



EUROPEAN CONVENTION  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE  
DES DROITS DE L'HOMME  
1950 - 2025

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 10/03/2025

GME(2025)R3

## AD HOC MULTIDISCIPLINARY GROUP ON THE ENVIRONMENT (GME)

3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
11-13 February 2025

### MEETING REPORT

#### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE CHAIR OF THE GME

The Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME) held its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Strasbourg on 11-13 February 2025. The Chair, Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

Mr Rafael BENITEZ, Director of Social Rights, Health and the Environment, introduced the new members of the Secretariat to the Group, Ms Elda MORENO, Special Advisor on the Environment and Ms Nino LATSABIDZE, Policy Advisor.

#### 2. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> GME MEETING AND OF THE AGENDA OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> MEETING

The GME adopted the report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting ([GME\(2024\)R2](#)) and the agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, as it appears in Appendix I.

#### 3. DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE ACTIVITIES ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The GME took note of the recent developments concerning the Council of Europe (CoE) activities on the environment.

Regarding the European Court of Human Rights, the recent Cannavacciuolo case<sup>1</sup> against Italy was highlighted. The Chamber found a violation of article 2 (right to life) of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) in relation to widespread pollution in the Campania region ("*Terra dei Fuochi*").

It was also highlighted that a Ministerial Conference will be hosted by the Italian authorities in Florence in October 2025 to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Landscape Convention.

The GME was informed that the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) adopted [Recommendation 2277 \(2024\) Cultural heritage and climate change](#). The Recommendation is connected to the work of the Landscape Convention and the Partial Agreement on Natural and Technological Disasters (under the EUR-OPA Agreement).

Furthermore, the Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment met on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 on the

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<sup>1</sup> [Cannavacciuolo and Others v. Italy, nos. 51567/14 et al., ECtHR, Judgment of 30 January 2025.](#)

occasion of the Parliamentary Session. Mr BENITEZ informed the Network of the work of the GME, and the network expressed its support. The representative of the Network also succinctly presented their work to support the inclusion of best practices regarding the environmental field.

Mr BENITEZ informed the GME that the Parliamentary Assembly, in cooperation with the delegations of Belgium and Luxembourg, would be holding a conference in Luxembourg on "[The role of national parliaments in protecting the right to a healthy environment](#)" on 14 February 2025, and that the GME would be represented by its Vice-Chair Ms Charlotte BLONDEL.

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (Congress) adopted [Recommendation 510\(2024\)](#) Local and regional response to natural disasters and climate hazards: from risk preparedness to resilience.

It was also recalled that the Steering Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) had finalised [the draft Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law](#). The draft is currently with the Committee of Ministers and has been sent to the Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) for opinion. It is expected to be adopted during the ministerial session in May 2025 in Luxembourg.

Mr BENITEZ updated the GME on the report on the need and feasibility of a further instrument or instruments on human rights and the environment Standing Committee on Human Rights ([CDDH-ENV](#)). The report was submitted to the Committee of Minister and discussions have started within its Rapporteur Group on Human Rights (GR-H).

#### 4. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH Dr LORENZO SALAZAR, VICE-CHAIR OF THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS (CDPC)

Dr Lorenzo SALAZAR, Vice-chair of the CDPC, presented the draft Council of Europe Convention on the protection of the environment through criminal law approved by the CDPC in November 2024 and submitted to the Committee of Ministers, for a possible adoption in May 2025 during the ministerial session.

Dr SALAZAR explained that the purpose of the draft Convention was to prevent and combat environmental crimes through the establishment of minimum legal standards. While being an instrument of criminal law it also presented a preventive aspect, essential to an effective protection of the environment, in line with the prevention principle.

He presented the various chapters of the draft Convention and highlighted its potential global outreach and the main features of the text, such as the possibility for member States to consider the sanctions already passed by other countries to aggravate the offense. Dr SALAZAR also emphasised the need for heightened international cooperation and the protection of whistleblowers. The draft Convention is set to enter into force after 10 ratifications.

Dr SALAZAR's presentation was followed by an exchange of views with the delegations.

#### 5. PREPARATION OF A COUNCIL OF EUROPE STRATEGY ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND ITS ACTION PLAN

Mr BENITEZ presented the GME with the new draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment which was fully revised on the basis of the comments submitted following the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in December 2024.

