**ECRAN** **Component Environment**

**Activity 2.1 Approximation of environmental legislation and the accession process**

**Task 2.1.1 Strengthening the capacities for accession negotiations on Chapter 27**

**1st Regional Training on EU Accession Negotiations on Chapter 27**

*10-11 April, 2014, Brussels, Belgium*

**Background**

Planned regional training represents a logical follow up of the capacity building activities already implemented under the predecessor project (Regional Environmental Network for Accession – RENA) project on preparation of approximation strategies and EU Accession Negotiation Process on Chapter 27. The topics elaborated under RENA were focused on the EU institutional structure for negotiations such as the role of the Council, Conference on accession to the EU, Enlargement Working Group and documents, which are considered during the process, practical aspects of EU negotiation on Chapter 27, etc. Manual on EU Accession Negotiation process has been prepared and published under RENA too.

This training is designed to cover both general aspects of EU accession negotiations and practical aspects of EU negotiation on Chapter 27. The training will cover topics such as theory and practice of negotiations, EU negotiation process and system, format of EU negotiations, roles, norms and procedures for negotiations, institutional framework and actors and strategies and tactics in EU negotiations. In addition, the training will provide case study on Chapter 27 negotiations from the new EU Member State.

**Objectives of the training:**

* To provide an overview of the EU Accession Negotiation process and strengthen the capacities of ECRAN beneficiary countries.
* To provide forum for exchange of experience and best practices on the EU accession negotiation process.

**Expected Results of the training**

By the end of this training the participants will be able to understand and explain the elements of the EU Accession Negotiation Process /Chapter 27- Environment. In particular, the participants should be able to:

* Demonstrate understanding and knowledge of the key legal issues related to the EU Accession Negotiation Process.
* Demonstrate understanding and knowledge of the EU and national accession negotiation structure.
* Be able to provide justification on the requests for transitional periods as one of the key elements of the negotiation process.

**Draft Agenda Outline**

**DAY 1:**

**Venue: ???**

| **Start** | **Finish** | **Topic** | **Speaker** | **Sub topic/Content** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **08:30** | **09:00** | **Registration** | | |
| 09.00 | 09.15 | Opening remarks by the European Commission | Mr. Nicholas Hanley, DG ENV  Ms. Madalina Ivanica DG ENV |  |
| 09.15 | 09.30 | Introduction to the agenda and participants | Mihail Dimovski, ECRAN |  |
| 09.30 | 10.00 | The enlargement process: main steps and challenges | TBC EC DG Enlargement??? | TBD General presentation of the accession negotiation process |
| 10.00 | 11.00 | Theory and practice of negotiation / EU negotiation process | Mr. Vasile Puscas, ECRAN  Mr. Ciprian Gorita, Department for Infrastructure Projects and Foreign Investment, detached from the Ministry of European Funds, Romania | The session will provide lecture on the theory and practice of EU negotiation process, EU enlargement policy and principles of EU negotiation. The session will also provide information on the rules, norms and procedures for EU accession negotiation. |
| 11.00 | 11.15 | ***Coffee Break*** | | |
| 11.15 | 12.00 | Institutional framework and actors of the EU accession negotiations | Mr.Vasile Puscas, ECRAN  Mr. Leonard Orban, ECRAN | This session will provide lecture on the institutional framework for EU accession negotiations, including information on the role of the government, inter-ministerial coordination, the negotiating team and the civil society. |
| 12.00 | 12.30 | Institutional framework for EU accession negotiations/ Institutional challenges for Montenegro | TBD Montenegro | Presentation of the national mechanism for preparing the negotiations  - institutional aspects  - national coordination  - obstacles in the process  - aspects related staff management (motivation, training etc…)  - recommendations |
| 12.30 | 13.30 | Lunch | | |
| 13.30 | 14.30 | Communicating the EU accession negotiations | Ms. Angela Filote, Head of European Commission Representation in Bucharest | The session will provide lectures on setting up strategies for EU accession negotiations. |
| 14.30 | 15.30 | Role of working groups and preparing the position papers(Environment) | Mr. Vasile Puscas, ECRAN  Mr. Leonard Orban, ECRAN | Presentation on the negotiation positions including presentations on Romanian experiences in :   * Preparation of position papers * Preparation of implementation plans |
| 15.30 | 15.45 |  | | |
| 15.45 | 16.15 | Implementing the *acquis and* transitional/derogations periods in accession negotiations | Mr. Leonard Orban, ECRAN  Mr. Ciprian Gorita, Department for Infrastructure Projects and Foreign Investment, detached from the Ministry of European Funds, Romania  TBD EC DG ENV | Presentation on requesting transitional periods and derogations including case studies from Romanian accession negotiations. |
| 16.15 | 16.45 | EU decisional process and the EU accession negotiations. | Mr. Iordan Barbulescu, National School of Political Studies and Public Administration – SNSPA, Romania |  |
| 16.45 | 17.00 | Wrap up of the first day of the training |  |  |
| **DAY 2: Start** | **Finish** | **Topic** | **Speaker** | **Sub topic/Content** |
| 09.00 | 10.00 | Case study: Negotiation on Chapter 27 in practice.  EU MS experience in negotiating and implementing specific sector directive (Waste) | EU MS expert, TBC | Waste and Landfill Directives |
| 10.00 | 11.00 | Case study Romania: Writing position papers and instructions in negotiations on Chapter 27 | Mr. Leonard Orban, ECRAN  EU MS expert, TBC | Presentation on writing position papers followed by interactive discussion on what to include in negotiation specific EU environmental legislation:   * What to be included into negotiating position and instruction * Examples for templates for negotiating position and instruction   Interactive discussion among participants to agree on items to be included into position papers and instructions. |
| 11.00 | 11.15 | ***Break*** | | |
| 11.15 | 12.30 | Identifying environmental Directives requiring transitional periods | Mr. Leonard Orban, ECRAN  EU MS expert, TBC | Presentation on how to identify Directives requiring transitional periods. Examples from Romania. |
| 12.30 | 13.30 | ***Lunch*** | | |
| 13.30 | 15.00 | Group exercise : writing position papers for directives, requiring transitional period | Facilitator Mr. Vasile Puskas, ECRAN  EU MS expert, TBC | The following Directives will be taken for the exercise on writing position papers: Waste and Landfill Directives |
| 15.00 | 15.15 | ***Break*** | | |
| 15.15 | 16.15 | Role of the Civil society in EU accession negotiation | TBC Richard Filchak , ECRAN  Ms. Angela Filote, Head of European Commission Representation in Bucharest |  |
| 16.15 | 16.45 | Case study Montenegro : Overview of the screening process | TBC Montenegro | * Overview of the screening process? * Who was represented on explanatory and bilateral meetings? * What was presented and what is expected by Montenegrin negotiating team? * What was the structure of the screening questionnaires? |
| 16.45 | 17.00 | Wrap up of the training |  |  |