DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

UNECE

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21 March 2017

Excellency,

We would like to take this opportunity to invite your Government to participate in the Regional Workshop on the Preparation for the 2017 Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the 2017 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) jointly organized by the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The workshop will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 24 April 2017 on the eve of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE region.

The objective of the workshop is to strengthen preparations for the 2017 VNRs through a regional exchange of experience and lessons learnt among the volunteering countries in the region. The meeting will also be an opportunity to take stock of preparations, including early areas of progress, as well as challenges encountered and will provide space for peer learning and mutual support. The workshop will build on the two VNR preparatory meetings held in New York in December 2016 and in March 2017 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

The draft programme of the regional workshop is attached.

Delegates attending the meeting are requested to register by 31 March 2017 at the following link: https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=dcvAQG.

The workshop will be open to all UNECE Member States that have volunteered to conduct VNRs at the 2017 meeting of the HLPF, with other UNECE Member States being able to participate as observers.

It is our sincere hope that your Government's representative will be able to participate in this VNR regional preparatory workshop.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

WU Hongbo
Under-Secretary-General
Secretary-General for the UN Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14

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