

Budva Declaration

on strengthening regional cooperation and coordination in promotion of energy in the context of sustainable development and green economy in South East Europe

*At the meeting of Ministers of sustainable development and energy of
The South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP)
Budva, April 8th, 2011*

We, Ministers and high representatives of the SEECP participating states, responsible for sustainable development and energy,

1. **Reaffirming** the vital importance of stability, strengthening of democratic institutions and the implementation of the EU, Euro-Atlantic and UN policies in the region, as we agreed that broader and deeper collaboration with these international partners and institutions is required to develop and implement sustainable solutions and to promote sustainable development,
2. **Acknowledging** that the aim of this SEECP Ministerial Meeting, is to identify regional needs and priorities, and provide synergic guidance as well as facilitate harmonization of donors' activities, thus avoiding overlapping and duplication, ahead/in view of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro,
3. **Recognising** that sustainable development involves human progress towards a more prosperous and equitable future within the context of environmental protection and development with respect to the access to resources, energy, markets, health and education,
4. **Demonstrating** our willingness to firmly continue cooperation in promoting sustainable energy use, environmental protection and social inclusion, with the aim of enforcing principles of sustainable development and exploring the opportunities for green economy strongholds on national, regional and global levels,
5. **Recalling** the fact that visible results and continuous improvements in sustainable energy use lead to sustainable development and can be achieved only through coherent, integrated and transparent regional cooperation and approach,
6. **Being convinced** that climate change presents an imminent danger which requires an extraordinary regional and global response that must involve balanced attention to mitigation and adaptation, by respecting the priority of economic and social progress of both developed and developing countries,

7. ***Being aware*** that the need for deployment of transformational clean energy technologies at lowest possible cost is urgent, and that a transition to low-carbon economies must become an opportunity to promote continued economic growth and sustainable development ,
8. ***Having regard*** to the EU Resource Efficiency Flagship and the Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth which includes commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20%, to increase the share of renewable energy to 20% and to make a 20% improvement in energy efficiency,
9. ***Recognizing*** that the ***EU Roadmap*** for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050 represents an integral part of a global strategy to prevent negative climate changes and keep the global average temperature increase below 2oC compared to pre-industrial levels, and
10. ***Reaffirming*** the objectives, provisions and principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development as well as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Hereby declare our commitment to:

- a. **Coordinate** public sector's "lead-by-example" actions in research, development and promotion of inclusive growth and sustainable development, while recognizing the importance of private investment, public-private partnerships and international cooperation, including through development of regional innovation centers.
- b. **Our preparations** for the Rio Conference on Sustainable Development with regards to the issues of identifying tools and mechanisms for implementation of green technologies in the energy sector in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, including energy poverty.
- c. **Continue joint work** on removing barriers, establish incentives, enhance capacity-building, and implement appropriate measures, building on best practice policies, and within the framework of international agreements as well as our respective laws and practices, and to strongly support deployment and transfer of key existing and new low-carbon technologies, in accordance with national circumstances.
- d. **Promote** the use of existing national and international instruments and facilitating mechanisms based on the multi-stakeholder approach and mutually beneficial collaboration among governments, civil society, business sector, industry and scientific community;

Budva, Montenegro, April 8th 2011