



Podgorica, October 6th 2009

Subject: Invitation to the Regional Expert Meeting organized in the framework of the Western Balkans Environmental Hot Spot Programme

Dear Sir/Madam,

With great pleasure UNDP Montenegro would like to invite you to participate at the Regional Expert Meeting being organized as part of the Western Balkans Environmental Hot Spots Programme - *Strengthening Capacities in the Western Balkans Region to Address Environmental Problems through Remediation of High Priority Hot Spots* on the 18th and 19th November in Montenegro.

This 3 year, \$15 million USD Programme funded by the Government of the Netherlands and coordinated by the regional hub based in UNDP Montenegro has united the efforts of 6 countries/territories in the Western Balkans around environmental and development issues after almost two decades of conflict and instability. This is the biggest regional environmental programme that UNDP has implemented in South Eastern Europe. While the main focus of the Programme are the clean-up works needed to mitigate environmental and human health problems at the eight (8) selected locations, the institutional strengthening and capacity building are equally important components which the Programme is working on.

The main goals of the Regional Expert Meeting are to provide an opportunity for the participants to discuss the importance of regional cooperation in reducing pollution and remediating the "brownfield" sites located in the Western Balkans, to present the results and the achievements of the Western Balkans Environmental Programme, and to discuss the national challenges and priorities, as well as next steps for further regional cooperation in this area.

The Expert Meeting will host the environmental experts from six countries/territories involved in the Western Balkans Environmental Programme (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and UNATSCR 1244 Kosovo), programme beneficiaries and partners such as representatives of the national and local governments, management authorities of the remediated sites, civil society organizations, etc, as well as representatives of the donor community who are interested to fund activities in this area. Participation of the representative from the Netherlands Embassy in Belgrade, as well as officials from UNEP, EU, UNDP, RCC, REC etc. is also expected.



We would kindly ask you to confirm your participation not later than Nov 10th by sending the registration form (attached) to Ms. Ljiljana Radovic at ljiljana.radovic@undp.org or by fax at +382 21 231 992.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Snezana Dragojevic at snezana.dragojevic@undp.org.

We shall be delighted to seeing you soon in Montenegro.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alexander Avanesov".

Alexander Avanesov
UN Resident Coordinator and
UNDP Resident Representative
In Montenegro