NGOs and «Almaty+5» process

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Role of citizens organizations:

• Information and awareness activities;
• Participation in policy-making, elaboration of plans, programs etc.
• Analytical and expert activities;
• Concrete projects:
• Activities to defense citizens’ rights.

*EfE and EAP related activities give possibilities to realize this functions in practice.*
NGOs and Almaty-2000

EAP IG of the European Eco-Forum organized:

- Electronic discussion;
- 3 sub-regional meetings (Yerevan, Minsk, Almaty);
- NGOs preparatory Forum in Almaty.

NGOs preparation to Almaty-2000:

- 111 NGOs from EECCA took part;
- with support of Denmark, Finland, Norway, EAP Task Force.
NGO «Almaty-2000» results:

1) NGOs position for Ministerial Conference in Almaty-2000 (was included in Ministerial conference official documents set (CCNM/ENV/EAP/MIN(2000)9) and represented at official plenary session;

2) NGOs Forum resolution;

3) Paper «ROLE, STRATEGY OF NIS NGOs IN ADDRESSING WATER PROBLEMS AND INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES”

4) NIS RECs related issues has been discussed.

What we are planning now:

Based on the previous experience we suggest the following:

• National multistakeholders workshops (September 2005);
• NGOs preparatory conference in September-October, 2005;
• NGOs pre-conference in Yerevan (November, 2005).
Why wide and early consultations are important? 
(based on experience of previous consultations)

• allow to listen voice of wide range of NGOs;
• allow to “feel ownership”, give and impuls to NGOs activity on Ministerial decisions implementation.
• give a unique experience on public participation and multistakeholders cooperation, which is useful for the other processes;
• give real possibility to influence decision-making process.

Aim of NGOs Consultation process
– to elaborate NGOs position on:

1) to assess progress in implementation of
Almaty Guiding Principles;

2) «NGOs Role and Strategy in addressing
water problems»
(1) Aim of NGOs Consultation process
– to elaborate NGOs position on:

1) to assess progress in implementation of Almaty Guiding Principles and recommendations for further actions;

– How effective were measures for water sector reforms and improving water services?
– How effective was activity on financial mechanisms improving?
– How effective was decentralization and increasing role of municipalities?
– How effective was private sector reforming?
– What was results of its activities?
– What was social application of the reforms?

• assessment of partnerships between different stakeholders;

• assessment of partnerships at the international level (sub-regional, EECCA regional, East-West).

(2) Aim of NGOs Consultation process
– to elaborate NGOs position on:

«NGOs Role and Strategy in addressing water supply and sanitation problems»

• how effective was NGOs participation in Almaty-2000 decisions implementation? How our recommendations were taken into account?
• what progress has been achieved in implementation of Almaty NGOs Strategy?
• What were the main obstacles for more effective NGOs involvement in addressing water problems?

• How to increase NGOs role:
  * in public awareness and education?
  * in policy elaboration on water supply and sanitation issues?
  * in practical projects implementation?
  * in improving cooperation and partnerships with other stakeholders – governments, business, local authorities, academics.
Current States:

- Strong enthusiasm from NGOs community;
- Strong moral support from EAP Task Force;
- Absence of financial resources for organization of consultation process.

However we believe that our contribution is important and EAP IG of the European Eco-Forum hopes to organize it timely and effectively.