



WGEMA-10

3-4 September 2009, Geneva



Corporate Environmental Reporting

Mikhail Kokine, UNECE

Issues for evaluation on the basis of countries' reviews



Belgrade EfE Ministerial Conference (2007) endorsed *Enterprise Monitoring Guidelines* and called for their full implementation:

- undertake at the international level and in close cooperation with business and industry, of *detailed manuals on model environmental monitoring programmes* for enterprises in major polluting sectors (chemical, oil and gas, and still-making industries and others)
- supplement regulatory environmental reporting by enterprises *by corporate environmental or sustainability reports* to provide information to stakeholders, clients and members of the public about the operator's environmental performance and establish specific legal frameworks and inducements for the purpose



Working Group in 2008 decided

- develop practical guidance on model enterprise environmental monitoring programmes in selected major polluting industries, including methodologies for measurement, calculation and estimation of emissions, environmental quality and impacts, and the production of indicators which are meaningful for improving environmental performance and resource efficiency
- to review country experiences with specific legal approaches, incentives and inducements to promote the publication of open corporate environmental and sustainability reports



Some conclusions on experiences with corporate reporting

- a move by Governments and international institutions to mandate rules for disclosure of certain environmental information and issue supportive guidance
- a tendency to set rules for disclosure of environmental information in annual accounts and financial reports, particularly when the environmental impacts of the company have direct or indirect implications on the financial performance
- these schemes respond to needs of stakeholders who want to see how environmental issues drive overall performance



Some further conclusions

- convergence of various reporting requirements on the environmental, social and economic issues
- with increased interest in CSR, the scope of environmental reports is widening to include social, environmental and economic factors