

European ECO-Forum events

in preparation and in parallel to the
6th Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”
10-12 October 2007, Belgrade, Serbia

8 October 2007, Sava Center, Belgrade, Conference Room 15

INTERNATIONAL ECO-FORUM CONFERENCE
In preparation to the 6th Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Time	Item
09.00	Registration of participants
09.30	Opening of the International ECO-Forum Conference. Welcoming remarks: - Chair of the ECO FORUM Coordination Board - Serbian NGO representative
9.45	Update on official process and comparison with ECO demands of Brussels Declaration. <i>Victoria Elias, Chair of the ECO-Forum CB</i>
10.15	The state of affairs with the Ministerial Declaration. <i>John Hontelez, EEB, PPCC Chair</i>
11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.30	Organization of work for coming days. 1. Draft ECOs Statement to the Ministerial Conference (structure and main messages) 2. Appointment of the Drafting group 3. NGO activities during the conference 4. Discussion
12.00	Drafting input to the Belgrade ECO-Forum Statement (possibly in a smaller groups)
13.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.30	Presentation of inputs to the Statement, discussion
15.30	Agreement on NGO interventions during the Ministerial (drafting group prepares the Statement)
16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
17.00	Adoption of the ECO Forum Statement
18.30	Other business, agreement on future work after Belgrade, closing the meeting

**PRE-CONFERENCE
ON BIODIVERSITY AND ITS LINK TO SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
PATTERNS**

9 October 2007, Sava Center, Belgrade, Conference Room 15

Background

Since its launch in 1991, the 'Environment for Europe' (EfE) process has been a unique platform of international environmental policy forming for the 56 countries within the UNECE region. Among other fields the EfE Ministerial Conferences delivered strong commitments and developed frameworks in biodiversity conservation, including the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS, endorsed in 1995) and the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity with the 2010 target to halt biodiversity loss (committed to in 2003). Since the last conference in 2003, governments, NGOs and other stakeholders have also paid more and more attention to sustainable consumption and production (SCP) within the EfE process and for the 2007 session are calling for a Pan-European framework, taskforce and stakeholder dialogues to support national and subregional SCP initiatives.

The 6th Ministerial Conference, which will take place on 10-12 October, 2007 in Belgrade, Serbia, will provide a good opportunity to greatly strengthen Pan-European cooperation on sustainable consumption and production issues. At the same time it will be the last Conference before the 2010 deadline to halt biodiversity loss on Pan-European level.

Recognising the significance of the links between consumption and production patterns and biodiversity changes in the entire region, the European ECO Forum, a Pan-European coalition of environmental citizen organisations is organising a pre-conference on 9 October in order to draw attention to these relationships, provide input into the Ministerial Conference discussions and foster future cooperation. About the pre-conference The pre-conference on one hand will deepen the understanding and raise awareness of biodiversity loss and its link to consumption, production patterns and thus to the economic and social processes underlying environmental problems. This new approach of linking these two themes will help to highlight the root causes of biodiversity loss, and the role of different sectors in nature conservation through their sectoral activities, as well as of the general public through their lifestyle. In addition, the preconference will also point out to the consequences that biodiversity and ecosystems decline can have on people's wellbeing.

In the afternoon session the presentations and discussions will focus on practical experiences and regional policy initiatives to tackle these issues, and thus it is aimed to facilitate Pan-European cooperation and implementation on the ground by NGOs, governments and other stakeholders. The pre-conference will be also a source of inspiration and provide input into the roundtables dealing with biodiversity, as well as sustainable consumption and production at the following Ministerial Conference. Besides the ample time available for open discussions during the whole event, the breakout session will give additional opportunity for active participation and formulation of common concerns, propose new ideas.

ECO Forum gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, DG Environment of Belgium for the pre-conference.

PROGRAM

Time	Item
09.00	Introduction and welcome (5')
I. Human well-being and the conservation of biodiversity – a necessarily tradeoff relationship?!	
09.05	The aims of development and reconciling society's needs and nature conservation interests (10') Mr. Frédéric Chemay , General Advisor, in the name of the FPS Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, DG Environment.
09.10	Ecosystem services (20') Ms. Marianne Kettunen , Institute for European Environmental Policy

