Template for submitting voluntary commitments to the Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (Nicosia call)

To be filled in by submitting country/organization

1. **Country or organization:** Albania

2. **Title of the action (referencing in parenthesis the number of the related focus area(s) that the initiative will contribute to):** Review of the Albanian National Strategy on Ambient Air Quality

3. **Description of the action:** Update of the National Ambient Air Quality Strategy, approved by Decision of Council of Ministers no. 594, of 10.9.2014, or draft of a New Strategy. Develop a set of air quality indicators for the updated/new strategy to track implementation.

4. **Timeframe/milestones for the action, as appropriate:** 2024 and ongoing

5. **Type of action:** legal, regulatory and policy instruments

6. **Economic sectors:** economy-wide, cities and specific sectors contributing to air pollution in Albania.

7. **Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** The national ambient air quality strategy, approved by Decision of Council of Ministers no. 594, of 10.9.2014, which can be found here: Ministria e Turizmit dhe Mjedisit. This document determines limit values based on human health, for specific pollution. These objectives must be achieved within a time frame of 5 and 10 years from the date of the Strategy's approval, until 2024.

8. **Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** The new strategy document on ambient air quality is expected to make the connection between economic sectors, emissions, as well as negative effects on air quality.

9. **SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:** Air pollution policy can significantly contribute to achieving several of the Sustainable Development Goals, notably to: ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all; end hunger, achieve food security and promote sustainable agriculture; make cities and human settlements safe and sustainable; ensure access to sustainable and modern energy for all; and protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss.

10. **Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Recommendations, as appropriate:**

   Recommendation 1.3: The Government should further improve the quality of strategic planning, and in particular ensure:
   (a) Timely preparation and adoption of strategic documents;
   (b) Regular preparation of implementation reports;
   (c) Online accessibility of information on the Integrated Planning System, National Strategies for Development and Integration (NSDIs), sectoral and cross-cutting strategies and implementation reports on all of the foregoing.

11. **Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate:** to be decided in the future.

12. **Partners:** possible donors such as: EU Commission; IPA project, giz, UNDP, etc (tbd).

13. **Contact points:** Ministry of Tourism and Environment of Albania, Directory of the Policies and Strategies of Environmental Development.
Additional information on the Nicosia focus of the action:

- Is the action related to the Nicosia environmental theme I: “Greening the economy in the pan-European region: working towards sustainable infrastructure”? (YES / NO)
  - If yes, please indicate below to which “International Good Practice Principles for Sustainable Infrastructure” the action contribute:

- Is the action related to the Nicosia environmental theme II: “Applying principles of circular economy to sustainable tourism”? (YES / NO)

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1 Based on the “Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy” (ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/6, appendix). Webpage: [https://unece.org/documents-and-materials](https://unece.org/documents-and-materials)

ii Nine integrated focus areas were identified in the Strategic Framework are:
   1. Improve the measurement and valuation of natural capital;
   2. Promote the internalization of negative externalities and the sustainable use of natural capital;
   3. Enhance ecosystems and ecosystem services as part of ecological infrastructure;
   4. Shift consumer behaviours towards sustainable consumption patterns;
   5. Develop clean physical capital for sustainable production patterns;
   6. Promote green and fair trade;
   7. Increase green and decent jobs, while developing the necessary human capital;
   8. Improve access to services, healthy living and well-being;

iii In accordance with the Strategic Framework, the following three types of actions are suggested:
   (a) legal, regulatory and policy instruments;
   (b) economy and fiscal instruments; and
   (c) information, education-based, capacity-building and voluntary instruments.

   Countries and organizations should refer to any of these three types, as appropriate and relevant.

iv In accordance with the Strategic Framework, the following three clusters of sectors are suggested:
   (a) economy-wide;
   (b) cities; and
   (c) sectors, including: agriculture, forestry and fishing; energy; mining; manufacturing; transport; water; waste; tourism; and housing, buildings and construction.

v The “International Good Practice Principles for Sustainable Infrastructure” (as reflected in a subsequent UNEA Resolution UNEP/EA.5/Res.9) set out ten guiding principles that policymakers can follow to help integrate sustainability into infrastructure planning and delivery:
   1. Strategic planning;
   2. Responsive, resilient, and flexible service provision;
   3. Comprehensive lifecycle assessment of sustainability;
   4. Avoiding environmental impacts and investing in nature;
   5. Resource efficiency and circularity;
   6. Equity, inclusiveness, and empowerment;
   7. Enhancing economic benefits;
   8. Fiscal sustainability and innovative financing;
   9. Transparent, inclusive, and participatory decision-making;
   10. Evidence-based decision-making.

1. Country or organization: Albania

2. Title of the action (referencing in parenthesis the number of the related focus area(s) that the initiative will contribute to): Preparation of the national plan on chemicals safe management

3. Description of the action: Preparation for the first time of the national plan on chemicals safe management, as a legal requirement of the law 27/2016 “On chemicals management”. This plan will determine the objectives and measures that will be implemented in the next 5 years in Albania in order to protect people and the environment against toxic and dangerous chemicals.

4. Timeframe/milestones for the action, as appropriate: 2022 and ongoing

5. Type of action: - legal, regulatory and policy instruments
   - information, education-based, capacity-building and voluntary instruments


7. Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate: The law 27/2016 “On chemicals management”, which can be found here: Ligj_27_2016_17.03.2016.doc (live.com)

8. Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome: The new national plan on chemicals safe management will determine the objectives and measures necessary that will be implemented in the next 5 years in Albania in order to protect people and the environment against toxic and dangerous chemicals.

9. SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement: SDG 8 (sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, productive employment and decent work) und SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production patterns), DG 3 on Good Health and Well-being and SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation. SDG 9 on Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

10. Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Recommendations, as appropriate:
    Recommendation 8.5: The Ministry of Tourism and Environment should implement the necessary capacity-building and organizational development activities on chemicals management, following the requirements of the 2016 Law on Chemicals Management.

11. Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate: to be decided in the future.

12. Partners: Sweden Chemicals Agency (KemI) and SIDA.


Additional information on the Nicosia focus of the action:

○ Is the action related to the Nicosia environmental theme I: “Greening the economy in the pan-European region: working towards sustainable infrastructure”? (YES / NO)
  ▪ If yes, please indicate below to which “International Good Practice Principles for Sustainable Infrastructure” does the action contribute:
Is the action related to the Nicosia environmental theme II: “Applying principles of circular economy to sustainable tourism”? (YES / NO)

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