

AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF GEORGIA  
AND THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF ESTONIA  
ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Estonia hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

Wishing to promote and strengthen their bilateral cooperation in order to help both countries to achieve national and international environmental targets and to improve the state of the environment in both countries,

Acting in accordance with the national legislation of both countries and the generally recognized principles of international environmental law,

Considering the Joint Declaration by the Presidents of Georgia and Republic of Estonia in 2004.

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Parties shall promote and develop further cooperation in the field of environmental protection on an equal basis, to benefit and advantage of the both states.

ARTICLE 2

The Parties shall promote joint efforts in the field of environmental protection between the relevant governmental and non-governmental authorities and the other interested parties, including institutions, organisations and private enterprises.

ARTICLE 3

1. The cooperation is aimed to support Georgia in:

- a) Development of administrative mechanisms for the purpose of environmental protection;
- b) Reform process by sharing of Estonia's experience in the management of natural resources and environment;
- c) Training of civil servants on the European integration issues particularly in the field of environmental protection and natural resources management;

2. The cooperation shall be carried out in the following main directions:

- a) Management in the field of air protection, including protection of the ozone layer and mitigation of the effects of climate change;
- b) Forest management;
- c) Environmental monitoring and enforcement;
- d) Environment monitoring and assessment of the former military sites;
- e) Sustainable use of natural resources and environmental protection;

- f) Water management;
- g) Environmental protection of marine water;
- h) Wetland protection;
- i) Waste management and waste recycling;
- j) Nature conservation and protection of the biological diversity;
- k) Implementation of the provisions of multilateral international agreements in the field of environmental protection;
- l) Harmonization of EU directives into national legislation;
- m) Environmental education, training and research;
- n) Radiation safety.

#### ARTICLE 4

The cooperation of the Parties takes the following form:

- a) Implementation of joint projects and programmes;
- b) Exchange of information on environmental legislation, standards and plans;
- c) Arrangement of joint meetings, conferences, consultations of experts;
- d) Exchange of scientific and technical information;
- e) Participation of experts in international environmental conferences and symposia to be arranged in each country;
- f) Other mutually agreed forms of cooperation.

#### ARTICLE 5

1. The Parties shall, within 3 months from the entry into force of this Agreement, inform in written form each other of designation of the coordinators for implementation of the cooperation.
2. The coordinators shall establish and maintain regular contacts through joint meetings and/or by other means.

#### ARTICLE 6

Travel expenses for delegations of experts of the sending Party shall be covered by this Party if not agreed otherwise.

#### ARTICLE 7

Amendments to this Agreement in the form of separate Protocols, shall be inalienable parts of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 8

Any dispute arising in relation to the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled by consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

#### ARTICLE 9

1. This Agreement shall enter into force from the date of its signature and remain in force for an unlimited period of time. Any Party may terminate the Agreement upon the written notification to another Party at least six months before the termination of the Agreement.
2. Done in Tbilisi on 27.06.2006 in two copies, each in the Georgian, Estonian and English

languages, and all texts being authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation of this agreement, the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of  
Environment Protection and  
Natural Resources of Georgia

For the Ministry of  
the Environment of the Republic of  
Estonia