

High Level Conference, Belgrade, Serbia 10 and 13 October 2007

# Women as the Voice for the Right to a Healthy Environment

## Background: UNEP 2004 WAVE – Women As a Voice for the Environment Conference–

Women's participation and experience are central to environmental management and sustainable development. Therefore UNEP brought women's voices to the forefront of the environmental agenda in a landmark event, the Global Women's Assembly on Environment, "Women As the Voice of the Environment" (WAVE), which took place in Nairobi, October 2004, intending to make women's crucial roles in conservation and sustainable development visible to all. A Manifesto on Women and Environment was written with concrete policy recommendations and a portfolio of specific project ideas.

## 3 years later: WAVE Belgrade 2007

Exactly three years later, UNEP, WECF and Environmental Ambassadors-Serbia coordinate the follow up to the 2004 meeting. The WAVE activities will be two-fold, a WAVE lunch on October 10 during the Ministerial Conference Environment for Europe, and a one-day WAVE conference on October 13, with high level representatives from government, national parliaments, legal institutions and NGOs. The overarching theme will be the right to a healthy environment and women's role in this.



## WAVE Lunch at the Ministerial Conference Efe\* from 13 :00 –15:00

### Draft WAVE programme, 10 October

#### - Welcome & Introduction

A. STEINER, Executive Director-UNEP (tbc), and/or MR. BOUVIER, UNEP regional Director Europe with WECF and Environmental Ambassadors

#### - Keynote Address:

Progress and Perspectives- a Healthy Environment for All, J. CRAMER, Minister of Environment, Netherland

#### - Recognizing the Connections:

M. WALLSTROM, Vice President, European Commission (invited)  
N. MENABDE, WHO Deputy Regional Director for Europe (invited)  
J. TIMOSHENKO, former prime minister of Ukraine (invited)

#### - Short Testimonies on Regional Experiences:

Women leaders from EU and EECCA NGOs  
Nadjesda KUTEPOVA, Lawyer, Victims of Mayak, Russia  
Daniela LENS, Right to Diversity, Landschaftspflegeverband, Germany  
Diana ISKREVA, Access to safe water and sanitation, EFF, Bulgaria

#### - Responses and Visions

E. PAMFILOVA, President's Council for Development of Civil Society, Russia (invited), S. DiMAS, european Commission, environmental Commissioner (invited) A. STEINER, Executive Director, UNEP (t.b.c)  
K. DANYALYAN, former Minister of the Environment, Armenia  
L. SOMMESTAD, former Minister of Environment, Sweden (tbc)

#### - Facilitated Dialogue, Critical Points

I. DANKELMAN, International Steering Committee, WECF

#### - Comments by leading experts

DR. J. MCGLADE, Executive Director, European Environment Agency (invited)

#### - Closing Remarks and Policy Recommendations

\*The Environment for Europe conference brings together the ministers of environment of the 53 countries of the UN-ECE region of Europe and the EECCA

## WAVE Conference at the Sava Center in Belgrade from 9:00 – 19:00

### Draft WAVE programme, 13 October

#### - Welcome & Introduction

J. MACHARIA, Senior Gender Advisor-UNEP (tbc), with S. GABIZON, and A. MIHAJLOV

#### - Keynote Address:

Progress and Perspectives – a Healthy Environment for All  
A. MERKEL, Chancellor Germany (and former Minister of Environment) (invited)

- **4 Testimonies** from Women Environmental Leaders on environmental human rights cases in the EU & EECCA

- **The European Union and opportunities of the new constitutional process to assure citizen's environmental rights**

M. WALLTROM, Vice President, European Commission (invited)

- **Human rights and Environmental injustice, developments in national and international legislation and practices**

A. STOCK, Human Rights Expert WECF

- **Environmental Rights and Sustainable Development**

G. HARLEM BRUNDTLAND, special UN Envoy on Climate Change and former Chair of the World Commission on Environment and Development (invited)

- **Economic Strategies and Sustainable Development**

J. TIMOSHENKO, former prime minister of Ukraine (invited)

- **Environment Challenges and the Role of Women**

L. SOMMESTAD, former Minister of Environment, Sweden (tbc)

- **Ensuring the rights to a "healthy" environment,**

**the role of the medical sector in prevention**

N. MENABDE, WHO Deputy Regional Director for Europ (invited)

- **Chemicals legislation and precautionary principle**

P. BUCELLA, DG environment, Director (invited)

*Afternoon: Working groups on sharing experience and developing strategies and an Action Plan*

- **Members of the European and Serbian Parliament**

K. DANIALYAN, former Minister of the Environment, Armenia

G. COMIC (tbc): Consequences for policy makers

- **Adoption of the WAVE Belgrade Action Plan**

- **Reception and dinner**

## Please register before 1 October 07

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Women in Europe  
for a Common Future  
WECF, in cooperation  
with UNEP United Nations  
Environment Programme-  
Europe, and Environmental  
Ambassadors, Serbia



Invitation to a High-Level Conference