

UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators First session

Geneva, 3-4 May 2010

Environment and Health Indicators: Assessment and reporting



World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

European Centre for Environment and Health

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Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health

Parma, Italy, 10-12 March 2010

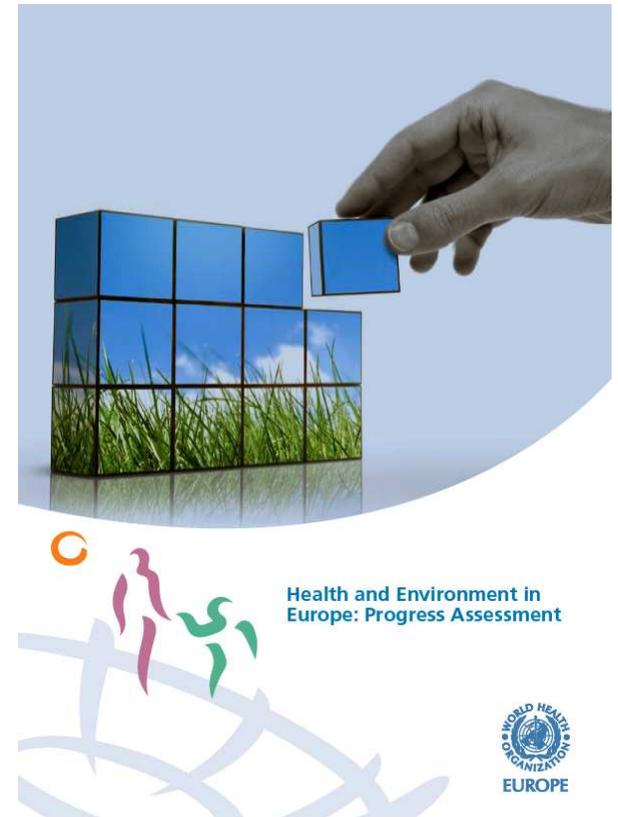


Assessment and Reporting to the Conference:

Progress in Environment and Health 1989-2010

Situation and trends in key EH issues
following core ENHIS indicators

Policy analysis based on
WHO EH Policy Survey



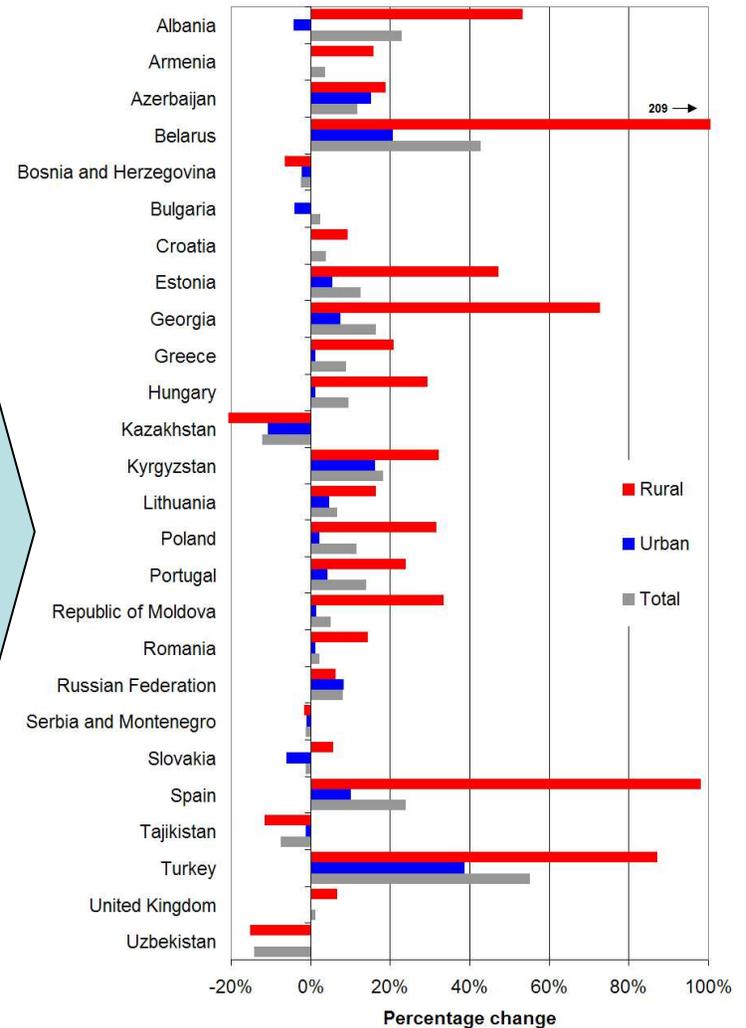
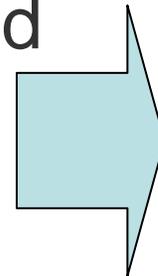
KEY MESSAGES

