Project of framework laws of the national charter of the environment and the sustainable development

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The present draft of framework law is in keeping with the High Royal Directives to the Government about the declension of the national charter of the environment and the sustainable development " in a project of framework law. We want that it constitutes a real reference for the public policies of our country on the subject ". Its elaboration is based on the provisions of Article 71 of the constitution authorizing “the Parliament to vote framework laws concerning the fundamental objectives of the economic, social, environmental and cultural activity of the State”. Its contents take into account commitments related to the environmental protection in favour of sustainable development, undertaken by the Kingdom of Morocco, within the framework of the international conventions to which it is party.

Moreover, this draft framework law is registered in the government program under priority texts. It aims essentially at declining the national charter of the environment and the sustainable development by giving a legal basis for its content: that is how it integrates the principles, the rights, the duties and the commitments proclaimed by the aforementioned Charter. In addition, The present project has the merit to go further as to fill the existing legal gaps in the domains of the environmental protection and the sustainable development and to provide all the basic objectives that the Government suggests to conduct in these areas. The present project translates the will of our country to register its efforts of economic, social, cultural and environmental development in sustainable perspective, ensuring that sector strategies, programs and action plans are carried out in strict compliance with the requirements of environmental protection and sustainable development.

So, the present project of framework law:

1. Sets out the recognized rights and duties of individuals and legal entities inherent to the environment and to the sustainable development and proclaims the principles which must be respected by the public authorities and their partners, both at the level of the elaboration of their action plans and at the level of their implementation ;
2. Strengthens the legal protection of resources and ecosystems by enumerating the types of actions or measures which the State suggests taking with the aim of fighting against all the forms of pollution and nuisances and getting a high and effective level of protection to the resources and environments;

3. Dedicates sustainable development as a core value shared by all segments of society, but especially as an approach that must be declined in the public and sectorial policies of development, and makes obligation to the Government to elaborate the national strategy of sustainable development with the aim of allowing all the concerned parties to know the great orientations to which they have to refer in this domain;

4. Defines the responsibilities and the commitments which all the concerned parties – state, regions, public, private enterprises, associations of the civil society and citizens - have to respect regarding environment and sustainable development;

5. Plans the measures of institutional, economic and financial order with the aim of establishing a system of environmental governance characterized by efficiency and coherence of actions, in particular in terms of evaluation, awareness, education and social communication for environment and sustainable development;

6. Puts the milestones of an environmental responsibility system matched by a mechanism of financing of the repairs and compensation of the damage caused to the environment, and plans the institution of an environmental police to strengthen the capacity of the Administration for a good application of the regulations governing the environment and the sustainable development.

Such are the main objectives of the present framework law.