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Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Seventh session

Budapest, 17–19 November 2015

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the seventh session

To be held in the Budapest Congress Centre, starting on Tuesday,
17 November 2015, at 10 a.m.

I. Provisional agenda

High-level segment

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda.
2. Status of ratification of the Convention and its protocols and report on credentials.
3. Special session on the global opening of the Water Convention and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global commitments:
 - (a) Part 1 — the global Water Convention;
 - (b) Part 2 — the Water Convention in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global commitments.

General segment

4. Review of past activities and discussion of future activities in the different areas of work:
 - (a) Assessing the benefits of transboundary cooperation;
 - (b) Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins;
 - (c) Implementation Committee;



- (d) Support to implementation through capacity-building and assistance on the ground;
 - (e) Exchange of experience of joint bodies;
 - (f) Consideration of the need for reporting under the Convention;
 - (g) European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues;
 - (h) Water and industrial accidents;
 - (i) Thematic assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus;
 - (j) Monitoring of transboundary waters and future comprehensive assessments of the status of transboundary waters.
5. Opening of the Convention.
 6. Cooperation with partners.
 7. Cooperation with the Protocol on Water and Health.
 8. International Water Assessment Centre.
 9. Programme of work for 2016–2018, terms of reference for the bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation.
 10. Election of officers.
 11. Date and venue of the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties.
 12. Other business.
 13. Presentation of the main decisions.
 14. Closing of the session.

II. Annotations

1. The seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) will be held from 17 to 19 November 2015 in the Budapest Congress Centre, Budapest, at the invitation of the Government of Hungary. The meeting will be held back to back with a workshop on promoting transboundary water cooperation in the Middle East and Northern Africa region on the basis of the Water Convention, to be organized on 16 November 2015 by the Governments of Italy and Hungary in cooperation with the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

2. The Meeting of the Parties will consist of a general segment and a high-level segment. The high-level segment, dealing with items 1 to 3, will be held in the morning and early afternoon of Tuesday, 17 November, starting at 10 a.m. The general segment, covering agenda items 4 to 14, will take place from the afternoon of Tuesday, 17 November until Thursday, 19 November at 5.30 p.m.

3. A number of side events will be organized during the meeting. The detailed programme of these side events will be available in October 2015. Additional practical

information on the meeting as well as all relevant documentation will be made available in due course on a dedicated page on the Convention's website.¹

High-level segment

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November, 10–10.50 a.m.

4. Mr. János Áder, President of the Republic of Hungary, will open the meeting.
5. Statements by high-level representatives of the United Nations and ECE will follow.
6. Mr. Sándor Pintér, Minister of Interior of Hungary, will address the Meeting of the Parties. A high-level representative of the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea will also make opening remarks.
7. Mr. Massimo Cozzone, Chair of the Meeting of the Parties, will invite of the Parties to adopt the agenda as set out in the present document.

2. Status of ratification of the Convention and its protocols and report on credentials

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November, 10.50–11 a.m.

8. The secretariat will inform the Meeting of the Parties about the status of ratification of the Convention, the Protocol on Water and Health, the Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters (Protocol on Civil Liability) and the amendments to articles 25 and 26 of the Convention.
9. In accordance with the rules of procedure (see ECE/MP.WAT/19/Add.1), the Bureau will examine the credentials² submitted by Parties and submit its report to the Meeting of the Parties. Parties to the Convention are therefore requested to inform the secretariat of the name(s) of their representative(s) at their earliest convenience, and to submit the credentials or a copy of them to the secretariat in advance of the session, preferably by 10 November 2015.

Documentation

Status of ratification of the Water Convention, its protocols and amendments (INF.2015/1)

3. Special session on the global opening of the Water Convention and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global commitments

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

10. The high-level segment will focus on two key dynamics that will shape the future of the Convention and its activities: the Convention's opening to all United Nations Member

¹ See <http://www.unece.org/env/water/mop7.htm>.

² Credentials, which are normally issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization, shall indicate the composition of the delegation, including the Head of delegation, and shall state that the respective delegation is empowered to participate in the meeting and take decisions on behalf of the respective Government, following the applicable rules of procedure.

States and its role in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global commitments.

11. The high-level segment will foster a strategic discussion between Parties, other States — including prospective Parties from outside the ECE region — international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and academia on these dynamics, as well as the resulting implications, challenges and opportunities ahead, and the partnerships needed.

