



Montenegro
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration



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MEDIA ADVISORY

The Government of Montenegro to sign Country Programme Documents with the UNICEF and the UNDP

What: Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will sign the Country Programme Action Plans (CPAPs) for the period between 2012-2016. The CPAPs are aligned with the Integrated UN Programme for Montenegro 2012-2016 and have been developed through consultation with the Government of Montenegro, national partners and the Donor Community for the betterment of the country and the lives of the people of Montenegro.

The Country Programme Action Plans will be signed by:

Mr. Milan Roćen, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro

Mr. Rastislav Vrbensky, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative to Montenegro

Mr. Benjamin Perks, UNICEF Representative to Montenegro

When: **Monday, 16 January 2012, at 11:30h**

Where: **Vila Gorica, Podgorica**

Statements will be given after the signing ceremony.

Media outlets should send their credential requests to the Government of Montenegro PR Bureau, Tel. +382 20 482 - 848.

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The joint signing ceremony of the Country Programme Action Plans of the UNDP and UNICEF with the Government of Montenegro is an important step towards further harmonization of the work of different UN agencies aimed at fostering Montenegro's development and integration into the EU.

The UNDP's and UNICEF's country programmes support the Government of Montenegro to address key priority areas on its way to EU membership such as alleviation of poverty, economic development, youth empowerment, child rights, good governance and environmental protection.

The CPAP between the Government of Montenegro and UNICEF focuses on fulfilment of child rights as set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and in line with standards of the European Union. Priorities include improved equity and inclusion of children and women who are in need of special protection, who live in poverty or who are marginalised. The programme will include continued support to Government to complete the reform of the child protection system in accordance with UN and EU



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standards and implementation of policies and strategies to improve all aspects of childhood. The proposed programme comprises two mutually reinforcing components: child protection and social inclusion; and child rights, policies and planning. The programme is to be implemented in partnership and coordination with the Government, civil society, private sector, international partners and other relevant stakeholders.

The CPAP between the Government of Montenegro and UNDP focuses on the key strategic goal of Montenegro to become a fully-fledged EU member. It reconciles the needs of the country for more equitable human development and stronger institutional capacity development. The proposed programme is divided in three major areas: 1) Social inclusion; 2) Enhanced capacity development for public management; 3) Sustainable development focused on economic growth and environmental protection. It focuses on public administration and judiciary reform; capacity development of key Ministries and local administrations; and inclusion and protection of vulnerable populations and support to the country in operationalizing the concept of Montenegro as an ecological State. The programme is to be implemented in partnership and coordination with the Government, civil society, private sector, international partners and other relevant stakeholders.

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For additional information, please contact:

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