



PROGRAMME
EEB CONFERENCE ON EU ENLARGEMENT

Budapest/Hungary, October 19th, 2001

Conference place:

Magyar Tudományos Akadémia – Hungarian Academy of Science

Address: Roosevelt tér

It can be reached at the abutment of the Lánchíd, Pest-side.

Organiser: European Environmental Bureau/EEB under the auspices of Mr. Bela Turi-Kovacs – Minister of Environment of Hungary and Mr. Wilhelm Molterer – Minister of Environment of Austria

Co-organisers and supporters: National Society of Conservationists/Hungary, Regional Environmental Centre/REC and Milieukontakt Oost-Europa/The Netherlands

Financially supported also by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary and the French Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE

The enlargement process is of great importance for environmentalists for several reasons. In the first place for the environment and for biodiversity in the accession countries. Secondly, as it may affect the chances for a sustainable development policies for the European Union as such.

As a continuation of events with a high political profile, the EEB is preparing a meeting between environmental non-governmental organisations and Ministers and High Level Governmental officials on the EU Enlargement in Budapest, October 19th, 2001.

The conference is aimed to bring together representatives from environmental NGOs mainly from the Accession countries and governmental officials from these countries to discuss:

1. trends and challenges in adoption, implementation and enforcement of the EU Environmental legislation
2. main challenges and tasks before the first accessions (2004?);
3. potential impacts of the EU Agriculture policy to the Accession Countries, in particular to biodiversity and nature protection as well as water (soil?) quality and the need for change
4. risks and opportunities for a sustainable future of the region

PARTICIPANTS:

Estimated that 50 participants would be from the NGO sector (from associated and EU countries) and some 20 from governmental organisations (from Environmental, Rural Development and Agriculture ministries, EU bodies).

AGENDA

10.00-10.30 Opening address by Bela TURI-KOVACS - Hungarian Minister of Environment, John HONTELEZ/EEB and Toni POPOVSKI/Director REC

10.30 – 12.30

1. Potential environmental impacts (in particular biodiversity and water quality) of the EU Agriculture policy on the Accession countries and need for change

Presentations: Werner WUTCHER – Secretary General, Austrian Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water
 Anamarija SLABE – ISD Slovenia

Open discussion and conclusions

12.30-14.00 LUNCH BREAK

14.00-16.00

2. Risks and opportunities of the accession for a sustainable future of the region

Presentations: Ian CLARK - Deputy Head of Unit, DG Environment
 Juraj GAVORA – Ministry of Environment - Slovakia
 Krzysztof KAMIENIECKI – Institute for Sustainable Development in Poland

Open discussion and conclusions

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee Break

16.30 – 18.30

3. Trends and challenges in adoption, implementation and enforcement of the EU Environmental legislation

Presentations: Magda AELVOET – Presidency EU Environment
 Council/Minister of Environment in Belgium
 Martina MOTLOVA – Deputy Minister of Environment – Czech
 Republic
 Erzsebet SCHMUCK – National Society of Conservationists –
 Hungary

Open discussion and conclusions

18.30 – 19.00 Closing remarks

DINNER Hosted by Hungarian Minister of Environment

Aranyhordó Restaurant

Address: Tárnok u. 16.

You can reach it by 5 minutes walk from the Hotel Burg.