Change in population with house connection to improved water sources between 1990 and 2006 (%)

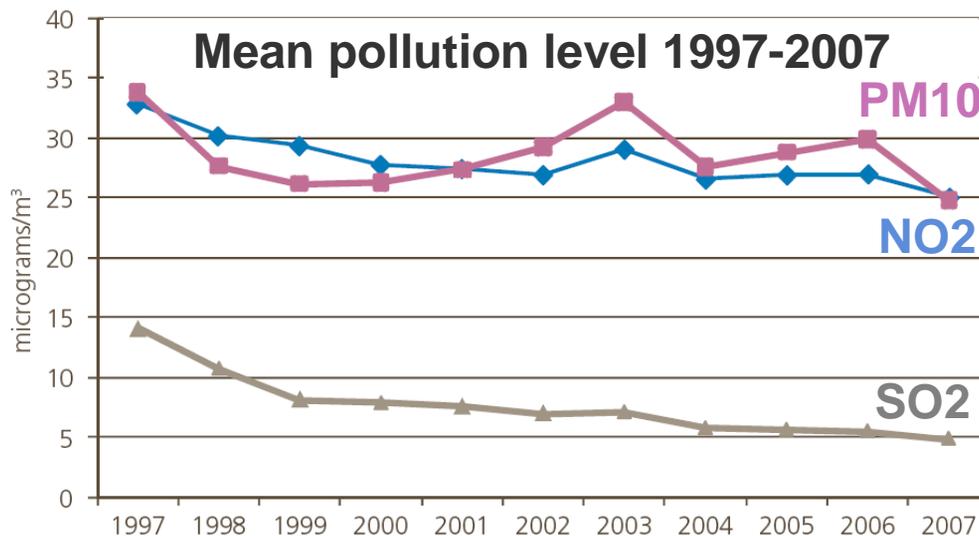
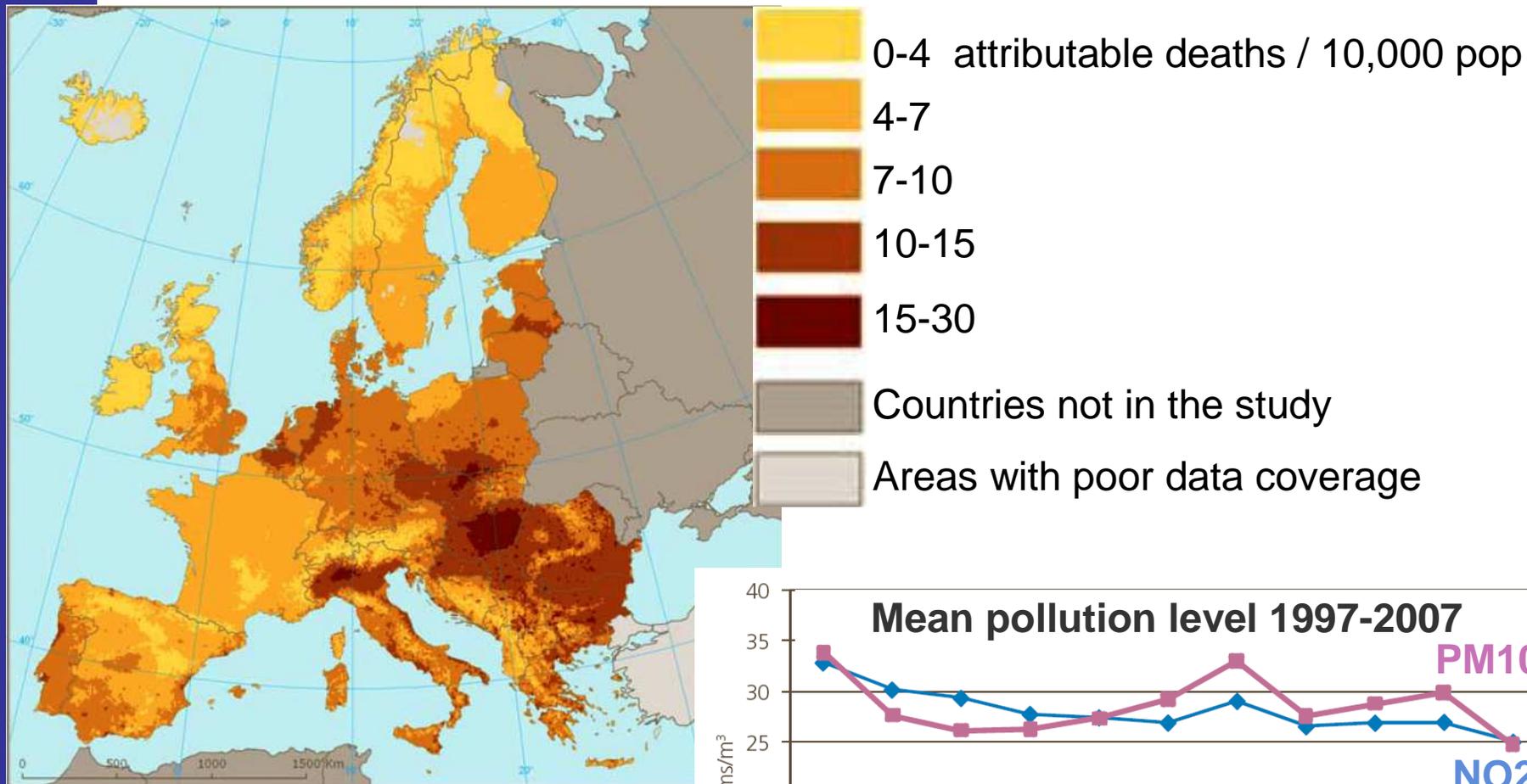
Thousands cases per year of drinking-water related illness registered even in well developed countries

