

Statement

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**at the High-Level Segment of the 63-rd Session of the UNECE
on the item 3 of the Agenda:
Climate change mitigation and adaptation – The work of ECE.**

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Climate change awareness on the way to Copenhagen

As an EU member state, Romania participates in the development of the EU position on climate change and supports the EU commitments to reach a global and comprehensive climate agreement in Copenhagen in December 2009 in the UNFCCC process. Based on the work programme for 2009, adopted last December in Poznan, the negotiations should enter as soon as possible into a full negotiating mode and provide for the introduction of negotiating texts in the second quarter of 2009.

Romania considers important that all Parties should take ambitious commitments and actions in accordance with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" and their national circumstances. In the same time, Romania as an EU Member State supports the EU climate and energy legislative package agreed at the EU level in December 2008, which contains the legal framework for the EU to achieve its independent commitment to reduce its emissions to 20% below 1990 levels by 2020, and the possibility to extend its target to 30% if other developed countries commit themselves to comparable emission reductions targets.

In the same time, developed countries targets should be distributed in a fair manner that ensures the comparability of efforts, being guided by a balanced combination of indicators and criteria taking into considerations the different national circumstances, capabilities and responsibilities.

Romania acknowledges that adequate, predictable and timely financial support for implementation of a Copenhagen agreement is crucial and it is ready to participate in this process providing that it will be governed by the principles of fairness, effectiveness, efficiency, equity, transparency, accountability, coherence, and predictability. Romania considers that the 2009 negotiations on generating financial support should focus on the determination of the overall level of support to be provided by individual Parties according to an agreed scale which should take into consideration the level of development of the Parties.

Public awareness represents an important field of action on climate change for relevant stakeholders such as the national government, the business community, environmental NGOs, and the media. These actions can range from general information activities to targeted information campaigns aimed at different areas in the field of climate change from

adaptation and vulnerability to industry participating in emissions trading.

Increased awareness will also increase the level of public participation in policy decision making on climate change. Implementation of policies and measures involves and affects the public sector, business and households, requiring public understanding and participation in order to succeed. The Government of Romania is therefore making all the efforts to ensure strong public participation in decision making and implementation through early involvement of stakeholders and relevant groups.

Climate change is already occurring and it will not be sufficient to prevent the adverse effects. Therefore adaptation must be comprehensively addressed in the Copenhagen agreement and adequately reflected in the ongoing and future development planning. As adaptation is a global challenge we look for the inclusion of a Framework for Action on Adaptation in the Copenhagen agreement, which will provide for international partnership and solidarity creating a more climate-resilient society.

We need to rally the entire society to contribute to the efforts needed in reducing the climate change impacts and supporting the necessary mitigation actions and measures, through the mobilization of all resources by promoting co-operation among all countries facing this global challenge.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I am confident that by additional efforts towards integration of policies on climate change we will continue our way forward to Copenhagen.

Thank you for your attention.