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Economic Commission for Europe**World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe****Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes****Working Group on Water and Health
Third Meeting**

Geneva, 27–28 May 2010

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Setting targets and reporting under the Protocol**Proposed amendments to the guidelines on the setting of targets, evaluation of progress and reporting****Note prepared by the secretariat¹****I. Introduction**

1. The present document was prepared on the basis of comments received from the Czech Republic and ECO-TIRAS International Environmental Association of River Keepers, in accordance with the request of the Working Group on Water and Health, at its second meeting (Geneva, 2–3 July 2009), to the Task Force on Indicators and Reporting to further elaborate and finalize the draft Guidelines on setting targets, evaluation of progress and reporting (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2009/4 – EUR/08/5086340/9) and to submit a revised version at the Working Group's third meeting for endorsement before submitting it to the second session of the Meeting of the Parties for possible adoption (see ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2009/2 – EUR/09/5086340/4).

¹ The present document has been submitted after the official documentation deadline due to resource constraints.

II. Background and proposed action by the Working Group

2. The Chair of the Task Force on Indicators and Reporting presented the draft guidelines on setting targets, evaluation of progress and reporting at the second meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health and invited Parties and non-parties to provide comments by 31 July 2009.
3. Following the call for comments, the secretariat received a written contribution from the Czech Republic, which is listed in part III below. All proposals and amendments provided by the Czech Republic were presented to and endorsed by the third meeting of the Task Force on Indicators and Reporting (17–18 February, 2010).
4. At the third meeting of the Task Force, additional amendments to the Guidelines were provided by ECO-TIRAS (see part IV of this document).
5. This document should be read together with the Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2009/4 – EUR/09/5086340/9). The Working Group is expected to review the proposed changes and decide on their incorporation into the Guidelines.

III. Comments provided by the Czech Republic

6. Page 31– section III.A, paragraph 81, should be amended to read as follows (new text in italics):

It is recommended that the coordination mechanism responsible for target-setting (*see section A, page 16*) be involved in the data collection, assessing and reporting under the Protocol. This will enable examination of the needs and possibilities to revise the targets according to recent knowledge and requirements.

7. Page 36 – table 4 (Common indicators), row 2 (Reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related diseases), column 2 (Common indicators) – add the following text in italics:

Focus area

Common indicators

Reduction of the scale of outbreaks and incidents of water-related disease	<i>For incidence, report on the total number of cases per year from all exposure routes/ For the number of outbreaks, report on the cases that could be potentially related to water:</i> (a) Cholera; (b) Bacillary dysentery (shigellosis); (c) EHEC; (d) Viral hepatitis A; (e) Typhoid fever
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8. Page 40 – Section I.C, box 9, column 1, row 2 – add the text below indicated in italics:

Box 9. Examples of targets and indicators set under article 6 (a) by the Czech Republic

Target	Deadline	Indicator
Publication of updated booklet on <i>good management practice of wells</i>	31/12/2010	Booklet issued (yes–no)

9. Page 46, section III.C, box 10, example 3, Czech Republic, should be amended to read as follows:

The Czech Republic has set the following targets: (a) to draw up a development plan on water supply and sanitation systems for the whole country and (b) to facilitate the connection of residences in suburbs and small villages to the public water supply.

10. Page 53 – section VII.C, Relevant global and regional obligations and recommendations on reporting, box 12 – the examples provided by the Czech Republic should be moved into different sections of the Guidelines as follows:

- The first part of the Czech example relates to hazardous substances discharged into raw water. This can be used as an example for paragraph 2 (h) as a measure for the prevention of hazardous substances discharge;
- The second part of the Czech example relates to the quality of bathing water and water used for abstraction and treatment of drinking water. This can be used as an example in paragraph 2(f), second part.

11. Page 58 – section XI.C, Relevant regional or global obligations and reporting systems and page 63, section XIV.C, Relevant regional or global obligations and reporting systems – the text in italics below should be added to the two sections:

Directive 2006/11/EC on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the European Community.

The following explanation should be provided at first mention of the Directive:

The Directive contains two lists of families and groups of dangerous substances. It stipulates that the States shall take the appropriate steps to implement measures to eliminate or reduce pollution of the waters by the dangerous substances. In order to implement the Directive, the States shall establish emission standards, set up obligatory authorization of discharges and specific programmes to reduce occurrence of some substances in water. Member States report regularly to the European Commission on implementation of the Directive. The elimination or reduction of dangerous substances discharged into water resources is crucial, as these substances endanger human health as well as ecosystems; once they have been released into waters, it is extremely difficult to remove them.

12. Page 76 – section XVIII.C, Relevant global and regional obligations and reporting – the text indicated in italics below should be added:

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

with the following explanation:

The Convention establishes lists of chemicals that should be eliminated or restricted and recommends measures to achieve that goal. According to the Convention, each Party shall develop an action plan that includes strategies and measures aimed at reducing or eliminating releases from stockpiles and wastes.

13. Page 81 – section XIX.C, Relevant global and regional obligations and reporting, paragraph 211, should be reworded as follows:

The EU Water Framework Directive requires submission of several reports: report on competent authorities (article 3), analysis of river basin districts (article 5), monitoring programmes (article 8) and river basin management plans and programmes of measures (articles 11 and 13).

14. The following EC Directives should be added to section XIX.D, Relevant global and regional obligations and reporting:

- Regulation (EC) No. 166/2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EC and 96/61/EC;
- Directive 2008/1/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control, which is a codified version of Directive 96/61/EC;
- Directive 2006/11/EC on the pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community;
- Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources.

15. The following international obligations should be added to the annex:

- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;
- Directive 2006/11/EC on the pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community;
- Regulation (EC) No. 166/2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EC and 96/61/EC;
- Directive 2008/1/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control, which is a codified version of Directive 96/61/EC;
- Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.

IV. Comments provided by ECO-TIRAS

16. Page 69 – section XVI.C, Relevant regional and global obligations and reporting systems, paragraph 187 – the text indicated in italics should be added as follows:

The third part of article 6, paragraph 2 (j), of the Protocol requires the setting of targets and target dates related to the quality of waters used for aquaculture or for the production or harvesting of shellfish. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, aquaculture is defined as the farming of aquatic organisms including fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants.

17. Pages 69 and 70 – section XVI.B, List of issues to be considered for the process of target-setting, paragraph 188 – the text indicated in italics should be added as follows:

(a) The legal, institutional and administrative set-up: the system for production (e.g. pond, cage, tank, open water);

(b) Issues of management:

(iv) The impacts of aquaculture on downstream water quality, including organic pollution and eutrophication, as well as water pollution caused by drugs and chemicals used in aquaculture; some chemicals such as antibiotics and fungicides pose a potential danger to human health.

18. Page 70 – section XVI.C, Relevant regional or global obligations and recommendations on reporting, paragraph 190 – the text indicated in italics should be added as follows:

The Shellfish Directive (79/923/EEC) requires that certain substances be monitored in the water in which the shellfish live and grow. These substances can threaten the survival of shellfish, inhibit their growth or make them too expensive to treat before they can be used as a food source. For each substance, the Directive specifies the minimum number of samples to be taken and the percentage of samples that must meet these standards. *The EC Freshwater Fish Directive (2006/44/EC) seeks to protect those fresh water bodies identified by Member States as waters suitable for sustaining fish populations. It sets physical and chemical water quality objectives for salmonid waters and cyprinid waters. Both directives could be used for setting targets in the area of aquaculture.*