Growing access to improved water in most, but not all, countries

More than 50% of rural population in 10 MS have no access to improved water



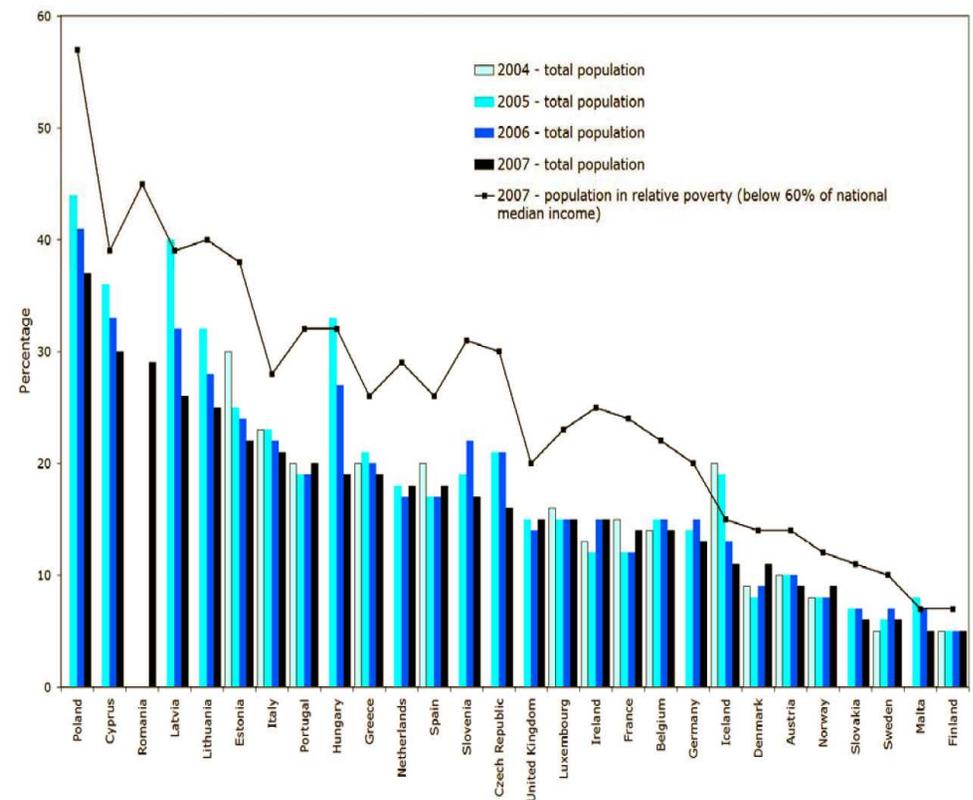
Premature mortality attributable to outdoor air pollution (PM2.5), 2005



