

8th Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe"
Batumi, Georgia, 8-10 June 2016
AGENDA ITEM 3 on ESD
"Towards a new society: 10 years of education for sustainable development"

STATEMENT BY THE ALTERNATE MINISTER
FOR ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY OF GREECE
MR. IOANNIS TSIRONIS

Excellencies, colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The SDGs require a more coherent approach for all policy sectors and for the cooperation between all different stakeholders.

In this context, Education for Sustainable Development plays an important cross-cutting role. It can assist implementation of all SDGs.

It can promote sustainable consumption and mobilise consumer demand for "greener" choices.

Therefore, the "educational dimension" should be the fourth dimension of sustainable development, along the environmental, the social and the economic one.

For Greece, Education for Sustainable Development is a crucial element of democracy and of inclusive societies.

Greece has been very actively involved in the promotion of the UNECE Strategy for ESD since its beginning, in 2005. Moreover, in the context of the "Union for the Mediterranean", the "Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development" was endorsed 2 years ago in Athens.

Therefore, we are pleased to adopt the Framework for the future implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD. It will contribute to the Global Action Programme on ESD as well as the 2030 Agenda.

Thank you._