These Proceedings contain papers submitted by Conference participants and other enforcement professionals in preparation for the Seventh International Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement in Marrakech, Morocco, 9-15 April 2005.

These papers present empowering concepts, insights, and experiences and are made available to enforcement practitioners throughout the entire world, from both developed and developing countries, to further our common endeavor. These materials, and a second volume that will be prepared after the conference, are also available through the INECE web site (www.inece.org) along with the proceedings of the previous six INECE Conferences.

The theme of the INECE Seventh Conference is MAKING LAW WORK: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, which builds upon the premise that the integrity of our ecosystems, the conservation and wise use of our natural resources, and our progress toward sustainable development all require a strong and effective legal system, with strong and effective compliance efforts, including the right mix of enforcement and compliance assistance.

These Proceedings cover a broad range of subject matter, including the critical connections between compliance, the rule of law, good governance, and sustainable development; the various theories developed to explain why States, firms, and individuals do or do not comply with law; the strategies used to secure compliance; and the incorporation of empirical studies and indicators to help determine which environmental compliance and enforcement strategies work and which do not, and then to adjust programs accordingly.

These Proceedings also contain articles that look at specific strategies and influences in environmental compliance and enforcement, such as the role of economics, compliance assistance, certification systems, and citizen participation in environmental compliance. Many articles present case studies of specific networks, such as Interpol's Ecomessage network on environmental crime, as well as opportunities for future networking, such as with hazardous waste at ports and illegal logging.

The articles describe important new challenges that require a strong response from compliance and enforcement practitioners, such as the enforcement of emissions trading schemes, and they provide experiences with and strategies to better measure and manage compliance and enforcement activities through the use of the indicators that INECE is helping develop through pilot efforts in several countries.

These Proceedings also share stories of individual, local, and regional victories in achieving compliance with domestic laws and multilateral agreements that have been put in place to guide human behavior on an all too fragile planet. These stories of success inspire us to continue to push for environmental awareness, fairness, and accountability.

INECE's Seventh International Conference will bring together enforcement officials from approximately 80 countries – developed and developing – to share experiences and make plans to take environmental compliance and enforcement efforts to the next level. Ultimately, the success of INECE's Seventh International Conference is the strength of the individual commitments pledged in Marrakech; the durability of the bonds forged among local, regional, and international networks and practitioners; and the powerful and innovative ideas and projects spurred at the Conference and beyond. It is our hope that these and other results emerge and become forces for change and a call for action by governments and nongovernmental organizations alike to strengthen
the rule of law for sustainable development, to enforce compliance with environmental law, and to make law work.

On behalf of the Executive Planning Committee and the Secretariat staff, we look forward to your continued and productive use of INECE’s Seventh International Conference materials. Comments and suggestions should be sent to the INECE Secretariat by email at inece@inece.org, by fax to 1-202-338-1810, or by mail to 2141 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite D2, Washington, DC, 20007.

THE EDITORS