The Secretariat of the GME also explained that the draft Action Plan will be prepared once the GME has agreed on the strategic objectives, to ensure the alignment of both texts. During the meeting, Ms MORENO presented a possible template for the future Action Plan that would include reference to expected results, internal and external partners. The GME expressed its satisfaction with the approach.

Ms MORENO introduced the new draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment (document [GME\(2025\)2](#)) and referred to the background information contained in the document which explains the approach followed by the secretariat to prepare the draft taking into account the more than 400 pages of comments (document [GME\(2025\)1](#)). The draft mirrors other Council of Europe transversal strategies. Long descriptions of environmental challenges and actions were eliminated and replaced by footnotes to the relevant sources. Agreed language was privileged and objectives were clustered into a smaller number of goals and objectives focusing on Council of Europe's expertise and added value.

The participants expressed their overall appreciation for the new draft, welcoming a more realistic scope, a shorter document and a clearer structure. Some member States reiterated that the text ought to be further shortened and refined.

The text of the Strategy was extensively discussed, reading through and commenting on its content and structure. The GME also requested clarification about the budgetary implications of the Strategy's implementation. The Secretariat reiterated that most activities were foreseen within the existing budgetary allocations, but that it would be up to the Committee of Ministers to decide on any additional funds during its discussion on the Programme and Budget.

The Advisory Council of Youth reiterated their call for further inclusion of the youth in the Strategy as well as youth-inclusive language.

Two issues were particularly debated: the question of a political or legal recognition of the right to a healthy environment, and the setting-up of a possible intergovernmental committee. The Committee agreed not to anticipate decisions concerning the follow-up to the CDDH Study. Concerning the Committee, some delegations considered it a logical and necessary consequence of the Reykjavik Declaration, while others expressed concerns, in particular on the possible budgetary implications.

Member States, participants and observers to the GME were invited to send their further proposals regarding the new draft Strategy to the Secretariat (at [GME@coe.int](mailto:GME@coe.int)), and preferably limiting them to issues of major importance, as soon as possible, and no later than 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2025.

## 6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

## 7. PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA, DATE AND PLACE OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> GME MEETING

The GME adopted the preliminary draft agenda for its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, which will be held in Strasbourg on 10-12 March 2025, as presented in Appendix III.

## 8. ADOPTION OF THE ABRIDGED REPORT

The GME adopted the abridged report of this 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as presented in Appendix IV.

Appendix I – Agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the GME

Appendix II – List of participants

Appendix III – Preliminary Draft agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GME

Appendix IV – Abridged report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the GME

## APPENDIX I

AGENDA OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING OF THE GME

11–13 February 2025

Council of Europe – Agora - Room G03

(opening at 9.30 on 11 February and closing at 12.30 on 13 February 2025)

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the GME
2. Adoption of the report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> GME meeting, and of the agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
[GME(2024)R2prov, GME(2025)OJ3prov]
3. Developments concerning the Council of Europe  
[Congress/Recommendation 510 (2024), PACE/Recommendation 2277(2024),  
Congress/CG(2024)47-14, ECHR 028 (2025)]
4. Exchange of views with Dr Lorenzo SALAZAR, Vice-Chair of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC)
5. Preparation of a Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment and its Action Plan  
[GME(2025)1, GME(2025)2]
6. Any other business
7. Preliminary draft agenda, date and place of the 4<sup>th</sup> GME meeting  
[GME(2025)OJ4prov]
8. Adoption of the abridged report  
[GME(2025)AR3prov]

## APPENDIX II

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

## MEMBERS / MEMBRES

<b>ALBANIA / ALBANIE</b>	
<b>ANDORRA / ANDORRE</b>	<b>Mr Carlos PUENTE GALINDO</b> Legal Adviser - Third Secretary  <b>Ms Charlène VIGNAIS</b> Third Secretary
<b>ARMENIA / ARMENIE</b>	<b>Ms Ruzanna GRIGORYAN</b> Head of International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia
<b>AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE</b>	<b>Mr Matthias KRESINGER</b> Department for International Climate, Energy and Environmental Affairs Ministry for Climate Action Austria
<b>AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAIDJAN</b>	<b>Ms Ruziyya MALIKOVA</b> Second Secretary, Department for Cooperation with International Human Rights Institutions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan
<b>BELGIUM / BELGIQUE</b>	<b>Ms Sophie THYS</b> Legal policy advisor International and European policy for the Flemish Department of Environmental and Spatial Development
<b>BOSNIA &amp; HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE &amp; HERZEGOVINE</b>	
<b>BULGARIA / BULGARIE</b>	<b>Mr Kalin ILIEV</b> Head of Department

