

Dear Ambassador of USA in the Republic of Macedonia Mr. Philip Reeker,

Dear colleague Minister of Environment and Physical Planning Mr. Nexhati Jakupi,

Dear Mayor of Ohrid Mr. Aleksandar Petreski,

Dear Director of Globe International, Ms. Teresa Kenedy,

Dear Director of Globe Europe/Eurasia Mr. Matthijs [Beghain](#),

Dear Country Coordinators of the Program,

Dear Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my special honour and great pleasure to address you today at the Annual Conference of GLOBE Europe/Eurasia Country Coordinators and training for the teachers who implement the Program. This year's Conference hosted by the Republic of Macedonia will be attended by representatives of 40 countries from Europe, Eurasia, representatives of GLOBE America, scientists and teachers.

In Macedonia, the activities under the GLOBE Program are carried out by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, in cooperation with the Peace Corps in Macedonia and the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Ministry of Education and Science, aware of the importance of the education concerning the need for environmental protection, has been introducing continuously

content in educational subjects for the purpose of environmental awareness improvement.

In accordance with the concept of the Law on Primary Education, one of the main goals of the nine-year primary education, is the development of students' awareness and care for their own health and the relevance of the healthy environment in this regard. This can be achieved through promotion of healthy living style and training of students to undertake responsibility for their own health and for the protection of environment and nature.

The curricula of the subjects *introduction of environment*, *natural science* and *biology*, as compulsory subjects, elaborate topics related to environment improvement and protection.

Also, under the nine year primary education concept, vocational subject *Training in environment* has been introduced and students may study it in the 7th and 8th grades.

According to Article 29 of the Law on Primary Education, training in personal and social development of students has been introduced, carried out at the homeroom class. In the frames of this curriculum, topics are thought from 1st to 9th grade, depending on the age of the students, in relation to proper attitudes towards the environment. Thus, for example,

the following topics are elaborated: Safe behaviour in nature, Care for the hygiene in the environment, Building of positive attitude towards plants and animals, Improvement, maintenance and enhancement of the environment and protection of Earth.

As far as extra curricular activities are concerned, schools have sufficient room to plan and implement research projects in the area of environment.

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia will keep to support all new initiatives raised by non-governmental organizations, individuals, and civil associations related to improvement of the environment and students' health.

I avail myself of this opportunity to welcome all participants in in this year's GLOBE Conference and wish them a successful working day.

Thank you.