



## 70<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

DIGITAL AND GREEN TRANSFORMATIONS  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
IN THE REGION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
18-19 APRIL 2023 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

**High level segment:** Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe

**10:20 - 13:00**                      **High-level dialogue**

Madame Chair,  
Madame Executive Secretary of UNECE  
dear colleagues,

'Cyprus 2035' is the policy and strategic vision through which the Republic of Cyprus is guiding its efforts to achieve sustainable development by establishing the necessary policies that stimulate innovation, accelerate digitalization, and reach digital transformation and green transition.

The investments and reforms surrounding the implementation of this strategy are being supported through the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, with an overall budget of €1.25 billion of investment for the period 2021-2026 in concert with the use of the EU Thalia program, with a budget of €1,8bn focusing on green transition, energy efficiency and the digital transformation of small and medium enterprises.

The main pillars of the digital strategy are centered on

- Technology that works for the people
- A vibrant, innovative, sustainable and resilient economy
- An open, democratic and inclusive society
- A green digital transition.

On Green Transition, which accounts for 41% of the investments under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, actions towards achieving the energy and climate targets in 2030 and beyond, relate to green taxation, the opening-up of the electricity market and the facilitation of licensing of renewable energy, renovation projects and the modal shift towards electro-mobility.

Given the challenges that Cyprus is facing in order to meet the EU targets toward the green transition, such as triggering green investments in households, enterprises, as well as in municipalities, communities, the public and wider public sector and NGOs; making buildings, transport and other facilities and processes more energy and resource efficient; preserving the environment and enhancing biodiversity and wildlife, the transition to a Circular Economy is a key priority for the country. This is pursued through an Action Plan which focuses on creating a culture both among citizens (sustainable consumption) and manufacturers/entrepreneurs and providing effective incentives for industry to invest in the circular economy and create the necessary infrastructure. Furthermore, Cyprus is promoting Green Public Procurement by making it mandatory for all Public Sector Contracting Authorities, Public Law Organisations, and Local Authorities.

Significant interventions and policies that promote energy efficiency, Renewable Energy Sources, sustainable mobility, the development of a sustainable blue economy as well as the enhancement of biodiversity and the transition towards a circular economy, are expected to be implemented by 2030.

I conclude, by underlining the fact that Cyprus commits to intensifying its efforts to move to circular economy, through a medium to long-term holistic growth strategy that is sustainable and resilient. The digital transformation of the economy goes hand in hand with the vision of achieving climate

neutrality. At the same time, we acknowledge that investing in digital and green transition we invest in efficiency and competitiveness.

Thank you.