



COMMUNIQUES AND DOCUMENTS OF THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF POLAND

1. Work Plan 2011

Plenary Meetings – March, November

Presidium Meetings – March, October

Presidium Tasks:

- Elaboration of Agenda of Plenary Meetings.
- Elaboration of Draft Statements and preparation of resolutions and other decisions to be held in the period between plenary meetings.
- Representing the Council in domestic and foreign events.
- Contacts with the EEAC Steering Committee – participation of the Chairman in its meetings and activities.
- Contacts with the PROS Presidium.
- Elaboration of materials to be published in semi-annual journal *Problems of Sustainable Development*.
- Organization of the EEAC APS & Conference: Wroclaw 14-17.09. 2011.
- Closing up the PROS 2007- 2011 term of duty.

Working Groups Tasks:

All WGs:

- Reviewing drafts of legal acts.
- Working contacts with the EEAC WGs.

WG Biodiversity (BD):

Permanent collaboration with the PROS AE WG :

- Expertise and other draft documents dealing with assessment of forest ecosystems role in scenarios of climate changes – for the purpose of COP 17 in RSA.
- Co-organizing of the conference devoted to elaboration of a *Strategy of State Forests Development* with a separate section dealing with conservation of biodiversity in Polish forests – in cooperation with the General Directorate of State Forestry.

WG Education for Sustainable Development (ESD):

Permanent Collaboration with SD WG:

- Continuing tasks related to *the UN Decade Education for Sustainable Development*

2005-2014 in collaboration with other institutions in Poland, especially with:

- Working Group *Education for Sustainable Development* of UNESCO-Poland.
- Parliamentary Commissions on *Working Plan for the sake of goals of the UN Decade* (continuous tasks).
- Elaboration of a synthetic report on advancement of completion of *the UN Decade Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014* goals in Poland and the European Strategy of that education – for needs of the EEAC Wroclaw Conference (cooperation with WG SD and UNESCO-Poland).
- Elaboration of long-term project *Observatory of Education for Sustainable Development in Poland* – application for granting by the National Fund for Environment Protection and Water Management to prepare an *International Congress on Education for Sustainable Development in 2013* in Poland.
- Assessment of Progress in realization of *the National Strategy and Program of Ecological Education* (permanent tasks).

WG Energy & Environment (EE):

Permanent collaboration with EG WG:

- Priorities of Polish EU Presidency in the scope of climate changes.
- Assessment of influence of the EU Climatic Policy on Polish economy.
- Assessment of elaboration status of *the Strategic Plan of Adaptation of Poland*.

WG Water Economy (WE):

- Elaboration of terms of monitoring of some most dangerous substances in water.
- Preparatory activities in organizing *the 4th Congress of Environmental Engineering in Poland*.
- Elaboration of assumptions of sustainable water economy in Poland.

WG Agriculture & Environment (AE):**Permanent collaboration with BD WG:**

- Reviewing and consulting documents related to supply of public goods by agriculture.
- Participation in discussion panels dealing with planting allowances of GMOs as invasive compounds.

WG Environmental Governance (EG):**Permanent collaboration with EE WG:**

- Selective collection and governing of solid municipal waste in the light of new legal regulations.

WG Sustainable Development (SD):

- Monitoring of elaboration of *Strategy for Sustainable Development of Poland*.
- Monitoring of activities for the sake of preparation of *the Conception of Spatial Policy of Poland*.
- Cooperation with *the International Center for Sustainable Development and Information Society*.
- Editing of series of monographs in German and English languages.
- Continuing of cooperation of Polish and German scientists and research centers for the sake of sustainable development – workshops & conferences: Katowice in February, Poznan in March, Bialystok in June, Katowice in November.
- Cooperation with *the Polish Committee for UNESCO Poland*.
- Elaboration of a draft research program – *Sustainable Development Goals in the 21st Century*.

2. 9th Plenary Meeting of PROs

On March 10th, the PROs gathered at the first semi-annual plenary meeting in 2011 with the following agenda:

1. Adoption of Agenda.
2. Adoption of Minutes from the 8th Plenary Meeting held on October 21st, 2010.
3. **Program-Speech** by the Deputy-Minister of Environment **Mr. Bernard Blaszczyk**.
4. ***Poland Towards the Earth Summit Rio + 20 – EEAC Conference Wroclaw 2011***.
5. Organization of *the EEAC APS & Conference* – Wroclaw, 14-17 September, 2011.
6. Adoption of *the PROs Work Plan for 2010* – presented by chairs of WGs and the Presidium.
7. Report on the PROs Presidium activities in the period since the last plenary meeting.
8. Preparatory works to the next (2/2011) issue of *Problems of Sustainable Development journal* – supplement reporting on PROs activities.
9. Matters arising.

Abbreviated extraction from Minutes of the most important items is as follows:

(3 & 4) The Ministry of Environment was represented by the Undersecretary of State Mr. Bernard Blaszczyk, who presented current problems the Ministry is dealing with. The Minister commented a draft document sent to PROs Members prior to the meeting presenting national goals dealing with the *Rio + 20 Summit* especially important in a view of Polish Presidency at EU to begin on July the 1st. He underlined a top attention to be paid to climatic issue, a very crucial for domestic economy driven by coal. He commented the EU plan to reduce the CO₂ emission of 80% until 2050 as a very ambitious and difficult to fulfill. He informed about the change of the Rio conference date from autumn to spring (June) of 2012 and mentioned some organizational problems as well as various preparatory activities on Polish side to meet requirements of that top range World's event. Talking about main tasks to be completed during EU Presidency the Minister mentioned importance of promoting biodiversity since Poland plays a leading role in Europe in nature conservation.

(5) Chairman familiarized the Council members with the frame-program of the event consisted of a meeting of the *EEAC Steering Committee* (Wednesday), the internal day (Thursday) composed of six WGs meetings and the afternoon plenary session; the conference day (Friday) with opening plenary session performed by invited speakers, parallel subject sessions and the final plenary summing up parallel presentations and discussions. The final day (Saturday) devoted to make basic organizational decisions. Such as elections, adoption of resolutions and financial decisions. He also reminded the set of PROs members (Piotr Paschalis-Jakubowicz, Tadeusz Borys, Ryszard Janikowski and Bazyli Poskrobko, completed with former PROs member Boguslaw Fiedor) creating an *ad hoc* team to participate in composing the conference program. He further informed about attempts to get the President of the European Parliament Mr Jerzy Buzek to present a key speech at the conference. Moreover, he informed that the Minister of Environment agreed to become a patron to the event and that the PROs has also applied to list the *EEAC* meeting among events under care of Polish Presidency to EU. Other activities referring to the event were also presented and discussed.

Tomasz Winnicki