Item 14: Consideration of the draft ministerial declaration

MS. ANDJELKA MIHAJLOV, MINISTER FOR PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT, REPUBLIC OF SERBIA, ON BEHALF OF SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Dear Ministers,

Ladies and Gentlemen, and our host in a beautiful city of Kiev, as well as UNECE Secretariat congratulating for work done, here in Kiev with agreed text of Declaration, we-Ministers are showing the scope of our responsibility for future.

51 participating countries are offering declaration with clear targets and signs. Having that influence we associate ourselves with EU addition statement.

I would like to point out that the most important is Post-Kiev implementation process for each country and in general, Serbia and Montenegro is committed (as Balkan/Danube/Mediterranean/CEE/Carpathian/towards EU) to implement provisions of declaration, signed convention & protocols.

I have to note that Post-Kiev environmental investments are the part of success of process. Serbia and Montenegro is committed to make environmental pillar of sustainable development stronger.

I would like to note that I am happy that changes in our country are so rapid; among the rare countries environment become priority in the second year of reforms and just issued EPR already needs new assessment.

Few days ago, European Commission supported Serbia and Montenegro and gave the assurance that “THE DOOR FOR EUROPE” would be open for Serbia and Montenegro at the upcoming EU Summit, as expressed EC is ready to support Serbia and Montenegro in process of accession to EU.

Being the part of “Environment for Europe” process, we are substantially helping this way towards EU.

We committed ourselves to implement among others system building in partnership with NGO and other stakeholders, provisions on shared water, environmental security, renewable energy, waste and waste water management.

At the end, I would like to express strong interest of Serbia and Montenegro to host the next Conference of Ministers in Belgrade, and that could be noted in the point 76 of Declaration.

With no doubt I am looking forward to implementation process as the part “Environment for Europe” process as beneficial Environment of Europe and other UNECE countries.