

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

# Montenegro

## Environmental Performance Reviews

### Third Review



UNITED NATIONS

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# ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

## MONTENEGRO

Third Review



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The United Nations issued the second Environmental Performance Review of Montenegro (Environmental Performance Reviews Series No. 25) in 2007.

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## *Foreword*

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The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) has been engaged in the third cycle of Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs) since 2011 when the Environment Ministers from the ECE region reaffirmed their support to the EPR Programme during the Seventh “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference (Astana, Kazakhstan). The third cycle places a stronger emphasis on environmental mainstreaming in priority sectors and on the enhancement of international environmental cooperation. Also, the third cycle EPRs address policy frameworks for greening the economy and describe specific green economy initiatives

This is the third EPR of Montenegro published by ECE. The review takes stock of progress made by Montenegro in the management of its environment since the country was reviewed for the second time in 2007. It assesses the implementation of the recommendations made in the second review. This third EPR also covers issues of specific importance to the country related to legal and policy frameworks, the financing of environmental policies, greening the economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and integrating environmental concerns into selected sectors, in particular water and waste management.

The timing of this publication coincides with the international debate on the post-2015 development agenda and the expected sustainable development goals. The regional commissions are actively engaging in discussions on the implementation and monitoring of progress in the achievement of goals and targets as well as on the peer review mechanisms that could be put in place. The United Nations Secretary-General in his 2014 Synthesis Report on the Post-2015 Agenda supports incorporating and building on the experiences of existing mechanisms, such as the EPRs carried out by ECE.

I trust that this third EPR will serve as a powerful tool to support policymakers and representatives of civil society in their efforts to improve environmental management and to further promote sustainable development in Montenegro. I also hope that the lessons learned from the peer review process in Montenegro will benefit other countries throughout the ECE region and facilitate the achievement and monitoring of the future sustainable development goals.



Christian Friis Bach

Executive Secretary  
Economic Commission for Europe



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## *Preface*

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In 1993, the second Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Lucerne, Switzerland) mandated ECE to carry out EPRs for those ECE member States that are not members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Subsequently, the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy decided to make them part of its regular programme. Since then, the environment ministers affirmed their support for the EPR Programme, decided in 2003 that the Programme should continue with a second cycle of reviews, and formally endorsed the third cycle of reviews in 2011.

Through the peer review process, EPRs also promote dialogue among ECE member States and the harmonization of environmental conditions and policies throughout the region. As a voluntary exercise, an EPR is undertaken only at the request of the country concerned. The studies are carried out by international teams of experts from the region working closely with national experts from the reviewed country. The teams also benefit from close cooperation with other organizations in the United Nations system and outside.

The third EPR of Montenegro began in November 2013 with a preparatory mission. During this mission, the structure of the review report was agreed upon and the time schedule established. A team of international experts took part in the review mission on 3 – 10 February 2014.

The draft EPR report was submitted to Montenegro for comment and to the ECE Expert Group on EPR for consideration in August 2014. During its meeting on 30 September – 1 October 2014, the Expert Group discussed the report with expert representatives of the Government of Montenegro, focusing in particular on the conclusions and recommendations made by the international experts.

The EPR recommendations, with suggested amendments from the Expert Group, were then submitted for peer review to the nineteenth session of the Committee on Environmental Policy on 30 October 2014. A high-level delegation from Montenegro participated in the peer review. The Committee adopted the recommendations as set out in this report.

The Committee and the ECE secretariat would like to thank the Government of Montenegro and its experts who worked with the international experts and contributed their knowledge and assistance. ECE wishes the Government of Montenegro further success in carrying out the tasks involved in meeting its environmental objectives, including the implementation of the recommendations in this third review.

ECE would like to express its appreciation to Sweden for its financial contribution through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, to Portugal for having delegated its experts for the review, and to UNDP for its support of the EPR Programme and this review. ECE would also like to thank Austria, the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland for their financial support to the EPR Programme.



*Team of experts for the third EPR of Montenegro, 2014*

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