<b>CROATIA / CROATIE</b>	
<b>CYPRUS / CHYPRE</b>	
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE</b>	<b>Dr Pavel HLAVACEK</b> Officer Department of International Relations, Ministry of Environment
<b>DENMARK / DANEMARK</b>	
<b>ESTONIA / ESTONIE</b>	<b>Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI</b> Advisor Biodiversity Conservation Department Ministry of the Climate
<b>FINLAND / FINLANDE</b>	<b>Ms Charlotta VON TROIL</b> Senior Ministerial Adviser, Legislative Affairs Ministry of the Environment Unit for International and EU Affairs
<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>Ms Charlotte BLONDEL</b> Legal Adviser at the Human Rights Sub-Directorate, Directorate of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
<b>GEORGIA / GÉORGIE</b>	<b>Ms Natia GOGRITCHIANI</b> Senior Specialist
<b>GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE</b>	<b>Mr Ralph WOLLMAN</b> Presidential offices International Academy Transformation for Environment and Sustainability at UBA (TES Academy) German Environment Agency
<b>GREECE / GRÈCE</b>	<b>Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU</b> Ambassador, Head of Directorate for the Protection of Environment, Climate Change and World Politics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  <b>Ms Aliko GKANA,</b> Rapporteur Legal Department Public International Law Section Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>HUNGARY / HONGRIE</b>	<b>Dr Ágnes Anna GÁBOR-HOSSZÚ</b> Head of Unit Department of Environmental Development and Strategy Ministry of Energy
<b>ICELAND / ISLANDE</b>	<b>Ms Brynhildur SÖRENSEN</b> Specialist

<b>IRELAND / IRLANDE</b>	<b>Mr Andrew MALONE</b> Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
<b>ITALY / ITALIE</b>	<b>Ms Laura MESSINA</b> Official
<b>LATVIA / LETTONIE</b>	<b>Ms Anita TOCA</b> Climate Change Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Latvia to the European Union
<b>LIECHTENSTEIN</b>	<b>Mr Fabian RITTER</b> Diplomatic Officer  <b>Mr Moritz RHEINBERGER</b> Legal Officer
<b>LITHUANIA / LITUANIE</b>	<b>Ms Inga AKSAMITAUSKAITĖ,</b> Advisor of the Group of the Environment protection policy coordination at the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	<b>Mr Tom SCHRAM</b> Head of the Directorate for European and International Affairs Ministry of Environment, Climate and Biodiversity
<b>MALTA / MALTE</b>	
<b>REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA</b>	<b>Ms Mariana COVIC</b> Head of Financial and administrative Direction, Ministry of Environment
<b>MONACO</b>	<b>Ms Margaux GIRARDIN</b> Deputy to the Permanent Representative  <b>Mr Gabriel CHABERT</b> First Secretary to the Permanent Representative
<b>MONTENEGRO</b>	<b>Ms Violeta BERISAJ</b> Deputy Permanent Representative
<b>NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS</b>	<b>Ms Michelle DUIN</b> Legal Officer at the International Law Division Legal Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>NORTH MACEDONIA / MACEDOINE DU NORD</b>	
<b>NORWAY / NORVÈGE</b>	<b>Mr Terje Birkrem HOVLAND</b> Research Coordinator Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment  <b>Mr Helge SELAND</b> Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative
<b>POLAND / POLOGNE</b>	

<b>PORTUGAL / PORTUGAL</b>	<b>Ms Maria João TEIXEIRA</b> Senior Officer Ministry of Environment and Energy
<b>ROMANIA / ROUMANIE</b>	<b>Ms Caterina NEAGU</b> Adviser
<b>SAN MARINO / Saint-Marin</b>	
<b>SERBIA / SERBIE</b>	<b>Mr Darko NINKOV</b> Counsellor
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE</b>	
<b>SLOVENIA / SLOVÉNIE</b>	<b>Ms Dragica ISKRENOVIĆ</b> Secretary
<b>SPAIN / ESPAGNE</b>	<b>Mr Daniel JUSDADO</b> Adjoint au Représentant Permanent de l'Espagne  <b>Ms Patricia MOLINA</b> Collaboratrice
<b>SWEDEN / SUÈDE</b>	<b>Ms Gabriella MODIN</b> Legal advisor, Ministry of Climate and Enterprise
<b>SWITZERLAND / SUISSE</b>	<b>Mr Norbert BÄRLOCHER</b> Head of the Rio Conventions Section, Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV)
<b>TÜRKIYE</b>	
<b>UKRAINE / UKRAINE</b>	
<b>UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI</b>	<b>Ms Isobel COOK</b> Human Rights and Environment Policy Lead, Human Rights Department FCDO, United Kingdom  <b>Ms Claire HORTON</b> Environmental rights team leader  <b>Ms Rachel GAUGHAN</b> Lawyer