	Why biodiversity and ecosystem services are essential for human life? Message from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.
09.30	<p>Causes of biodiversity loss, links to consumption and production (20') Mr. Joachim Spangenberg, ALARM Project, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research</p> <p>How do we harm biodiversity through our consumption and the production? Can we tackle the pressures on biodiversity effectively without looking at the drivers behind these pressures? The ice berg of "environmental problems". Looking at the relationships between development schemes and biodiversity. Patterns of pressures and production and consumption. Subregional differences between EU and EECCA countries.</p>
09.50	<p>Discussion (35')</p> <p>Questions to the audience: What is development? Is it possible to save biodiversity and meet present society's expectations at the same time? How can we promote fundamental changes in consumption and production patterns that can help achieving the 2010 target to halt biodiversity loss?</p>
10.30	Coffee break
II: Useful concepts & approaches to communicate and tackle the problem	
11.00	<p>Energy, climate change and biodiversity (20') Mr. Gunnar Boye Olesen, International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)</p> <p>Climate change, as being a challenge biodiversity, and a result of the energy sector. How can we transform our energy production to reduce climate impacts without degrading our biodiversity in other ways? Sustainable energy visions. The biomass and hydro dilemmas.</p>
11.20	<p>The SPAC scheme (20') Mr. Jeffrey Barber, Integrative Strategies Forum</p> <p>Sustainable Production and Consumption (SPAC) as a system and cycle within society. Threats of production and consumption on biodiversity, and the need to conserve biodiversity through SPAC policies and practices.</p>
11.40	<p>Discussion (30')</p> <p>Discussion based on the questions coming from the floor.</p>
12.10	Lunch break
III: Experience from Practice	
13.15	<p>Policies and initiatives on different levels I. (15') Ms. Anna Golubovska, Mama-86</p> <p>State of affairs regarding consumption, production and its relations to biodiversity changes in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central-Asia.</p>
13.30	<p>Policies and initiatives on different levels II. (15') Mr. Lewis Akenji, Association of Conscious Consumers</p> <p>Central and East European initiative to change unsustainable consumption trends. Biodiversity implications.</p>
13.45	<p>Pan-European policy developments on sustainable production and consumption (15') Mr. Pawel Kazmierczyk, European Environmental Agency</p> <p>Overview of progress in the development of policies on sustainable consumption and production in the pan-European region.</p>
14.00	<p>Panel discussion on the basis of lead questions and relevant questions from the floor ('60)</p> <p>Lead questions: What are the most effective entry points for governments and for NGOs to</p>

	conserve nature through influencing consumption and production patterns?
15.00	Coffee break
IV: The Way Forward	
15.30	Breakout session (discussion on the basis of prepared questions and questions arising from the panel discussions)
17.00	Report back to plenary
17.30	Conclusion of the pre-conference

**ECO-FORUM MORNING BRIEFINGS AND SECRETARIAT
during the 6th Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”**

Morning Briefings will take place in the Room 15 on 10, 11 and 12 October from 08:00 till 08:45

These meetings will be organized by the ECO Forum Coordination Board to discuss the strategy for the coming day, report back and discuss the previous day, make announcements and agree on common positions if necessary. The meetings will be the main NGO coordination events.

ECO Forum Secretariat during the Ministerial Conference will be located in the Room 22 of the Delegation secretariats part of Sava Center

**WORKSHOPS
during the 6th Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe”**

11 October 2007, Sava Center, Belgrade, Conference Room 15

Justice and Environment



J&E

European Network of Environmental Law Organisations
Environment for Europe, Belgrade 2007

Using law to protect the environment

Presentations and discussions

Time	Lecturers and content
	Morning session: What is the Justice & Environment (J&E) network ? Who are its associates from South-Eastern Europe ? What are their activities ? How do they use law to protect the environment ? If you want to know the answers, please join our morning session !
10.30	The Justice & Environment (J&E) network presented by Thomas Alge

11.00	Centrul de Resurse Juridice (CRJ), Romania presented by Stefania Rauschi
11.15	FRONT 21/42, Macedonia presented by Iskra Stojkovska
11.30	Break
11.45	Pravno-informacijski center nevladnih organizacij (PIC), Slovenia presented by Ana Matoz
12.00	Zelena Akcija (ZA), Croatia presented by Zeljka Leljak
12.15	Open discussion facilitated by Radek Motzke, J&E
Afternoon session: Presentation of leading cases, comparative analyses and a nation-wide survey related to environmental law.	
14.00	What is the standard of access to justice in J&E countries ? Prague-Airport case. presented by Radek Motzke, J&E
14.20	Biodiversity and law. Legal aspects of Natura2000 in J&E countries. presented by Kärt Varmaari, J&E
14.45	Break
15.00	Aarhus Convention in Romania. Rosia Montana case (litigated by CRJ in cooperation with Alburnus Maior association) presented by Stefania Rauschi, CRJ
15.20	Results of Aarhus survey in Macedonia presented by Iskra Stojkovska, FRONT 21/42
15.40	Break
15.50	Slovenian implementation of the Aarhus Convention presented by Ana Matoz, PIC
16.10	Public participation in the Croatian legislative process. Environmental Code. Cases. presented by Zeljka Leljak, ZA
16.30	Open discussion facilitated by Thomas Alge, J&E

The working language will be **English**.

12 October 2007, Sava Center, Belgrade, Conference Room 15

**ECO-FORUM CLOSING CONFERENCE
on results of the 6th Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe"**

This meeting will be organized after the official closing of the Ministerial Conference. Program and further information will be available at the ECO-Forum Secretariat and via the **DAILY NEWSLETTER.**

ATTENTION!!!

TO RECEIVE REGULAR UPDATES ON THE PROGRAM PLEASE CHECK THE INFORMATION, UPDATES AND ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS DURING THE CONFERENCE AT THE ECO-FORUM SECRETARIAT!!!