



Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

**“GREENER, CLEANER, SMARTER”
Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June, 2016**

Short Review

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Participants:

- Delegates from 44 member States of the United ECE
- Organizations of the United Nations
- International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, Global Water Partnership, Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, Nordic Council of Ministers, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Scientific Information Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia, European Union, REC, Financial institutions
- **The European ECO Forum- NGO Representatives**



Events:

Sessions:

- Environment dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Keeping the pan-European environment under review
- Ten years of education for sustainable development
- Greening the economy in the pan-European region
- Improving air quality for a better environment and Human health

7 Exhibitions

33 Side events



Conference outputs:

- Ministerial Declaration
- The ECE Executive Secretary signed the Joint Statement in support of the Efforts on Reforestation and Afforestation in the Aral Sea Basin between ECE and the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
- List of possible green economy actions



Ministerial Declaration:

- Confirms commitments to:
Improving environmental protection and advancing sustainable development (SD)
Take the lead in the transition to a green economy as a key path to SD
- Endorse: Voluntary “Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy”
- Concerns that air pollution remains the largest environmental health threat



- Appreciates:
 - Multilateral environmental agreements
 - Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Programme
 - Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)
 - Astana Water Action
 - Environmental Action Programme Task Force
- Civil society participation: including business, women, NGOs, academia and other groups, role in decision -making to improve the environment and promote SD
 - Commit to further develop partnerships with them and create favourable conditions for their operation



Welcomes the contribution of the European ECO Forum to the
Environment for Europe

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-ss_Feb2016/CEP-SS.decisions.edited.e.pdf



List of possible green economy actions:

- Legal, regulatory and policy instruments
- Economic and fiscal instruments
- Information, education-based, capacity building and voluntary instruments

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/cep/CEP-ss_Feb2016/DraftPossibleGreenEconomyActions_IP.6_e.pdf