Why does water law matter to you? Exploring local to global perspectives

Date: 14 March 2012 from 14:30 – 16:30 Hrs.
Venue: PC 9 - Goude 1 > Palais des Congrès (Level 1)

Spoken available languages: English, French and Spanish

Coordinator: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

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Target and Solutions Group 1.5.1:
Increase the political acceptance and implementation of the principles of existing international, regional and local water law in the international community

Priority for Action:
Contribute to Cooperation and Peace through Water

The session focuses on the relevance, status and future challenges of international water law. It will be carried out in easy-to-understand-language, for the benefit of non-lawyers and all interested practitioners.

International water law principles are implemented in multiple ways and in different contexts (international, regional, basin and local level). For this reason, after a brief introduction, the session will take the form of a “sharing workshop”, with multiple table discussions developed at the same time on different topics. Each discussion will be led by one of the core members of the TSG 1.5.1 group and will focus on the specific solution presented by that member. The participants can join one of the table discussions according to their interests and connect with new colleagues and partners. The objective of the session is to reinforce the existing network in order to expand it and support its efforts to promote the acceptance of international water law. Moreover, it aims at improving and upscaling already existing solutions.

Speakers:
The first part of the session will be framed by the following keynote speeches:

The relevance and status of international water law - Prof. Joseph W. Dellapenna (TBC)
The UNWC and the UNECE Water Convention: understanding their value and relationship - Mrs. Phani Daskalopoulou-Livada
Challenges and opportunities in the development and implementation of water laws and policies - Ing. Mario López Pérez

Co-conveners:
- Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE)
- Earth Law Center
- Environmental Law Institute
- Faculty of Law, University of Geneva
- Global Water Partnership (GWP)
- Green Cross International
- IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science (University of Dundee)
- International Association for Water Law (AIDA)
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)* [Coordinator]
- Nile Basin Discourse (NBD)
- Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal
- University College Cork
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)