

High Level Ministerial Panel on Responding to Climate and Environmental Challenges in SEE

31st March - 1st April 2016, Hotel Ramada, Podgorica, Montenegro

Agenda

31 March 2016

19:30 Reception on the occasion of the 1st High Level Panel Of Environmental Ministers of SEE and UNEP Workshop (by invitation only)

Hosted by: UNEP Regional Office for Europe; *Short address by Mr. Jan Dusik, UNEP Regional Director, UNEP RoE*

1 April 2016

Moderated by: Ivana Vojnovic, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro and representative of the RCC, co-chairs of the Regional Working Group on Environment

09:00 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 10:00 Opening

- Welcome by H.E Mr. Branimir Gvozdenovic, Minister, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro
- Opening statements
 - Mr. Goran Svilanovic, RCC Secretary General
 - Ms. Marta Bonifert, REC Executive Director
 - Mr. Jan Dusik, UNEP Regional Director
 - H.E. Ms. Gudrun Elisabeth Steinacker, Ambassador of Germany to Montenegro

10:00 – 10:30 *State of Environment, Challenges and Outlook in Europe and SEE;* David Stanners, Head of Partnerships and Networks, European Environment Agency (EEA)

Role of Environment Agencies in the Region: Support to the Policy Process; Georg Rebering, Representative of the West Balkan Interest Group within the European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:00 Ministerial Panel “Priorities for Regional Environmental and Climate Cooperation: The way forward”

Moderated by: Jelena Knezevic, Head of Division for Sustainable Development and integrated coastal zone management, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro

- Ministerial panel on addressing regional climate and environmental challenges and planning future actions in SEE. *Ministers will lead a moderated discussion and deliver statements on national and regional priorities, policy responses to current and future challenges, importance of regional cooperation and the way forward until 2020. Relevant processes, governance structures and mechanisms as well as their future development might be addressed.*

12:00 – 13:15 Putting Climate and Environmental Priorities in Action

Short statements of SEE 2020 Regional Dimension Coordinators and partner organizations. Each interested partner will be offered floor to deliver streamlined statement addressing one or two issues. REC might bring the voice of CSOs

- *Prof. Michael Scoullos, GWP-Med Chair*
- *Ms. Gordana Kozhuharova, Regional Director for SEE, REC*
- *Mr. Boban Ilic, Secretary General, Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group (SWG) in SEE*
- *Ms. Esra Buttanri, Head, Environmental Co-operation Unit, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities*
- *Ms. Gabriele Rechbauer, Sector Fund Manager GIZ ORF Biodiversity*
- *Mr. Peter Vajda, Energy Community Secretariat*
- *Mr. Garret Tankosic-Kelly, SEE Change Net*

Q&A session with the Panel participants

13:15 – 13:30 Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration

13:30 – 13:45 Closing session and hand-over ceremony of chairmanship over the WG ENV

- *H.E. Mr. Branimir Gvozdenovic, outgoing co-chair*
- *Ms. Stana Bozovic, representative of the incoming co-chair*

13:45 – 14:10 Group Photo and press opportunity

14:10 – 15:30 Lunch

Hosted by: IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Short address by Mr. Boris Erg, Director, IUCN ECARO