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**TECHNICAL SESSION AND
FAIR ON SUSTAINABLE OUTDOOR LIGHTING:**

**ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE VISIBLE QUALITY
OF THE NIGHT SKY. ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL CASES.**

November 30th, 2011
Museum of Almería. Carretera de Ronda, 91
Almería (Andalusia)

The Ministry for the Environment of the Regional Government of Andalusia recognizes the need to induce and encourage more sustainable habits among the population. Some programs have been launched to improve urban sustainability. So, recently approved Urban Sustainability Strategy of Andalusia opens a competence framework which calls for work in cross-sectional areas such as the local urban management, or in more specific matters like light pollution.

Light pollution is an environmental problem which stems from an inadequate design of lighting systems. Light pollution damages astronomical observations, both at a scientific and touristic levels, and natural ecosystems as well. Efficient energy management and design of lighting facilities, taking into account sustainability criteria, is a priority for the competent authorities, as reflected in the Regulation for the Protection of the Night Sky Quality against Light Pollution, approved in 2010.

Thus, the General Direction for Climate Change and Urban Environment of the Environmental Regional Government of Andalusia has organized a national and international technical seminar on light pollution. The purpose of this activity is to provide a joint forum for common work, which enables the exchange of experiences, useful both for countries already having some regulation and for those that are still developing it. The application of these norms will also be an issue.

During the same day, the Fair on Sustainable Outdoor Lighting will be held, where different companies will show the latest trends in lighting systems. This Fair offers to involved administrations a meeting place to exchange experiences and to learn about technology advances in energy efficiency.

On December 1st 2011, the First International Meeting of Administrations for Night Sky Protection will take place in Almeria, where each participating country will have the opportunity to exchange, discuss and debate positive and negative aspects of applicability of each regulation, and adopting, where appropriate, a common position on certain problems.

10:00h Reception and coffee.

10:30h Opening. Regional Minister for the Environment of Andalusia.

11:00h Presentation University of Murcia. Effects of light pollution on health and biodiversity. Chronobiology Laboratory at the University of Murcia.

11:30h Presentation Calar Alto Observatory. Light pollution: Astronomy, culture and development.
Mr. David Galadí-Enríquez. Calar Alto Astronomical Observatory.

12:00h Questions

12:10h Presentation Hawaii. Light pollution: baseline situation, corrective actions and current status.
Mr. Richard Wainscoat. University of Hawaii.

12:40h Presentation Chile. Light pollution: baseline situation, corrective actions and current status.
Mr. Pedro Sanhueza. Protection Office Sky Quality Northern Chile. Ministry of Environment.

13:10h Questions

13:20h Presentation Italy. Light pollution: baseline situation, corrective actions and current status
Mr. Diego Bonata (videoconference). Secretary of Light-IS (Professional eco-light association).

13:50h Questions

14:00h Lunch

15:30h Presentation Italy. Evaluating and measuring light pollution. Mr. Fabio Falchi. Institute of Science and Technology and Italian Dark-Sky Association (CieloBuio).

16:00h Presentation Starlight Initiative. Mr. Cipriano Marín Cabrera. Coordinator of the Starlight Initiative (Starlight Foundation), member of the Urban Futures Programme (UNESCO-MAB).

16:30h Presentation Germany. Light pollution: baseline situation, corrective actions and current status. Mr. Andreas Hänel. Working Group Dark Sky. Schölerberg Museum. Planetary Nature and Environment. Osnabrück (Germany).

17:00h Presentation Government of Andalusia. Regional Government response to light pollution. Mrs. Estefanía Cañavate García. Agency for the Environment and Water.

17:30h Questions

Moderator: Mrs. Angela Ranea Palma. Head of the Urban Environment Department, Regional Environmental Government of Andalusia.

Simultaneous interpreting English-Spanish and Spanish-English will be offered.