



Rappresentanza Permanente d'Italia  
OSCE

**ITALY'S STATEMENT AT THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM –  
SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING**

**“Enhancing security and stability in the OSCE region through digital innovation,  
contributing to sustainable development and climate adaptation”**

**CLOSING SESSION**

Malta, 20 June 2024

Madam Moderator,

Italy aligns with the statement of the European Union and would like to add some remarks in a national capacity.

We would like to join other delegations in expressing our sincere gratitude to the Maltese Chairpersonship for organizing this Second Preparatory meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum (EEF) and for your warm hospitality in Malta. We look forward to continuing our fruitful discussions at the High-Level Conference on climate change tomorrow and at the EEF concluding meeting in Prague next September. We would also like to thank the OSCE Coordinator on Economic and Environmental Activities and to his Office for the excellent support provided throughout the Forum cycle.

Italy is fully committed to ensuring that the OSCE continues to remain a forum for cooperation and dialogue on the most pressing economic and environmental issues of our times, including the wide-reaching and devastating consequences of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on the security and stability of our region and beyond. In this context, we would like to reiterate the importance of the assistance provided to Ukraine by the Office of the Coordinator on Economic and Environmental Activities and the OSCE Support Programme to Ukraine, with our financial support and of other participating States, in order to mitigate the severe economic and environmental consequences of the war and to prepare for a sustainable and green reconstruction.

Italy is strongly convinced that enhanced international cooperation and a multi-stakeholder whole-of-society approach are essential to support the implementation of global climate, energy and environmental commitments worldwide and to achieve ambitious and tangible results. As current G7 Presidency, Italy has promoted new actions and initiatives to strengthen international cooperation, in particular with developing countries, such as the Hub on sustainable use of land and the new G7 water coalition launched at the G7 Climate Energy and Environment Ministerial meeting held in Turin last April. This renewed international engagement is also reflected in our “Piano Mattei” for bilateral cooperation with Africa. On the margin of the same G7 Ministerial Meeting, we also promoted the organisation of an extensive programme of events, workshops and debates – called Planet Week – with the objective to foster the participation of youth, business, academia, and civil society organisations, who have an essential role to play in advancing the global energy transition.

By bringing together participating States from different regions but with similar economic and environmental challenges, as well as representatives from international organisations, national and local authorities and civil society organisations, the OSCE can also make a significant contribution to the implementation of our joint economic and environmental commitments. We should continue working towards common solutions to the shared challenges of energy sustainability, climate change, environmental protection, as well as social and economic cohesion.

Thank you