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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Nicosia, Cyprus, 5-7 October 2022) - Information from the Cyprus delegation

Delegations will find in the Annex an information note from the Cyprus delegation on the above subject, to be dealt with under "Any other business" at the Council (Environment) meeting on 28 June 2022.

**Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
Nicosia, Cyprus, 5-7 October 2022**

Information from the Cyprus delegation

The 9th Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference will be held in Nicosia, Cyprus, from 5 to 7 October 2022. The Ministerial Conference is organised, for the first time in the Mediterranean Region, by the Republic of Cyprus under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Nikos Anastasiades. The Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, together with the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth are organising the Conference on behalf of the host country, and also in close collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), which acts as the Secretariat for the Environment for Europe process since 1991.

The Ministerial Conference, which is held every five years, brings together Ministers for the Environment and Ministers for Education. The Nicosia Conference's main themes are Sustainable Infrastructure, Sustainable Tourism and Education for Sustainable Development. The event will attract high-level delegations from more than 70 countries, including countries of the UNECE, the Mediterranean Region, the Middle East and Asia. Around 1000 participants from the public and private sectors, academia, the youth and business sectors and civil society organisations are expected to attend the event. In addition to the plenary sessions, more than 40 side events on the topics of the Ministerial Conference will be organised, and thematic exhibitions will also be held.

The Nicosia Conference will offer the Ministers for the Environment the opportunity to engage in high-level interactive discussions in the context of the themes of the Conference, with the aim of strengthening cooperation in the pan-European region for greening the economy by working towards sustainable infrastructure and promoting sustainable tourism by applying the principles of the circular economy to the sector. At the closing of the Conference, the Ministers are expected to adopt the Nicosia Ministerial Declaration.

This Ministerial Conference will create the necessary momentum for reaching a turning point in our efforts to achieve sustainable development. Cyprus and the UNECE Secretariat look forward to welcoming all representatives of the member states, international and non-governmental organisations, youth and academia to the Conference.
