



REC Statement at MoP-5

Agenda item 7(b) Strategic Plan for 2015–2020

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) expresses gratitude to the Chair, Bureau and the working group of parties and stakeholders for the preparation of the document. The REC supports the Strategic Plan for 2015-2017 and intends to play an active role in its implementation. We look at the new Strategic Plan as the continuation of the previous Strategic Plan, and we hope that it will be fully implemented.

We see equally important to work towards the full implementation of the Convention, increasing the impact of the Convention by encouraging and supporting countries in the ECE region or outside ECE region interested to accede to the Convention, or which intend to learn from the experiences of the Aarhus Convention implementation and develop their own regional instrument promoting Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration.

We also see that the Convention's Strategic Plan should be visionary. The Parties of the Convention should keep the principles and provisions of the Convention under review and consider forward-looking interpretations and further development of these provisions, as it may be needed in order to respond to further environmental challenges and new developments in society and technological innovations.

The REC will continue to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan as it has already done in the previous years through its activities.