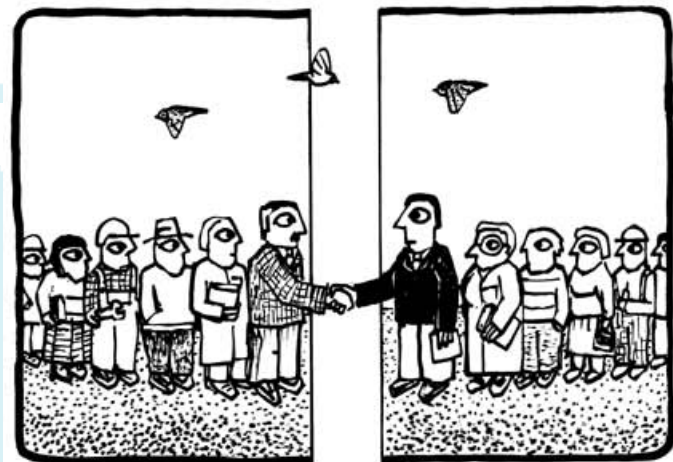


# Seminar on Cooperation under the Espoo Convention in the Baltic Sea Subregion

Espoo, 31 March – 1 April 2011

Nick Bonvoisin  
Secretary to the Espoo Convention  
UNECE

[www.unece.org/env/eia](http://www.unece.org/env/eia)



# Update . . .

- Status of ratification
- Bilateral & multilateral agreements
- Current workplan
  - Compliance with and implementation of the Convention
  - Subregional cooperation and capacity-building
  - Exchange of good practices
  - Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA
- Resources
- Meetings of the Parties, June 2011
- “Environment for Europe”, September 2011
- IAIA conference on SEA, September 2011

# UNECE any information on expected ratification? Status

State	Espoo	1 <sup>st</sup> amendment	2 <sup>nd</sup> amendment	SEA Protocol
Belarus	Party	Party		
Denmark	Party			Signatory
Estonia	Party	Party	Party	Party
Finland	Party			Party
Germany	Party	Party	Party	Party
Latvia	Party			Signatory
Lithuania	Party	Party	Party	Party
Norway	Party	Party	Party	Party
Poland	Party	Party		Signatory
Russian Federation	Signatory			
Sweden	Party	Party	Party	Party
European Union	Party	Party	Party	Party



# Bilateral & multilateral agreements

- Estonia and Latvia (1997)
- Estonia and Finland (2002)
- Germany and Poland (2006; in force 2007) – revision?
- Lithuania and Poland (2004)
  
- Belarus and Lithuania? Belarus and Poland?
- Denmark and Germany?
- Latvia and Lithuania?
  
- **Elsewhere in region:**
  - Multilateral agreement for SE Europe in force
  - Caspian Sea protocol on EIA in a transboundary context
  - Recommendations for Black Sea

# Workplan

- Compliance with & implementation of Convention
- Subregional cooperation & capacity-building
- Exchange of good practices
- Promoting ratification & application of SEA Protocol

# Compliance & implementation



- Review of compliance: Implementation Committee
  - Compliance issues
    - Submissions/follow-up: Romania, Ukraine
    - Initiative/follow-up: Armenia, Azerbaijan 
    - Information: Belarus
  - Not available to EU member States?
  - Limited opportunities for application to Protocol?
- Review of implementation: questionnaire
  - Source of information for Implementation Committee after Meeting of Parties

# Subregional cooperation (1)



- Baltic Sea area
- Eastern Europe
  - Belarus pilot project (2010) 
- SE Europe
  - Bulgaria, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have ratified the multilateral agreement (Serbia & Romania?)
- Black Sea
  - Seminar on EIA of large energy project in subregion (REC) 
- Mediterranean Sea
  - Tunisia (2010)
  - Follow-up workshop on a specific topic – Morocco?



# Subregional cooperation (2)



- Caucasus

- Georgia (24-25 May 2011) (Finland) 

- Central Asia

- IC*  • Tajikistan: July 2010 + March 2011 + ...  ?
-  • Kazakhstan: October 2010
-  • Turkmenistan: December 2010 + June 2011
-  • Subregional (Almaty, March 2011)
-  • Kyrgyzstan: 19-20 May 2011
-  • Uzbekistan: June/July 2011

 **GIZ** (  ) ( +  )





# Exchange of good practices

- Seminar on complex activities, Moscow (19-20 May 2011)
- Seminar on 20 years of law and practice (MOP)
- Nuclear panel discussion (MOP)
  - Finland, Lithuania, Norway
  - DG Env + DG Energy
  - Austria, France, IAEA? FoE
- **Bullet points and biographies??**



# Promoting ratification & application of SEA Protocol (1)


- 2 national awareness workshops, training using Resource Manual & pilot projects to provide assistance to countries in ratification of Protocol: Slovenia & Kyrgyzstan, 2010
  - Slovenia, June 2010
- Subregional (Almaty, March 2011)

H<sub>2</sub>O

# Promoting ratification & application of SEA Protocol (2)


- What is happening in practice?
- Application in a transboundary context
- Application to sectoral plans / programmes
- Application to policies / legislation (“endeavour”)
  - Each Party shall endeavour to ensure that environmental, including health, concerns are considered and integrated to the extent appropriate in the preparation of its proposals for policies and legislation that are likely to have significant effects on the environment, including health.
  - In applying paragraph 1, each Party shall consider the appropriate principles and elements of this Protocol.

# Resources


- Financially, just coming through: balance of + \$ 50,000 by MOP
- Staffing, progress:
  - Associate Expert (Finland): Laura Leino 
  - Extrabudgetary staff member: Tea Aulavuo



# Meetings of Parties

- Key elements
  - Review of compliance ... Ukraine ...
  - Finalization of workplan
  - Panel on nuclear
  - Seminar on 20 years
  - Adoption of decisions, declaration
  - Swiss programme in Central Asia / Reception 
- Practical
  - Officers / Committee members
  - How "high-level"?
  - Coffees / social

# “Environment for Europe”

- Astana, 21-23 September 2011
- Themes
  - Integrated Water Resource Management
  - Working towards greening the economy in the UNECE region
- Side-event:
  -  Switzerland, UNECE, UNEP, UNDP, Environment & Security Initiative?
    - Importance of impact assessment in planning related to greening the economy and in sustainable water management



UNECE

# IAIA

- SEA European conference, Prague, 21-23 September 2011
  - 10 years of Directive
  - 1 year of Protocol
- 2012?



Subregional cooperation – Baltic Sea  
Espoo, 31 March – 1 April 2011