

**MINISTERIAL MEETING
DANUBE-BLACK SEA: TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP
FOR INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT
(Bucharest, 23 February 2007)**

CLOSING REMARKS

**SULFINA BARBU,
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER MANAGEMENT**

ROMANIA

**Mr. Ministers
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Honoured Guests,**

I would like to thank you for the co-operation and interest you have showed during this meeting. Please allow me to express my hope that our today meeting represents the beginning of a new co-operation in the water field in the Danube river basin and the Black Sea region.

The Declaration we have just adopted contains the principles on we will be able to develop projects and action programmes which lead us to a common approach regarding the protection both of the Danube and Black Sea aquatic ecosystems. I would like to assure you that, from the Romanian point of view, there is the determination for applying what we have established today.

As I said before, on national level we invest and we are ready to invest more for the water protection, but we are convinced that, in order to have a clean and alive Danube and Black Sea, we need to action jointly for the protection and sustainable use of these common riches.

I think I express your view, too, when I mention that the latest European Union enlargement process gives us all new hopes and oportunities for the protection of the marine environment of the Black Sea. It only depends on us, the Black Sea riparians, to rationally use these oportunities.

In addition, I am convinced that the international financial organizations will keep supporting the countries in the region in their efforts for the implementation of the environmental policies, which have in view the protection of the waters, aquatic ecosystems recovery and biodiversity loss reduction.

Thank you for participating in this meeting and I hope that, taking the measures we have we have adopted, within this Declaration, we will actively participate in the sustainable development of the Danube hydrographical basin and the Black Sea region. 🇷🇺