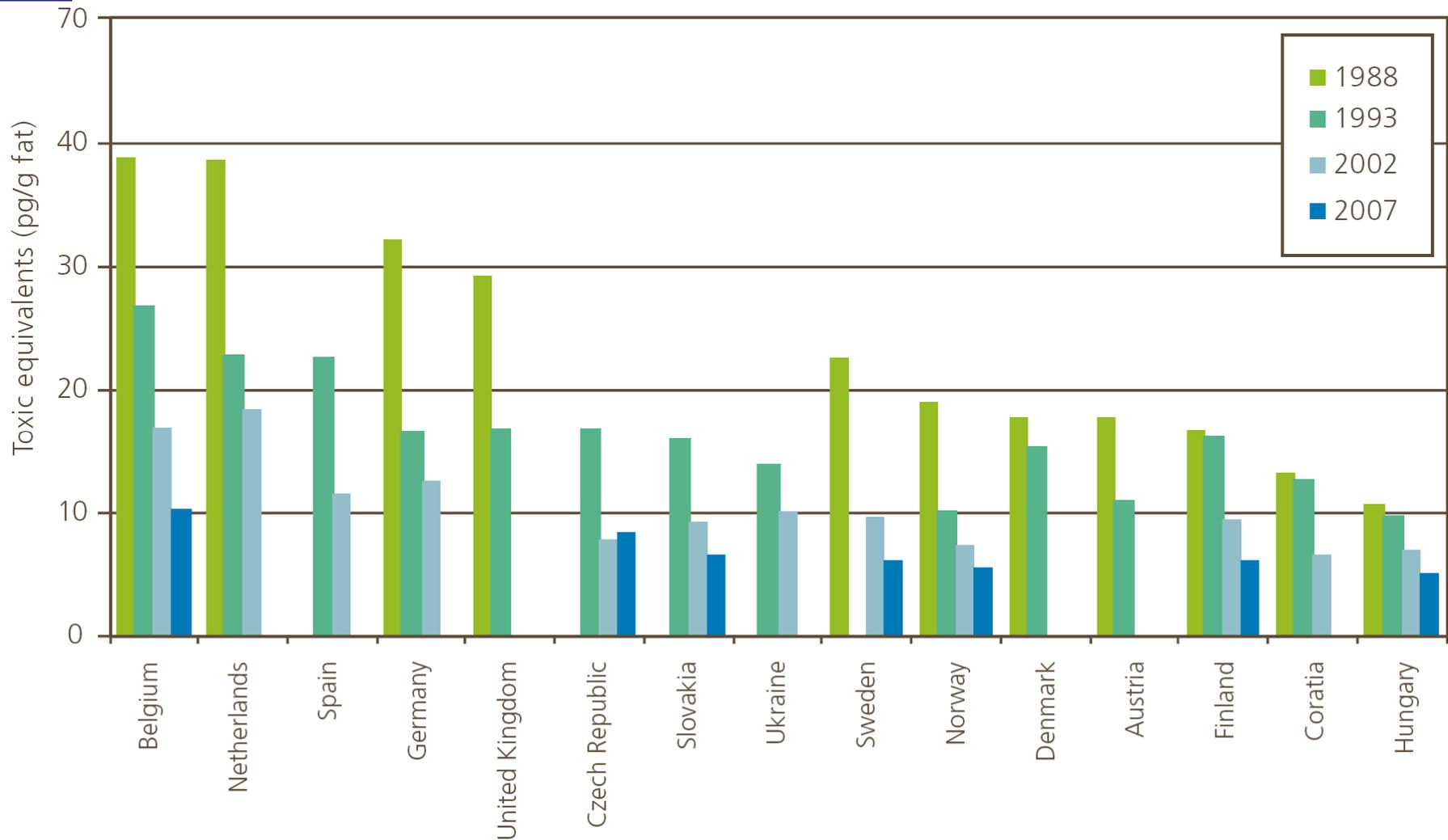
Indoor air quality: under-estimated risk

50% increase of risk of asthma and respiratory symptoms in people exposed to damp-related pollutants

