

*Permanent Mission of Romania
to the Office of the United Nations
and the International Organizations
in Switzerland*



*Mission Permanente de la Roumanie
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies
et les Organisations Internationales
en Suisse*

OHCHR REGISTRY

28 AUG 2008

Recipients : U. Halsteem

No.1660

The Permanent Mission of Romania to the U.N. Office in Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honor to refer to its Note Verbale of 2 June 2008, and Note Informative of 20 August 2008 regarding the Human Rights Council resolution 7/23 on "Human Rights and Climate Change", and present, hereby, attached, the response of the Romanian authorities to the respective questions.

The Permanent Mission of Romania to the U.N. Office in Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew the Office of U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 25 August 2008



The Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

In Town

Romania – Human Rights Council Resolution 7/23 - Human Rights and Climate Change

Adaptation to climate change represents a problem of national interest for Romania.

The National Strategy and Action Plan on climate change adopted in 2005 underlines the need to elaborate a National Action Plan on adapting to the effects of climate change.

At this stage, the Romanian authorities do not benefit from sufficiently detailed climatic scenarios in order to proceed to specific measures to counter the effects of climate change on the population. Thus, there is a need to further study the degree of vulnerability of the population to the effects of climate change, as well as the costs and benefits of applying adaptation measures and strategies.

For example, Romanian authorities in charge with climate change challenges encountered methodological difficulties in assessing the impact of climate change on the health status of the population, given the numerous aspects to be taken into account (e.g. the degree and extent of exposure to “climate variability”, the sensitivity of the population to the effects of climate change, the Governmental capacity to react etc.).

Under these circumstances, the Ministry of Public Health is considering the elaboration of a national methodology to evaluate and monitor the effects of climate change on the health status of the population, as well as an intervention program for cases of extreme heat waves.

The initiation of a Multi-annual Research Program on adapting to effects of climate change remains a priority for Romania in 2009. It will develop approaches and methodologies to monitor the impact of relevant policies and adaptation measures, including from the perspective of protection for human rights.