# Sustainable development and the EU non-energy extractive industry

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#### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DG Enterprise and Industry - Unit I2 Steel, non-ferrous metals, non-energy extractive industry

Screening meeting Croatia and Turkey - Chapter 20 - Brussels, 28 March 2006

### Sustainable development

□ Sustainable development: "development that meets the needs of today's generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs"

□ 3 pillars: economic, environmental, social



# Communication (2000) 265 Promoting sustainable development in the EU non-energy extractive industry

- Sets broad policy lines for promoting SD by reconciling the need for more secure and less polluting extractive activities while maintaining the competitiveness of the industry
- Evaluation of COM (2000)265 to be completed by early April



#### Ongoing policy actions

## Commission Communication (2005) 474 and Staff Working Document SEC (2005) 1216

- ☐ In-depth assessment of competitiveness: to be completed by mid 2006
- High-Level Group on Competitiveness, Energy and Environment



#### **Priority areas**

- 1. Environment
- 2. Competitiveness
- Social performance and employment
- 4. Research and Technological Development
- 5. Enlargement

Stakeholder dialogue



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#### (1) Environment: new legislative initiatives

- Directive 2003/105/EC amending the Seveso II Directive (96/82/EC)
- Directive 2006/21/EC on the management of waste from extractive industries
- BAT document for management of tailings and waste rock in mining activities: http://eippcb.jrc.es/



#### (1) Environment: voluntary actions

- Environmental management systems
- Environmental reporting
- Example of the EU Sustainable Development Indicators: http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/steel/non-energy-extractive-industry/sd-indicators.htm



#### (2) Competitiveness

- Access to land has been identified as a major issue
- Study the design and functioning of administrative procedures in the MS, in order to encourage exchange of information and to identify best practices
  - Minerals Planning and Policies study (2004):
    http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/steel/index.htm



#### (3) Social performance and employment

- Further improve industry's performance in the field of health and safety
- Ensure the future supply of a sufficiently skilled and educated workforce



#### (4) Research and Technological Development

- Develop a common European platform for coordinating and disseminating results, and for identifying areas for future research
  - NESMI network under FP5 (2001-2005): http://www.nesmi.net
  - European Technology Platform on Sustainable MineralResources



#### (5) Enlargement

- Enhance the competitiveness of the sector in candidate countries
- Improve the social and environmental performance of the sector in candidate countries



### (5) Enlargement

- Assist new Member States and candidate countries in the implementation of the acquis and informing them about our industrial policies
  - TAIEX-sponsored workshops: http://taiex.cec.eu.int
- Development of an inventory of existing "hot spots" in the candidate countries
  - Pecomines: http://viso.ei.jrc.it/pecomines ext/index.html



#### Stakeholder dialogue

- Dialogue on all priority issues has been strengthened and intensified
- Example of the Raw Materials SupplyGroup