12. The high-level segment will consist of two parts, both organized in the form of a moderated high-level panel discussion followed by interventions from the floor with guiding questions.

13. Due to the limited time available, interventions should not exceed three minutes. To facilitate the running of the high-level segment, delegations planning to make a statement are invited to inform the secretariat in advance.

(a) Part 1 — the global Water Convention

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November 2015, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

14. Since the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Rome, 28–30 November 2012), major developments have taken place towards the universal application of the Convention. The amendments opening the Convention for accession to all United Nations Member States entered into force in February 2013. More than 100 countries have been involved in the Convention's activities, including 60 countries from outside the ECE region, and several countries from outside the region have expressed their interest in acceding to the Convention and have started national processes to that end.

15. Transboundary cooperation has been recognized as a global challenge and has been included in the proposed water and sanitation Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). The entry into force of the Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses (Watercourses Convention) in August 2014 is another important milestone for international water law that will impact global practice on water.

16. Against this background, and building on the experience with the Water Convention's implementation and with transboundary water cooperation in general, representatives of Parties, other States, international organizations, NGOs and academia will discuss perspectives linked to new global nature of the Convention, around the following questions:

(a) What have been your major achievements in strengthening transboundary water cooperation and what challenges do you face or foresee? How have the Water Convention, its intergovernmental framework and its activities been beneficial in building such cooperation? How can they help in addressing future challenges?;

(b) What direction should the Convention head in for the next 15 years? What should be done to best respond to the growing need for transboundary water management and the potential risks at the basin, regional and global levels?;

(c) What are the main opportunities and challenges related to the global opening of the Convention? How should the process of globalization move forward? What partnerships are needed and how should the Convention's institutional framework develop, including in relation to relevant processes, initiatives and other treaties — in particular the Watercourses Convention? How do you see the specific role of your country or organization?

(b) **Part 2 — the Water Convention in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global commitments**

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November 3–4 p.m.

17. During the course of 2015, the international community is adopting a series of key global commitments that will shape global action for sustainable development until 2030: the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs, expected to be adopted at the United Nations Summit in September; and the expected outcomes of the twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP 21). All these frameworks stress the need for collective approaches to global challenges and to respond to them in a coherent and integrated manner.

18. Water is at the core of sustainable development as it is inextricably linked to human health, agriculture and food security, energy, climate change, disaster risk reduction, the integrity of ecosystems, equality and social inclusion. The achievement of the global commitments being adopted this year will depend heavily on water actions and their coherence with other policies. As most water resources are transboundary, cooperation will be crucial.

19. In this part of the high-level segment, Parties, other States, international organizations, NGOs and academia will discuss the role of the Water Convention in this new international context, around the following questions:

(a) How will the adoption of the SDGs, the Sendai Framework, the COP 21 Paris agreement and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda impact on your water policies, initiatives and programmes? How will they impact transboundary cooperation? What will be the main challenges you foresee?;

(b) How can the Convention, its institutional structure and its activities best support the implementation of these new commitments, including their monitoring and review? What partnerships and synergies need to be built?

Documentation

Programme of the high-level segment (INF.2015/2)

General segment

4. Review of past activities and discussion of future activities in the different areas of work

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November, 4–6 p.m.; Wednesday, 18 November, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–4.20 p.m.

20. The Meeting of the Parties will review the achievements under the current programme of work and examine proposals for activities under the programme of work for 2016–2018. (A discussion on the overall programme of work for 2016–2018 will take place under agenda item 9.)

Documentation

Report on the implementation of the programme of work for 2013–2015, including partnerships (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/1)

Overview of contributions and expenditures in 2013–2015 (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/2)

Draft programme of work for 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/3)

Programme of work for 2013–2015 (ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.1)

Report of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management on its eighth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2013/2)

Report of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management on its ninth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2014/2)

Report of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management on its tenth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2015/2)

(a) Assessing the benefits of transboundary cooperation

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November 4–4.40 p.m.

21. The lead Party for assessing the benefits of transboundary cooperation will present the activities carried out and the *Policy Guidance Note on Identifying, Assessing and Communicating the Benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation*. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to endorse the Policy Guidance Note.