Over 20% of households in many MS report damp problems



Dioxin levels in human milk, 1988-2007

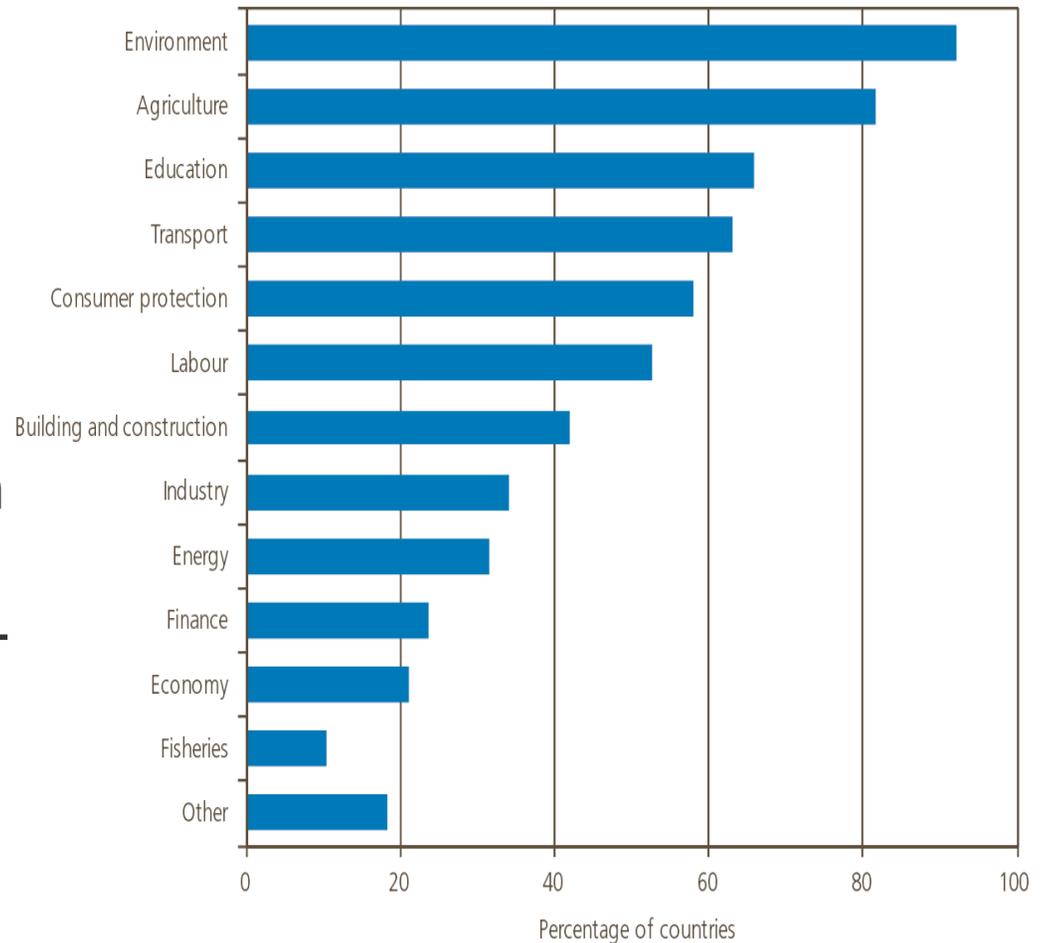


WHO EH Policy survey, 2009

Demonstrate work across sectors on health

Shows marked differences in extent of health integration among policies on various EH issues

Sectors involved in health-related programs



Conclusions

Environmental conditions of life improved since 1989 in most of the Region;

Health risks vary substantially between and within countries indicating further significant potential for disease prevention through exposure reduction;

The scope of knowledge and action has extended beyond prevention of traditional risks towards health & well-being supporting environments;

Availability of relevant data has significantly improved but not in all Region;

Health policies are unequally advanced across EH topics and accountability of the policies in relation to health needs to be enhanced;

Intersectoral collaboration on EH exists in most countries but needs further reinforcement.

The Parma Declaration is the first time-bound outcome of the environment and health process

European governments adopted a comprehensive plan to reduce environmental risks to health by 2020

Ministers of health and of environment committed to

- **provide equal opportunities to each child by ensuring access to safe water and sanitation, physical activity and healthy diets, improved air quality and an environment-free of toxic chemicals**
- **increase efforts to address emerging global challenges like climate change and socio-economic and gender inequalities**
- **work across sectors**
- **strengthen the collaboration with countries of Eastern and Southern Europe**



In Parma governments decided a new future of the environment and health process

During 2010 and beyond, the process will be revitalized through new arrangements.

It will be steered directly by ministers through regular ministerial conferences, to ensure the highest political profile.

In September 2010, Member States will gather in Moscow for the 60th WHO Regional Committee for Europe, to endorse the Conference outcomes through a resolution.

The 53 European countries will meet again at the 6th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in 2016.



THANK YOU!