



REC Statement at MoP-5

Agenda item 6 (c) Global and regional developments on issues related to Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) welcomes the process on the implementation of Principle 10 of Rio Declaration in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) countries and expresses appreciation on the progress achieved so far. The LAC Principle 10 process has developed with an impressive pace and gained a momentum since within less than two years the signatories of the 2012 Declaration on the Application of Principle 10 signed in Rio +20 almost doubled.

The Regional Environmental Center together with European Environmental Bureau is privileged to be in a position to facilitate the inter-regional cooperation on promotion and implementation of Principle 10 within the project “Building bridges between regions” funded by the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI) with the Eye on Earth and the Special Initiative Access for All (A4A). The Regional Environmental Center, over the years, has played a key role in the process of development and negotiation of the Aarhus Convention, developed to ensure implementation of Principle 10 in the UNECE region.

Within the project “Building bridges between regions”, the REC facilitates an informal forum for exchange of experience between UN ECE – UN ECLAC stakeholders, offering opportunities for:

- directly discussing with key stakeholders through live online exchange-webinars
- benefitting from the experience of the people who faced the challenges of negotiation, development and implementation of a regional instrument – Aarhus convention experience
- Sharing good practices and lessons learned
- Drawing recommendations on how to structure the process efficiently
- Gaining resources and information about the good practices and approaches under Aarhus convention

The REC uses the opportunity to extend an invitation to a side event dedicated to the process in LAC countries “Building bridges between regions. Implementation of Principle 10 and the Aarhus Convention” to be held during the 5th session of the Meeting of the Parties of the Aarhus Convention on 2 July 2014. The REC together with partners including UNEP, UNITAR, UNECE, UN ECLAC, TAI/WRI, EEB is committed to continuing facilitating the dialogue and cooperation between the stakeholders of UNECE and ECLAC regions and support the Principle 10 process of LAC countries. The REC looks forward to developing and implementing a capacity building programme in the forthcoming years



for different stakeholders in the ECLAC region and potentially in other interested regions/countries to enable the implementation of Principle 10.