**Bilateral meeting with EC & BG/RO on Art 12 assessment + Capacity Building Event Brussels in the framework of the “Technical and administrative support for the joint implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria and Romania”**

Venue: DG Environment, 5, avenue de Beaulieu, B-1160 Brussels
(Room BU-9 5/48 on 26/3, room BU-5 0/A on 27/3, room BU-9 5/48 on 28/03 )

**26 March: Bilateral meeting with EC & BG/RO on Art 12 assessment**

* 10h-10h15 Opening
* 10h15-12h The Commission report on the first phase of the MSFD
	1. Presentation of the Commission report and its elements of relevance to the Black Sea (including recommendations made in the region)
	2. Presentation of the Black Sea Regional report
	3. Discussion on the assessment and its main findings
* 13h30-18h The way forward in the region
1. Opportunities to review and update GES and targets in the short and long term
2. Opportunities to strengthen the targets and use common indicators to allow for a consistent approach within and among regions and between the different provisions.
3. Action to address gaps and shortcomings including the preparation of the revised initial assessment for 2018
4. Monitoring programmes and Commission recommendations
5. Programmes of measures and Commission recommendations

Conclusions from Day 1

**27 March: Bilateral meeting with EC & BG/RO – continued + Steering group meeting**

* 9h30-10h Addressing cross-cutting and technical issues (incl. public participation)
* 10h-11h Financing opportunities
* 11h-13h30 Follow-up action plans, coordinated at (sub-) regional level / the CIS to rectify

the shortcomings identified at the latest by 2018

* 14h-17h Steering group meeting Support Black Sea

**28 March: Capacity Building Event**

* 9h-12h Discussion results review GES & targets
* 13h-16h Potential funding opportunities:
	+ - * Presentation state of play of structural funds planning internally by BG & RO
			* Presentation by DG Regio on funding opportunities