



Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Task Force on Water and Climate
Fifth meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 27 April 2012

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTH MEETING

To be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting on Friday, 27 April 2012 at 9.30 a.m.

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Pilot projects on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins
4. Different initiatives to promote water and adaptation to climate change and vision for a global platform for exchanging experience on this issue
5. Future programme of work on water and climate change under the Water Convention
6. Other business
7. Closing

II. BACKGROUND AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Background

1. The Task Force on Water and Climate under the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention), jointly led by Germany and the Netherlands, is entrusted with activities in two main areas of work: transboundary flood management and water and climate change adaptation.

2. The fifth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate aims to review progress made in the implementation of the different activities under the Task Force in the current programme of work 2010-2012 and to discuss future activities on water and climate to be carried out under the Water Convention beyond 2012.

Practical information

3. The fifth meeting of the Task Force will start at 9.30 a.m. and end at 4.30 p.m. on Friday, 27 April 2012. It will be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The Task Force meeting will be organized back-to-back with the Third Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins, which will be held on 25-26 April 2012 in Geneva. The working languages will be English, French and Russian.

4. The meeting is open to experts representing governmental authorities, the private sector, non-governmental and international organizations as well as other interested stakeholders. Focal points are requested to disseminate information on the meeting and to facilitate the nomination of relevant experts from their respective countries.
5. Eligible participants from countries with economies in transition may apply for financial support to facilitate their participation in the meeting. Requests for financial support should be submitted to the UNECE secretariat (cammile.marcelo@unece.org) as soon as possible, but not later than **15 March 2012**. No application will be accepted after this deadline.
6. Participants requiring entry visas should inform the UNECE secretariat as soon as possible. Due to the entry of Switzerland in the Schengen Zone the minimum amount of time needed for obtaining a visa is 15 working days. Participants needing a visa are therefore requested to submit their application as soon as possible and initiate visa procedures at **least three weeks before the meeting**.
7. In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to complete the registration form available online (http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2012/wat/workshops/Transboundary_adaptation_april/Registration_form.doc) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by **10 April 2012** at the latest (cammile.marcelo@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, participants should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section located at the Pregny Gate, 14 Avenue de la Paix (see map on the UNECE website). Please allow time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1926.
8. Practical information on the Palais des Nations, as well as on transport and accommodation in Geneva, is available online at: <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>.
9. Further information, the registration form and relevant material will be made available on the following website in due course:
http://www.unece.org/env/water/5th_meeting_taskforce_water_climate.html

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening (9.30- 9.40 a.m.)

10. The co-Chairpersons will open the meeting.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda (9.40- 9.45 a.m.)

11. The Task Force is expected to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

Item 3: Pilot projects on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins¹ (9.45- 10.45 a.m.)

Background document: Overview of the pilot projects progress (TFWC/2012/3)

12. The Task Force will review the progress of the programme of pilot projects, provide comments as relevant and discuss how to support the pilot projects in the future. The Task Force will also be briefed on the second meeting of the core group of pilot projects, held on 23-24 November 2011 in Geneva.

Item 4: Different initiatives to promote water and adaptation to climate change and vision for a global platform for exchanging experience on this issue (10.45- a.m. - 12.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.)

13. The Task Force will be informed about the existing platform for exchanging experience on water and adaptation to climate change under the UNECE Water Convention, especially the web-based platform. It will discuss the use and possibilities of improving the platform.

14. Partners will be invited to briefly present their ongoing activities and water and adaptation to climate change. With a view to promote the transfer of lessons learned and a broader exchange of experiences, partners will also be invited to share their suggestions and potential contributions to a possible global platform for exchanging experience on water and climate change adaptation that could be established building on the existing mechanisms, in particular the existing platform under the UNECE Water Convention.

- a. Activities under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- b. Activities of the European Union
- c. Activities of the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation
- d. Activities of the World Meteorological Organization and UN-Water
- e. Other relevant activities at national and international level

15. The Task Force will discuss how to bring together the different efforts so that they are mutually supportive. In particular, the Task Force will discuss the need and opportunity for a global platform for exchanging experience, and if yes how to construct it, in particular in relation to components of the platform, resources, partners, modalities, etc.

16. Finally, the Task Force will discuss how to promote its activities, for example through a side event at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Rome, 28-30 November 2012).

¹ Following the adoption of the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change, the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (Geneva, 10-12 November 2009) decided to foster its implementation through a programme of pilot projects and a platform for exchanging experience with adaptation in the transboundary context. It entrusted the Task Force to facilitate the pilot projects programme and to serve as a venue for the exchange of experience between the pilot projects and other similar initiatives. The pilot projects aim to promote cooperation on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins in South-Eastern Europe and in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. More information on the pilot projects and their progress is contained in the background document "Overview of the pilot projects progress" (TFWC/2012/3).

Item 5: Future programme of work on water and climate change under the Water Convention (3.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.)

Background document: Proposal for future activities on water and climate change (TFWC/2012/5)

At the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the UNECE Water Convention a new programme of work for 2013-2015 will be presented and adopted. The Task Force will be briefed about the discussions and proposals for the future programme of work and its water and climate change component at previous events, in particular the Strategic Workshop on the Future Work under the Water Convention (Geneva, 14-15 February 2012). The Task Force will discuss the proposal for future activities on water and climate change under the Water Convention and make arrangements to finalize the proposal for its presentation of the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (Geneva, 3-5 July 2012) and its subsequent submission to the Meeting of the Parties.

Item 6: Other business (4.30 p.m.)

17. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

Item 7: Closing

18. The co-Chairpersons will close the meeting at 4.30 p.m. on Friday, 27 April 2012.