22. Subsequently, the Meeting will discuss proposed future activities in this area of work for 2016–2018. Representatives of countries, basin organizations and partners will be invited to indicate their interest in undertaking a benefit assessment exercise by applying the Policy Guidance Note or to report on the efforts already undertaken in this direction. Participants will also discuss how the Policy Guidance Note can be used to facilitate accession to and implementation of the Convention in terms of concluding or advancing basin agreements.

Documentation

Counting Our Gains: Policy Guidance Note on Identifying, Assessing and Communicating the Benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation (ECE/MP.WAT/47)

(b) Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November 4.40–5.20 p.m.

23. The co-Chairs of the Task Force on Water and Climate will report on the work on adapting to climate change in transboundary basins undertaken since 2013 in the framework of the programme of pilot projects on water and adaptation to climate change, the global network of basins working on this topic and the platform for exchanging experience on adaptation in transboundary basins, in particular the organization of two international workshops. Participants will also be informed about the publication, *Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices*, which was launched at the Seventh World Water Forum (Daegu-Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea, 12–17 April 2015). Representatives of pilot projects and of the global network of basins will be invited to report on their progress in this area.

24. The Meeting of the Parties will discuss proposed future activities in this area of work for 2016–2018, as well as the draft strategy for future work on climate change adaptation under the Water Convention. Representatives of countries, basin organizations and international partners will be invited to indicate their interest in participating in the activities. The Meeting will also discuss partnerships with UNFCCC, the United Nations

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Network of Basin Organizations.

Documentation

Draft strategy for future work on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins under the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/4)

Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices (ECE/MP.WAT/45)

(c) Implementation Committee

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 17 November, 5.20–6 p.m.

25. The Chair of the Implementation Committee will present the Committee's work over the past three years and the Committee's report to the Meeting of the Parties.

26. The Meeting of the Parties will discuss the report and be invited to adopt the draft decision on general issues of implementation contained in it.

27. Parties will be invited to elect four members of the Implementation Committee.

Documentation

Report of the Implementation Committee to the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/5)

Report of the Implementation Committee on its first meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2013/2)

Report of the Implementation Committee on its second meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2013/4)

Report of the Implementation Committee on its third meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2014/2)

Report of the Implementation Committee on its fourth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2014/4)

Report of the Implementation Committee on its fifth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2015/2)

Decision VI/1 on support to implementation and compliance (see ECE/MP.WAT/37/Add.2)

List of candidates for the Implementation Committee (INF.2015/3)

(d) Support to implementation through capacity-building and assistance on the ground

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 10–10.50 a.m.

28. The Meeting of the Parties will be informed about the different capacity-building and assistance activities implemented over the past three years with the support of the ECE Regional Adviser to promote implementation of the Convention in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Countries involved in the different activities will be invited to comment.

29. Subsequently, the Meeting will discuss possible future activities in this area.

30. A representative of the Netherlands will briefly present the outcomes of the Dutch-German Vecht project on payment for ecosystem services.

(e) **Exchange of experience of joint bodies**

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 10.50–11.10 a.m.

31. The lead Parties for the work on the exchange of experience of joint bodies will present the outcomes of the two workshops held since 2013 and the draft principles for effective joint bodies for transboundary water cooperation. The Meeting will be invited to adopt the principles and discuss future work in this area.

Documentation

Draft principles for effective joint bodies for transboundary water cooperation (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/6)

(f) **Consideration of the need for reporting under the Convention**

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 11.10–11.55 a.m.

32. The Meeting of the Parties at its sixth session mandated the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management to carry out, in consultation with the Implementation Committee, an analysis on the needs for reporting under the Convention, taking into account the capacity of countries and other relevant reporting mechanisms. The analysis was to serve as a basis for the elaboration of the scope and modalities of a reporting mechanism to be submitted for possible adoption by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session. To support this analysis, a questionnaire was sent to Parties, other States and organizations in October 2013 in order to understand their views on reporting and the possible design of such a mechanism.

33. Due to the overall positive feedback, at its ninth meeting, the Working Group decided to create a core group to elaborate, with the help of the Bureau and the secretariat, a proposal for a possible reporting mechanism. At its tenth meeting, the Working Group welcomed the proposal by the core group and decided to submit to the Meeting of the Parties a draft decision introducing a reporting mechanism under the Convention as well as a draft template for reporting. The Chair of the core group will present the draft decision.

34. The Meeting will discuss the proposal and template and will be invited to adopt the draft decision. It will also discuss and agree on how to organize the first pilot reporting exercise.

