27 MAR 2017



SENATE OF ECONOMY Rotenturmstrasse 5-9 1010 Vienna/Austria

Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry To President Tsvetan Simeonov III Iskar 9 1000 Sofia Bulgaria

HEADQUARTER Rotenturmstrasses-9 icio Vienna - Austria

PH +43 1 505 35 48 +43 1 905 35 48 - 20

office@senar-pesterreich.at www.senat-oesterreich.at

Vienna, March 20, 2017

DECLARATION – Ecology & Economics

Dear President Simeonov!

On September 12, 2016, we organized the opening of the DANUBE MACRO REGION BUSINESS FORUM in the "Ratsaal" of the OSCE premises of the Vienna Hofburg in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce and the European Commission. As a result of the venue and with your help we achieved a signed declaration from the participants.

The companies in the Danube Region must generate a competitive advantage from new ecological developments and requirements. Therefore we are in the strong need of a program which focuses on minimizing the CO2-emission - in contrast to existing initiatives which are focused on selling CO2-certificates!

As a solution we are offering an initiative which has been developed by the SENATE OF ECONOMY Austria during the last 5 years, especially designed for the SME sector. Therefore the SENATE OF ECONOMY Austria and SECI-Southeast European Cooperative Initiative recommend and offer the implementation of the

CHMATE-AHIANCE

known in Austria as the



for its international rollout, targeting institutions, governmental and economic entities of any orientation and size.

PRESIDENT Dr Erhard Busek

MANAGEMENT BOARD Dieter Härthe Hans Harrer

SENATE OF ECONOMY Austria

Central Register



SENATE OF ECONOMY Rotenturmstrasse 5-9 1010 Vienna/Austria

HEADQUARTER Rotenfurmstrasse 5-9 1010 Viehna - Austria

PH +43 1 505 35 48 F +43 1 505 35 48 + 20

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We are honored to have you as an experienced and strong partner to distribute this information to your member companies.

By doing so, you contribute reasonably to give companies and SMEs in the Danube Region the chance to generate a competitive advantage in the market by taking care for a sustainable and eco-social market economy.

Therefore the SENATE OF ECONOMY Austria and SECI-Southeast European Cooperative Initiative

- encourages all entities of the Danube Region to participate on the suggested program,
- ✓ <u>calls</u> on immediate action to achieve the COP21-relevant targets in the Danube Region,
- ✓ <u>welcomes</u> any support to implement and adopt the program to local needs and
- ✓ guarantees full dedication to the economic, ecological and social development of the Danube Region.

The entire program's main aim is to provide best possible support to achieve

- carbon neutrality
- energy efficiency of all activities of the entity itself,
- and to go beyond by enabling the entity to force the entire group of entity-related stakeholders, such as customers, service providers, suppliers, employees etc. to actively strengthen the efforts to achieve the same results in the fields of carbon neutrality and energy efficiency.

You are invited to share the attached declaration with your member companies in your country and to invite them to contact us for further information in order to have a full understanding how the program works and how to secure market position by meeting ecological requirements. Our Executive Director of the "CLIMATE-ALLIANCE", Dr. Johannes Linhart (j.linhart@senat-oesterreich.at) is looking forward to receiving requests from your members.

Best regards

PRESIDENT
Dr. Erhard Busek

MANAGEMENT BOARD
Dieter Härthe
Hans Harrer
Eva Uilmann

SENATE OF ECONOMY Austria

Central Register of Associations 157685276

Dr. Erhard Busek

President, SENATE OF ECONOMY Austria