I. INAUGURAL SESSION

Welcoming remarks:

Mr. Marco Keiner, Director, Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Ms. Sylvie Motard, Acting Director and Europe Regional Representative for Europe Regional Office, United Nations Environment Programme

Justice Antonio Benjamin, Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law and Judge of the National High Court of Brazil (video-message)

Justice Luc Lavrysen, Chair of the Colloquium, President of the European Union Forum of Judges for the Environment and Judge of the Constitutional Court of Belgium

Keynote address:

Ms. Eleanor V.E. Sharpston, Advocate General, Court of Justice of the European Union
The CJEU’s recent case-law on access to justice in environmental matters – helping to wedge the door open

Moderator: Mr. Jan Darpo, Chair of the Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Justice
II. PROMOTING EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND THE RULE OF LAW FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(A) Justice in Environmental matters and Sustainable Development Goals

i. Toward the Global Recognition of the Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment
   Mr. David Boyd, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment (video message)
   Ms. Soo Young Hwang, Human Rights Officer, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Special Procedures

ii. Environmental Constitutionalism: linking Sustainable Development, Environment and Human Rights
    Mr. James May, Professor of Law, Widener University – Delaware Law School, USA

iii. The Aarhus Convention and the role of courts in interpreting and applying environmental constitutional provisions
     Justice Miroslav Gavalec, Judge, Supreme Court, Slovakia

(B) Delivering effective access to justice to all: the Aarhus Convention

i. Enabling the public to effectively challenge administrative decision-making in environmental matters in court
   Mr. Jan Darpo, Chair of the Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Justice
   Justice Oleksandr Prokopenko, Judge, Supreme Court, Ukraine

ii. Effective judicial review (scope of review, timeliness, injunctive relief, remedies, costs)
    Justice Marc Clement, Judge, Administrative Court of Lyon, France
    The Honourable Mr Justice Dove, High Court Judge, United Kingdom

iii. Prevention of persecution and harassment (e.g. strategic lawsuits against public participation, awarding unreasonable costs)
     Justice Ksenija Dimec, Judge, County Court of Rijeka, Croatia

Lead Discussant: Mr. Louis Kotze, Professor of Law, University of Lincoln, United Kingdom

C) Use of international law in environmental adjudication: linkages between the Aarhus Convention and other UNECE multilateral environmental agreements

i. Espoo Convention and SEA Protocol – Ms. Elena Santer, secretary to the Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol, UNECE
ii. Air Convention – Ms. Albena Karadjova, secretary to the Convention, UNECE
iii. Water Convention – Mr. Martins Paparinskis, member of the Convention’s Implementation Committee
iv. Protocol on Water and Health - Ms. Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper, member of the Protocol’s Compliance Committee
v. Industrial Accidents Convention – Ms. Claudia Kamke, Environmental Affairs Officer, Convention’s Secretariat, UNECE

Lead discussant: Ms. Erin Daly, Professor of Law, Widener University – Delaware Law School, USA
II. PROMOTING EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND THE RULE OF LAW FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(D) Tools to support effective judicial review

i. Specialized tribunals and specialization of judges in environmental law
   Justice Anders Bengtsson, Judge, Land and Environment Court Växjö, Sweden, and member of the Association of European Administrative Judges
   Ms. Nanna Magnadóttir, Chair and Head of the Secretariat, Environmental and Natural Resource Board of Appeal, Iceland
   Justice Fatima Mrdovic, Judge, Supreme Court of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina

ii. Use of independent expertise in environmental matters by courts and other independent review bodies
   Mr. Gijs Hoevenaars, Lawyer and Technical Secretary, Commission for Environmental Assessment, the Netherlands

iii. Other tools to strengthen effectiveness
   Open discussion

Lead discussant: Mr. Jan Darpo, Chair of the Convention’s Task Force on Access to Justice

III. PROMOTING JUDICIAL COOPERATION

The session will focus on taking stock of recent developments of cooperation among the judiciary. After the introductory presentation, participants will be invited to discuss in break-out groups the opportunities for furthering cooperation at the global, ECE regional and sub-regional levels with reporting back to the plenary.

Introduction - Justice Beibut Shermukhametov, Judge, Supreme Court, Kazakhstan

Lead discussant: Ms. Erin Daly, Professor of Law, Widener University – Delaware Law School, USA

IV. CLOSING: KEY OUTCOMES AND NEXT STEPS

Justice Luc Lavrysen, Chair of the Colloquium
Mr. Jan Darpo, Chair of the Aarhus Convention Task Force on Access to Justice