Documentation

Draft decision on reporting under the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/7)

Draft analysis on the needs for reporting under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2014/3)

(g) **European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues**

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 11.55–12.40 p.m.

35. The Meeting of the Parties will be informed about the progress on the European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management (facilitated by ECE) and Water Supply and Sanitation (facilitated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Concerned countries will be invited to make comments.

36. Participants will examine lessons learned from the dialogues and will discuss future development of the dialogues beyond 2015, including links with other programme areas

under the Convention and the other components of the EUWI, including in view of the global opening of the Convention.

Documentation

Report on the Implementation of the National Policy Dialogues (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/8)

(h) Water and industrial accidents

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 12.40–1 p.m.

37. A checklist for contingency planning for accidents affecting transboundary waters, which was taken note of by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention) at its eighth meeting (Geneva, 3–5 December 2014), will be presented to Parties. Participants will also be informed about the testing of the checklist in a transboundary case by the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents. The Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention will likewise be invited to take note of the checklist and discuss future activities in this area.

Documentation

Checklist for contingency planning for accidents affecting transboundary waters — with introductory guidance (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/9)

Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on its eighth meeting (ECE/CP.TEIA/30)

(i) Thematic assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 3–4 p.m.

38. The Chair of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus, the secretariat and representatives of the riparian countries or basin organizations involved will present the work carried out in this area, including the methodology developed for the nexus assessment, the main findings of the basin assessments, general conclusions and the lessons learned. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to make comments and take note of the publication, *Reconciling Different Resource Uses in Transboundary Basins: Assessment of the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus* and the draft assessment of the Isonzo/Soča basin, and in particular to endorse the methodology and the general conclusions contained in the publication.

39. The Meeting of the Parties will then discuss proposed future activities in this area of work for 2016–2018. Representatives of countries, basin organizations and international partners will be invited to indicate their interest in participating in and contributing to the activities.

Documentation

Reconciling Different Resource Uses in Transboundary Basins: Assessment of the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus (ECE/MP.WAT/46)

Draft assessment of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in the Isonzo/Soča River Basin (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/10)

(j) **Monitoring of transboundary waters and future comprehensive assessments of the status of transboundary waters**

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 4–4.20 p.m.

40. The Meeting of the Parties will discuss monitoring and assessment under the Convention, in particular the opportunity and modalities for developing the scoping exercise for a possible third comprehensive assessment. In this regard, it will consider other recent developments in this area, such as the SDGs and their proposed monitoring framework, the transboundary waters assessment programme (TWAP), the proposed reporting mechanism under the Convention and others. It will also discuss how to prepare such a proposal for consideration at its next session.

5. Opening of the Convention

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 4.20–5.20 p.m.

41. The Meeting of the Parties will be informed about the outcome of the workshop on promoting transboundary water cooperation in the Middle East and Northern Africa region on the basis of the Water Convention (see para. 1), as well as other efforts to build capacity on the Convention in countries in the southern Mediterranean, Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Representatives of countries and organizations involved in this undertaking will share their experience and lessons learned.

42. Interested countries from outside the ECE region will be invited to share their intention to accede to the Water Convention and participate in its activities, as well as their needs and expectations. The Meeting will discuss ways and means to further promote and build capacity on the Convention beyond the ECE region and the related future activities in the programme of work for 2016–2018.

43. The Meeting of the Parties will also discuss the Convention's relationship to the 1997 Watercourses Convention, which entered into force in August 2014. Current and prospective Parties to either of the two Conventions, in particular Parties to both of them, will be invited to discuss how the two international legal frameworks could interact and how they could support each other and build synergies, including how the experience and guidance material collected under the Water Convention can support implementation of the Watercourses Convention. Participants will also be informed about the outcomes of the informal exchange of views among Parties to the Watercourses Convention organized by Germany, the Netherlands and Finland (Paris, 15–16 September 2015).

44. Finally, the Meeting will be invited to discuss and adopt a draft decision on establishing a framework for the implementation of the Convention at the global level.

Documentation

Draft decision on establishing a framework for the implementation of the Convention at the global level (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/11)

Draft programme of work for 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/3)

Report on the implementation of the programme of work for 2013–2015, including partnerships (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/1)

The Economic Commission for Europe Water Convention and the United Nations Watercourses Convention: An analysis of their harmonized contribution to international water law (ECE/MP.WAT/42)

The Global Opening of the 1992 Water Convention (brochure) (ECE/MP.WAT/43)

6. Cooperation with partners

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 18 November, 5.20–6 p.m.