## **PARTICIPANTS / PARTICIPANTS**

## **COUNCIL OF EUROPE ENTITIES / ENTITES DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	<b>Ms Aurora FLORIDIA</b> Italy Member of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development
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	<p><b>Ms Claire DUBOIS-HAMDI</b>  <b>Ms Aiste RAMANAUSKAITE</b>          Committee of Social Affairs, Public Health and Sustainable Development</p> <p><b>Ms Antonia DIAKOSTAMATIOU</b>          Trainee</p>
Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe	<p><b>Mr Guillaume LOISEAU</b>          Co-Secretary of the Committee on the Monitoring of the implementation of the European Charter of Local Self-Government and on the respect of Human Rights and the Rule of Law</p> <p><b>Mr Euan RODDIN</b>          Head of the Statutory Activities Division</p>
European Court of Human Rights	<p><b>Ms Zoë BRYANSTON-CROSS</b>          Deputy Head, Office of the President of the Court</p>
Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe	<p><b>Ms Tara BEATTIE</b>          Adviser to the Commissioner</p>
Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe	<p><b>Ms Małgorzata KWIEÐACZ-PALOSZ</b>          Senior Lawyer          ClientEarth, on behalf of the INGO Conference</p>
Council of Europe Development Bank	

**COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE ENTITIES /**  
**COMITES DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

Bern Convention	<p><b>Ms Merike LINNAMÄGI (also representative of Estonia)</b>          Advisor          Biodiversity Conservation Department Ministry of the Climate          Outgoing Chair of the Bern Convention Standing Committee</p>
CDPC	<p><b>Mr Lorenzo SALAZAR</b>          Italy, CDPC Vice-Chair</p> <p><b>Ms Eva PASTRANA</b>          Head of Division</p>
CPT	<p><b>Mr Patrice WEBER</b>          Head of Communication and Information Unit</p>
ECSR	<p><b>Ms Diana BALANESCU</b>          Collective Complaints Division</p> <p><b>Ms Kamilė MICHAILOVSKYTĖ</b>          Lawyer</p>
GEC	<p><b>Ms Flurina FREI</b>          Gender Equality Policies</p>

EUR-OPA	<b>Mr Anthony Stephen MICALLEF</b> Permanent Correspondent of Malta (governmental committee representative) to EUR-OPA  <b>Mr Krzysztof ZYMAN</b> Executive Secretary
Advisory Council on Youth	<b>Mr Sean Currie</b> Federation of Young European Greens – FYEG on CCJ  <b>Ms Krystina JELINKOVA</b> Youth Policy  <b>Ms Anna-Sophie DIEDRICH</b> Trainee

**OBSERVER STATES TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE /**  
**OBSERVATEURS PERMANENTS DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

<b>CANADA</b>	
<b>HOLY SEE / SAINT-SIÈGE</b>	<b>Mr Nicolas BAUER</b> Représentant
<b>JAPAN / JAPON</b>	
<b>MEXICO / MEXIQUE</b>	<b>Ms Eva PIZANO CEJKA</b> Deputy to the Permanent Observer
<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA / ETATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE</b>	

**NON-MEMBER STATES PARTIES TO THE BERN CONVENTION /**  
**ETATS NON-MEMBRES MAIS PARTIES A LA CONVENTION DE BERNE**

<b>BURKINA FASO</b>	
<b>MOROCCO / MAROC</b>	
<b>SENEGAL / SÉNÉGAL</b>	
<b>TUNISIA / TUNISIE</b>	<b>Ms Sabria BNOUNI</b> Directrice Générale de la Coopération Internationale Ministère de l'Environnement

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS /**  
**ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

The United Nations and its agencies	OHCHR	
	UNFCCC	
IUCN	<b>Ms Agnes MICHELOT</b> Professeure des universités, membre du Steering Committee WCEL IUCN	

