UNECE/OSCE ACTIVITIES

Bo Libert, regional advisor on environment
UN Economic Commission For Europe (UNECE)
Geneva
15th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
23 January 2007
Five regional environmental ECE conventions

- The protection of transboundary waters
- Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
- Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context
- Long-range Transport of Air Pollution
- Public information and participation in decision making (Aarhus)
Kirovsk water reservoir and distribution canals

Chumysh water reservoir and distribution canals

Water distribution canals

Chuiskie canals

Orto-Tokoisk water reservoir
Inauguration of the Chu-Talas bilateral commission 26 July 2006
Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context: Pilot implementation project in Central Asia

Project funded by the Norwegian Government
Capacity building for cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia

Funded in 2006 by the Finnish Government
• The Dniester river is transboundary (Ukraine, Moldova and Transdniestrian region) flows from the Carpathian mountains to the Black Sea

• More than 7 million inhabitants in the basin.

• The main source of drinking water in Moldova, a major source in Ukraine.
Concluding…

- Implementation of UNECE Conventions has a political aspect: environmental cooperation is a component of good neighborly relations.
- UNECE-OSCE cooperation is a contributing factor to success of projects.
- Can we do more on the political level?