



## EUROPEAN UNION

### **Economic and Environmental Implementation Meeting Vienna, 14-15 October 2019**

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#### **EU Closing Statement**

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We would like to again thank the Office of the Coordinator and the Slovak Chairmanship for organising the meeting. It was a useful occasion to take stock of the implementation of our commitments in the environmental field, in particular related to water and environmental sustainability in the energy sector.

We would like to thank all the panellists for sharing with us their experience and expertise. Despite the rising environmental concerns and climate change, the presentations and discussions illustrated the potential of our common actions especially in the framework of the OSCE.

As mentioned many times during the past two days, water is not only a fundamental element for living but it is also an integral component of security. Enhancing sustainable use of natural resources while using the full potential of new technologies, inclusive building of national and regional capacities, strengthened international dialogue and cooperation are justly pointed out as the key elements in our future steps towards enhanced transboundary water cooperation and efficient sustainable environmental management. The side-event on water diplomacy added many useful perspectives to our debates.

We trust that the discussions carried out in the spirit of turning the environmental challenges into opportunities for cooperation and capacity building, have provided the incoming Albanian chairmanship with useful food for thought for the next year.

The Candidate Countries, REPUBLIC of NORTH MACEDONIA\* and MONTENEGRO\*, SERBIA\* and ALBANIA\*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential

Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

\* Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process