**OBSERVERS /  
OBSERVATEURS**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Nominated representative</b>
World Wide Fund for Nature	
Youth and Environment Europe	<b>Ms Emma PAGLIARUSCO</b> Advocacy Coordinator at Youth and Environment Europe.
International Young Nature Friends	
ClientEarth	
Greenpeace	<b>Mr Andrea CARTA</b> Senior Legal Strategist
Wild Legal	<b>Mr Vincent DELBOS</b> Membre Wild Legal, expert et magistrat honoraire
Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime	
Wildlife Justice Commission	
European network of national human rights institutions	
Amnesty International	<b>Ms Ann HARRISON</b> Climate Justice Researcher and Policy Advisor
International Commission of Jurists	
International Federation of Human Rights	
Center for International Environmental Law	<b>Mr Sebastien DUYCK</b> Senior Attorney
Global Network for Human Rights and the Environment	<b>Ms Corina HERI</b> Deputy Director for Europe
Green Rights Coalition	

**SECRETARIAT /  
SECRÉTARIAT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
<b>Mr Rafael BENITEZ</b>	Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment
<b>Ms Elda MORENO</b>	Special Advisor on Environment
<b>Mr Gianluca SILVESTRINI</b>	Secretary of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment

<b>Mr Mikaël POUTIERS</b>	Co-Secretary of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment
<b>Ms Nino LATSABIDZE</b>	Policy Advisor
<b>Ms Jenny MITCALF</b>	Administrative Support Assistant, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment
<b>Ms Irina SPOIALA</b>	Administrative Assistant, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment
<b>Ms Ines CARTER</b>	Trainee, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment
<b>Ms Kristin SELAND</b>	Study Visitor, Department on the Reykjavík process and the Environment

## APPENDIX III

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> GME MEETING

10–12 March 2025

Council of Europe – Agora - Room G03

(opening at 9.30 on 10 March and closing at 12.30 on 12 March 2025)

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair of the GME
2. Adoption of the report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> GME meeting, and of the agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting  
[GME(2025)R3prov, GME(2025)OJ4prov]
3. Developments concerning the Council of Europe
4. Adoption of the draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment  
[GME(2025)4]
5. Consideration of the draft Action Plan related to the draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment  
[GME(2025)5]
6. Any other business
7. Preliminary draft agenda, date and place of the 5<sup>th</sup> GME meeting  
[GME(2025)OJ5prov]
8. Adoption of the abridged report  
[GME(2025)AR4prov]

## APPENDIX IV

ABRIDGED REPORT OF THE 3<sup>rd</sup> GME MEETING

11–13 February 2025

1. The Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME) held its 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Strasbourg on 11-13 February 2025. The meeting was chaired by Ms Maria DIAMANTOPOULOU.
2. The GME adopted the report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> GME meeting and the agenda of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as it appears in Appendix I. The list of participants appears in Appendix II.
3. The GME took note of the statement of the Director of Social Rights, Health and Environment regarding developments in the Council of Europe of interest for Committee in particular the preparation of the Committee of Ministers ministerial session “environmental package” (draft Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment and Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law), texts adopted by Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and a recent decision of the European Court of Human Rights *Cannavacciuolo and Others v. Italy*. The GME was also updated on the Meeting of the Network of Parliamentarians for a healthy environment, which took place in Strasbourg on 29 January.
4. The GME held an exchange of views with Dr Lorenzo SALAZAR, Vice-Chair of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), who presented the Draft Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law expected to be adopted at the above-mentioned Ministerial Session.
5. The GME pursued consideration of the draft Strategy on the Environment. The Committee welcomed the draft (document GME(2025)2) which was amended following its comments and suggestions. The GME also held a preliminary discussion on the structure of the Action Plan to accompany the Strategy. It requested the Secretariat to circulate the draft Strategy as revised by the GME and to prepare an Action Plan reflecting the agreed goals and objectives. Member States, participants and observers to the GME are invited to present further proposals regarding the new Draft and preferably limiting them to issues of major importance. They are invited to send their proposals to the Secretariat (at [GME@coe.int](mailto:GME@coe.int)) as soon as possible, and no later than 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2025.
6. The GME held a preliminary discussion on the possibility of establishing a dedicated intergovernmental committee on the environment, as referred to in the Appendix V of the Reykjavík Declaration, and the members presented their initial thoughts on its structure, mandate and scope. It decided to resume consideration of this item at its next meeting.
7. The GME decided to hold its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in Strasbourg, on 10-12 March 2025, and adopted the preliminary draft agenda as set out in Appendix III.
8. The GME adopted the present abridged report.