



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

2019 Aarhus Centres Annual Meeting

16-17 October 2019, Vienna

Venue

16 October: Alois-Mock-Saal(), Federal Ministry for Europe,
Integration and Foreign Affairs, Republic of Austria - Minoritenplatz 8*

17 October: room 533, Hofburg, Heldenplatz

(* Only registered participants will be granted access to the meeting venue. Online registration (<https://events.osce.org/aarhus-centres-meeting/registration>) is available until Monday, 14 October 2019

AGENDA

Wednesday, 16 October

09:00 - 09:30 **Arrival**

09:30 - 09:45 **Opening**

- **Ambassador Vuk Žugić**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Mr. Martin Končal**, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Slovak Republic to the OSCE, 2019 OSCE Slovak Chairmanship
- **Dr. Marco Keiner**, Director, Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) – video message
- **Mr. Peter Sonnenhol**, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE

09:45 - 11:00 **Session 1: Strengthening the role of Aarhus Centres in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Moderator: Mr. Filippo Crivellaro, Head of Economic and Environmental Department, OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Speakers:

- **Ms. Esra Buttanri**, Senior Adviser, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Ms. Maryna Yanush**, Environmental Affairs Officer, Aarhus Convention Secretariat, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

- **Ms. Ekaterina Kouznetsova**, Head of the General Directorate of Environmental Policy, National Focal Point to Aarhus Convention, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, Republic of Belarus

Discussion

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 - 13:00 **Session 2: Best Practices of Aarhus Centres in contributing to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention's pillars**

Moderator: Mr. Ralf Ernst, Deputy Co-ordinator, Head of Environmental Activities, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- **Ms. Natalia Baydakova**, Head of Strategic Planning Division, National Focal Point to Aarhus Convention, State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry of Kyrgyz Republic
- **Mr. Yolbars Kepbanov**, Legal Adviser of Aarhus Centre Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
- **Ms. Narine Solomonyan**, Adviser to the Minister, National Focal Point to Aarhus Convention, Ministry of Environment, Armenia
- **Mr. Samir Lemeš**, President of NGO Eko Forum Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Discussion

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 - 16:00 **Session 3: Access to information and public participation in Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

Moderator: Ms. Elena Santer, Secretary to the Implementation Committee Environmental Affairs Officer, Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Speakers:

- **Mr. Martin Smutný**, Integra Consulting Ltd., Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultant
- **Ms. Nino Gokhelashvili**, Head of Sustainable Development Division, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia
- **Ms. Rodica Iordanov**, Chisinau Aarhus Centre, Moldova
- **Mr. Eldos Abakanov**, Association of ecological organizations, Kazakhstan

Discussion

16:00 - 16:30 Coffee Break

16:30 - 18:00 **Session 4: Aarhus Centres' engagement in implementing the Espoo Convention and Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment**

Moderator: Mr. Martin Smutný, Integra Consulting Ltd., Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultant

Speakers:

- **Ms. Galyna Sierova**, Director Aarhus Centre, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ukraine
- **Ms. Brankica Cmiljanović**, Head of the Directorate for Horizontal Legislation, Directorate of Environment, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro
- **Ms. Zarina Nazarzoda**, Deputy Chairman, Committee of Environment Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
- **Ms. Karina Bekmirzaeva**, Head of Department, State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection, Republic of Uzbekistan

Discussion

18:30 - 20:30 Reception hosted by the OSCE – **Vorsaal, Hofburg**

Thursday, 17 October

09:30 - 11:00 **Session 5: Sustainability of Aarhus Centres: resource mobilization and visibility of the Centres and their initiatives**

Moderator: Ms. Olivera Zurovac-Kuzman, National Environmental Affairs Officer, OSCE Mission to Serbia

Speakers:

- **Mr. Bernhard Zlanabitnig**, Director of EU-Umweltbuero, Vice-President of European Environmental Bureau
- **Ms. Alminda Mema**, Manager of Aarhus Information Centre Shkodra, Albania
- **Ms. Silva Ayvazyan**, Coordinator of Yerevan Aarhus Centres, Armenia
- **Mr. Ikromjon Mamadov**, Manager of Aarhus Centre Khujand, Tajikistan

Discussion

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 - 12:30

Session 6: Way forward: improving the achievement of Aarhus Centres' outcomes

Moderator: Ms. Saule Ospanova, Head of Environmental Cooperation Unit, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- **Mr. Sulaiman Tursunakunov**, Manager of Aarhus Centres Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyz Republic
- **Ms Sonja Popovic**, Manager of Aarhus Center from South and East Serbia
- **Ms. Alla Yushchuk**, National Project Officer, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine
- **Mr. Tural Mammadov**, Senior Advisor, National Focal Point to Aarhus Convention, Ministry of Ecology and National Resources, Republic of Azerbaijan

Discussion

12:30 - 13:00

Conclusion

- **Mr. Ralf Ernst**, Deputy Co-ordinator, Head of Environmental Activities, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- **Mr. Andris Stastoli**, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Albania to the International Organisations in Vienna, Albania OSCE Chairmanship 2020