







Honorable Minister of the Environment and Energy,

Honorable Chairman of the Circular Economy Committee,

Distinguished guests,

Friends and colleagues,

As the business community and the global economy search for new solutions that will help them adapt to new conditions, the Circular Economy becomes the new roadmap for a truly sustainable future.

It projects a positive narrative for the future, it opens up new opportunities and challenges for business and brings forth the promise of significant investments, based on a green and sustainable development!

Spear-headed by knowledge, education and specialization, the Circular Economy can contribute to innovation, the reduction of production costs and the adoption of new practices with long-term value while simultaneously becoming a key driver for growth and enhanced competitiveness.

Greece has great potential in the application of this economic model. This is due to available and generally underutilized resources, something that can obviously lead to strong growth.

Our country's capacity is increased, in the context of EU policy by the smart financing instruments that are put in place and take the form of subsidies, tax incentives and public sector investments. The role of the State will be critical in this effort, as initiatives are needed to support the circular economy and incentivize technology creation and adoption as well as innovation.

Finally and within the same framework, Greece has one more significant adivantage: its strong scientific and technical knowhow and background.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, a couple of days before we celebrate World Environment Day, and through this very important initiative of our Circular Economy Committee, we start an important public debate on sustainability and climate neutrality.

In closing my short welcome address, and in the hope of being soon able to meet in person, I thank you for being digitally here with us and I look forward to an excellent conference.

Now, please allow me to pass the floor to the Chairman of the Circular Economy Committee, Mr. Kremlis who I feel certain will tell us many interesting things.