective coordination and monitoring, harmonization and the legislation issues, regional economic mechanism, public participation, the long-term and the most predictable obligations of the donors, international organizations and the recipient states. The private sector and the business circles also should be the partners of this Program.

3. To develop more effective and predictable regional mechanism of the long-term financing of Program with consideration of the innovating mechanisms (payment for the ecosystem services, ecological taxes, etc.) and financing by the private sector and the industrial circles.

4. For the purposes of environment protection to invite countries, which are not part of the European region, but which have the common ecosystems with it (countries of Asian region: China, Mongolia, Afghanistan, etc.) to participate in the Country Program. For these purposes to develop the coordination mechanism with the same Environment and Sustainable Development Program of the Asian-Pacific region.

5. For the raising of the effectiveness and the practical realization of the Program in EECCA region with consideration of its economical and cultural properties, by the suggestion of Kazakhstan to set up the Eurasian Organization on Sustainable Development in the center of Asia – Astana city. To suggest to Kazakhstan to develop a concept of such an organization together with the Secretary of UNECE and other interested parties.

6. To set up the nets of the subregional and national supporting centers on the base of the acting and sustainable national, international and other organizations on all directions of the program. The nets of such specialized organizations can
increase the effectiveness of the implementation of the regional convention and program purposes in general.

7. To provide preparation of all analytical documents including the regional report on the status of environment before the one year prior to the Conference as minimum in order to provide preparation of the political decisions on their base, but not parallel, as it has been before.

8. To consider the possibility of the foundation of the regional ecological television with the news and teaching programs to support and develop the new ecological thinking, inform and involve public participation.