

## Statement of Commitment



Of the participants of the Themis Network phase 2 kick off meeting  
5<sup>th</sup> of December, 2014, Vienna, Austria

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On the occasion of the Themis Network phase 2 kick off meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2014, the representatives of the national authorities of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and met in Vienna, Austria, to review the Themis Network's work plan for 2014-2017, including its objectives and desired outcomes; to agree on further strengthening cooperation in the framework of the Themis network; and to engage the high level management of each country in order to raise the Network's visibility in the administrations and to strengthen its impact on natural resources management and environmental crimes in the beneficiary region. Acknowledging the discussions that took place during the meeting, the participants:

- i. Express their interest, commitment and willingness to further strengthen cooperation and collaboration under the Themis Network for the period 2014-2017;
- ii. Express their gratitude to the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) for the financial support, as well as its renewed commitment to the 2014-2017 programme of the Themis Network;
- iii. Pledge in-kind contributions to the running and operation of the Themis Network activities, namely man hours (focal points, other experts that participate in the capacity building measures) and logistical support (meeting rooms, telecommunications, distribution and dissemination costs of the project outputs nationally, etc.)
- iv. Acknowledge their interest, in the framework of the Themis Network, to create new partnerships and continue cooperation with international partners, including INECE, IMPEL and any others, as appropriate;
- v. Agree with and welcome the inclusion of Moldova in the Themis Network;
- vi. Reaffirm and support the Themis Network Terms of Reference<sup>2</sup>;
- vii. Maintain their support to the Secretariat hosted by the Regional Environmental Center.
- viii. Agree to support cooperation efforts of the Secretariat with other regional initiatives, including the SEE 2020 strategy, and to work towards achieving the long-term sustainability of the network and its results through several measures, including the diversification of donor base.

Vienna, 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2014

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<sup>1</sup> This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

<sup>2</sup> Updated to reflect the integration of Moldova. The Terms of Reference should be considered an attachment to this Statement.