45. Partners from international organizations and NGOs, including other global and regional multilateral environmental agreements, have been crucial in implementing the Convention's programme of work for 2013–2015. Partnerships with international organizations and NGOs will become even more important with the opening of the Convention.

46. A representative of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) will be invited to report on its activities in the area of international waters and the cooperation between ECE and GEF, in accordance with decision VI/4 of the Meeting of the Parties.

47. A representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will be invited to report on its activities and the efforts undertaken to provide assistance to interested United Nations Member States in implementing the Water Convention in relation to transboundary groundwater, in accordance with decision VI/5 of the Meeting of the Parties.

48. Representatives of global and regional multilateral environmental agreements will be invited to present ideas and proposals for cooperation in the framework of the programme of work for 2016–2018.

49. Other established and potential new partners will be invited to brief the Meeting about their intention to cooperate in the framework of the programme of work for 2016–2018.

50. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to discuss and adopt a draft decision on cooperation with partners, prepared by the Bureau.

51. Finally, the Meeting of the Parties will be informed about the ECE contribution to UN-Water, the International Year of Water Cooperation in 2013, the World Water Forum, World Water Weeks, the Environment for Europe process, and other relevant international processes.

Documentation

Draft decision on cooperation with partners for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/12)

Draft programme of work for 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/3)

Report on the implementation of the programme of work for 2013–2015, including partnerships (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/1)

GEF and the Water Convention (INF.2015/4)

UNESCO and the Water Convention (INF.2015/5)

7. Cooperation with the Protocol on Water and Health

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 10–10.30 a.m.

52. The Chair of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health will provide an update on the progress achieved under the Protocol and past cooperation between the Convention and the Protocol. Representatives will discuss how to further strengthen joint work with the Protocol on Water and Health.

Documentation

Draft decision on cooperation with partners for the implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/12)

Draft programme of work for 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/3)

Report on the implementation of the programme of work for 2013–2015, including partnerships (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/1)

8. International Water Assessment Centre

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 10.30–10.45 a.m.

53. Participants will be briefed on developments related to the International Water Assessment Centre, in particular in relation to the hosting of the Centre by a Party and proposed future directions of its work.

9. Programme of work for 2016–2018, terms of reference of bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 10.45 a.m.–1 p.m.

54. On the basis of the discussions under previous agenda items, the Meeting of the Parties is expected to discuss, finalize and adopt the programme of work for 2016–2018. To this end, the Meeting of the Parties will discuss the draft programme of work activity by activity and will:

(a) Agree on the structure of the programme of work, future activities and lead countries;

(b) Agree on the intergovernmental bodies, with their respective mandates, to be established or extended to guide the implementation of the programme of work;

(c) Make arrangements related to the financial and human resources needed for implementing the activities in the programme of work, and indicate funding for these activities according to their priority. Parties, other interested States and organizations are invited to inform the secretariat in advance of the session of their intention to contribute financially to the programme of work's implementation. The secretariat will make the information received available to participants and delegations will be invited to provide any supplementary information.

Documentation

Draft programme of work for 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/3)

10. Election of officers

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November 3–3.45 p.m.

55. In accordance with its rules of procedure, the Meeting of the Parties will elect its officers, who will remain in office until the next elections at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties. In particular, the Meeting of the Parties is expected to elect a Chair, two Vice-Chairs and additional officers, as it deems necessary, considering that the Bureau must be composed of no fewer than eight persons.

11. Date and venue of the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 3.45–4 p.m.

56. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to set dates for its eighth ordinary session. Delegations are encouraged to offer to host the eighth session so that the Meeting of the Parties will be able to decide on its venue.

12. Other business

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 4–4.30 p.m.

57. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

13. Presentation of the main decisions

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 4.30–5.15 p.m.

58. The Chair will present the main decisions taken by the Meeting of the Parties. The Meeting of the Parties will be invited to entrust the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, with finalizing the report of its seventh session.

14. Closing of the session

Tentative timing: Thursday, 19 November, 5.15–5.30 p.m.

59. The Chair and a representative of the host country will be invited to make final statements. The Chair will then officially close the session.
