

National Preparation of the Republic of Moldova to the Earth  
Summit "Rio + 10" in Johannesburg, 2002  
General Overview, September 2001

In the Republic of Moldova the implementation of the sustainable development principles was started after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, in Rio de Janeiro.

The process of implementation of the Agenda21 in Moldova was coordinated by the Supreme Economic Council, the Academy of Science and Ministry of Environment.

For the first time in the official Governmental documents the implementation of the sustainable development principles was introduced in 1998 in the Program of the economic and social development of the Republic of Moldova since the year 2005, adopted by the Government. It was mentioned in this Decision, that the sustainable development principles must be integrated in all spheres of national economy and social life in Moldova.

In 1997 with the support of World Bank and UNDP the process of elaboration of the National Sustainable Development Strategy started. In the period of 1998-2000 a number of National Conferences and public consultations on the development of the Strategy took place. Currently the Draft Strategy "Moldova 21" after the co-ordination with the experts and all the ministries was submitted to the Government for approval and later this year will be transmitted to the Parliament for the adoption.

For the coordination of the implementation of the "Moldova 21" Strategy the National Coordination Council will be established.

In the Ministry of Ecology, Constructions and Territorial Development the Working Group for the preparation for the "Rio+10" was created. The coordination of the activities is done by the Environmental Policy Division of the Ministry.

During the period of 1995-2000 the Ministry of Environment was yearly sending the information on the implementation of Agenda 21 in the Republic of Moldova to the UN Headquarter in New -York.

In August 2001 the Government of the Republic of Moldova has established the National Preparatory Committee for the preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development that will be held in South Africa, Johannesburg in 2002.

The Committee is composed of representatives from following ministries: Ministry of Ecology, Constructions and Territorial Development, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transports and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Production, Academy of Science.

The Committee is chaired by Mr. Gheorghe Duca, Minister of Ecology, Constructions and Territorial Development.

Major groups including NGOs, are also represented (NGO "Biotica"). Other participants will be involved at later date for review and consultations.

The Committee is created within the Ministry of Ecology, Constructions and Territorial Development, institution designed to

coordinate and monitor all Sustainable Development oriented activities in collaboration with other ministries.

In addition, Moldova is undertaking a national review and assessment of progress in the implementation of Agenda 21, which is expected by 01 August 2002.

The Government is also planning to launch "four initiatives" proposed by the Summit Secretariat to ensure greater participation for all partners:

- 101 Ways to Sustainable Development (collecting the best case studies of sustainable development actions);
- Sustainable Development Visions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (inspiring visions to citizens about sustainability);
- Children's Agenda 21 Posters Competition (action oriented competition for posters among children);
- National Progression Targets (national commitments to specific actions to be taken in the near future).

A number of national conferences and coordination meetings on Sustainable Development implementation will be held in the winter-spring 2002. The Local governments and NGOs will be involved at all stages.

The Ministry of Ecology, Constructions and Territorial Development plans to publish in 2002 a number of booklets, articles and to initiate a number of TV and Radio programs on a permanent base on the issues related to sustainable development. A number of activities and publications will be financed from state budget and from the sources of the National Ecological Fund. External sources will be identified and attracted.

The preparation of the Republic of Moldova to the Earth Summit will be done in close cooperation and coordination with the UNDP Office in Moldova.

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