

# PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme



Tel: (+4021) 2017808 FAX: (+4021) 2017828

## National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania

Horizon 2012-2020-2030

Released for Final Comments

**Bucharest, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008** – The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through the National Centre for Sustainable Development (NCSO) and the Romanian Government, through the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development will mark the conclusion of the revision of the National Sustainable Development Strategy of Romania.

The concluding session of the National Council for Public Debate, will be held on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00, in the Aula Magna of the National Academy. The debate marks the end of the core phase of the project to revise National Sustainable Development Strategy of Romania to fit the EU requirements.

The current draft document has been adopted, in principle, by the Romanian Government in its session on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

All comments and contributions received during the past 2-3 days, together with the conclusions of the debate session, will be incorporated in the final text. The document thus updated will be posted on the website of the Romanian Government in order to receive further feedback and contributions until September 5, 2008. The final form of the Strategy will be officially endorsed by the Romanian Government and submitted to the Parliament for adoption as a single-article law.

In its final form, the National Sustainable Development Strategy will be the first overarching strategy document for Romania as a member state of the European Union.

The implementation of the concept of sustainable development—as the general orientation of the European Union and a national policy of Romania, requires permanent re-evaluation of its assumptions. In conformity with the Sustainable Development Strategy of the European Union, bi-annual implementation reports for the national strategy will be submitted to the European Commission; the first such report for Romania is due in 2011. The reports are envisioned to be accompanied by proposals and recommendations addressing the relevant orientations, policies and priorities formulated at EU level.

The first revision of the national strategy has demonstrated the value of broad stakeholder participation. This lesson in transparency will be taken up within a permanent institutional arrangement proposed in Part V of the current draft of the strategy. International peer-review for the national sustainable development strategy will be organized in parallel following the recommendations of the European Commission, already accepted in the practice of EU member states.

We continue to welcome concrete contributions on the current draft of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, with the aim to achieve a final form representative for the national vision of development until 2030, and of sustainable development in the long run.

Contact: Olivia Popescu, Administrative Officer  
National Centre for Sustainable Development  
16 Dr. Burghelea St.  
024032, Bucharest-2  
Phone: +40 21 310 33 20  
Fax: +40 21 310 33 21  
E-mail: [strategia@ncsd.ro](mailto:strategia@ncsd.ro)

More information is available on the project website: [www.ncsd.ro](http://www.ncsd.ro)  
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