Draft programme of work of the Water Convention for 2019-2021

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Context and background the future programme of work for 2019-2021

- Transboundary water cooperation is vital for peace and development and now included in the SDG targets (6.5)
- Water Convention is a powerful tool to promote achievements of SDGs, (Goals 1, 2, 3, 7, 11, 13, 16, 17) as well as Paris agreement and Sendai framework
- Convention provides a key legal and intergovernmental framework for promoting transboundary water cooperation
- Chad acceded to the Convention in February 2018 as first non-UNECE country. 2019-2021 programme of work is the first one serving a global Convention
- Programme of work to be read together with strategy for the implementation at global level
Consultative process for preparing the programme of work

- Discussions at the intergovernmental bodies: WGIWRM 2017, Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Nexus, Task Force on Water and Climate, JEG (Informal doc 1, Proposals for the programme of work for 2019–2021 from different bodies and workshops under the Water Convention)

- Online survey: 46 replies (Parties, non-Parties, partners) (Informal doc 2, Main outcomes of the online survey exercise for the development of the programme of work 2019–2021)

- Interviews with 36 persons (Parties, non-Parties, partners, donors etc.) (Informal doc 3, Main outcomes of interviews carried out for the development of the programme of work 2019–2021)

Overall, more than 200 persons were involved
Diverging comments

Many asked for refocusing (both thematic and geographic) many asked for expansion (both thematic and geographic)

Overall priorities of Parties, non-Parties and partners are not too different

Still many Parties and partners do not know well what the Convention does
Criteria for prioritization

- Prioritization criteria used:
  - Contribution to achieving the Conventions objectives/mandates
  - Respond to country needs (Parties and non-Parties....)
  - Political interest/global/ emerging challenges
  - Comparative advantage compared to others actors
  - Funding

- Main challenge: financing approach => Need to take into account donors interests. Important to have an attractive programme of work.

- Proposed programme “capped” from budgetary and HR point of view
Approach for the future programme of work for 2019-2021

❖ Overall vision: transboundary waters worldwide are managed in cooperation between riparian countries to promote sustainable development, peace and security

❖ The Convention has a long-term perspective, and its programme of work does too

❖ The work under the Convention should respond to all needs but should vary its focus over the years (weight and importance of programme areas varies over time)

=> Continuity with change

❖ Need for a programme of work which is easy to communicate

❖ Activities at different levels (national, regional/basin, global)

❖ Activities under different areas supporting each others

❖ Limited number of basin projects due to limited capacity in the secretariat (need to prioritize choice)
Logic of the work programme and programme areas

Overall objective: Transboundary waters worldwide are managed in cooperation between riparian countries in accordance with the Water Convention, promoting sustainable development, peace and security

Outcome 1
Countries understand the Convention, accede to it, develop agreements and establish joint bodies

Programme Area 1
Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention and application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation

Outcome 2
Transboundary water resources in transboundary basins are monitored and assessed, and information is shared among riparian countries

Programme Area 2
Supporting monitoring, assessment and information sharing in transboundary basins

Outcome 3
Integrated water resources management is implemented at all levels in a changing climate

Programme Area 3
Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels

Outcome 4
Transboundary water cooperation is sustainably financed

Programme Area 4
Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins

Outcome 5
Transboundary water cooperation is monitored and partners are mobilized to support it

Programme Area 5
Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation

Outcome 6
Reporting on SDG Indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention

Programme Area 6
Partnerships, communication and knowledge management
Programme Area 1: Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention and application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation

Lead Parties: Hungary, France, Finland, Germany and the Netherlands

1.1 Increasing capacity for implementation of the Convention and supporting national processes towards accession (Budget: $1,650,000)

❖ Presentations/sessions/side events at international conferences, capacity-building trainings*

❖ Support accession processes in interested countries **; organize regional/basin events in Africa, Asia and Latin America*

❖ 2 Train the practitioner events **

❖ Exchange of experience through twinning between countries in the accession process and Parties *

❖ Develop an FAQ document on the Convention accession process*

Key: *International level, **Regional/basin-level, *National level
Programme Area 1 (continued)

1.2 Promote and communicate the benefits of transboundary cooperation (Budget: $372,000)
   - Lead Party: Estonia
   - 1 pilot project on assessment and communication of benefits of cooperation
   - Publish a brief for policymakers

1.3 Support the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies (Budget: $248,000)
   - Lead Party: Azerbaijan? Hungary?
   - Global workshop on water cooperation agreements and arrangements
   - Regional workshops on negotiation skills
   - Projects on the ground pending availability of resources

1.4 Implementation Committee (Budget: $207,000)

Key: *Global level, *Regional/basin-level, *National level
Programme Area 2: Supporting monitoring, assessment and information sharing in transboundary basins

Lead Party: Finland, Senegal?

2.1 Organize a global workshop on data and information exchange, publish substantive background paper* (Budget: $224,000)

2.2 Tailored assistance and experience-gathering (Budget: $198,000)

- Targeted assistance to cooperation processes on monitoring and assessment (eg studies and expert support)*
- Promote exchanges/ twinning**
- Use the different activities, especially basin activities, to collect information on common challenges and needs to guide future review of guidance under the Convention**

Key: *Global level, **Regional/basin-level, ***National level
Programme Area 3: Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels

3.1 Promote IWRM in transboundary basins (Budget: $60,000): Organize thematic sessions during the WGIWRM *

3.2 Support intersectoral dialogue and assessments through water-food-energy-ecosystems approach (Budget: $579,000)
   ❖ Lead Party: Finland
   ❖ Disseminate results of nexus assessments through synthesis document*
   ❖ Provide support to intersectoral dialogues, especially in the NWSAS, SEE, including Drina, and Niger basins*
   ❖ Develop a checklist/resource document in cooperation with ECE Group of Experts on Renewable Energy*

3.3 Support equitable and sustainable water allocation (Budget: $579,000)
   ❖ Lead Party: Hungary
   ❖ Develop a manual on water allocation*
   ❖ Organize 2 regional workshops on water allocation*

3.4 Support National Policy Dialogues on IWRM under the EUWI+ * (Budget: $2,676,000)
   Lead Party: Secretariat, OECD, Romania, EC
Programme Area 4: Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins

Lead Parties: Netherlands, Switzerland

4.1 Support development of transboundary adaptation strategies and implementation of priority measures (Budget: $1,070,000)

- Projects on climate change adaptation in selected basins*
- Experience exchange through global network of basins **
- 2 global workshops on transboundary climate change adaptation*
- Finalize, print and disseminate the “Words into Action” guide on water, transboundary cooperation and disasters*
- Contribute to global policy processes on water, climate and disasters *

4.2 Support transboundary basins in financing climate change adaptation (Budget: $737,000)

- Finalize and disseminate publication on "Preparing bankable projects for financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins"*
- Regional/basin-level trainings on preparing bankable project proposals*

Key: *Global level, **Regional/basin-level, *National level
Programme Area 5: Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation

Lead Parties: Switzerland, Netherlands?

Objectives:
❖ Draw global attention to the importance of financing transboundary water cooperation
❖ Raise awareness of the need to enhance the financial sustainability of transboundary water management institutions and implementation programmes
❖ Facilitate knowledge sharing and peer learning on funding options
❖ Support national authorities and joint bodies in securing financing from different sources, including national budgets
❖ Promote the development of joint investment plans and financing strategies in transboundary basins

Activities:
Global workshop on financing transboundary water cooperation in 2020, including background document *

Budget: $228,000

Key: *Global level, *Regional/basin-level, *National level
Programme Area 6: Reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention

6.1 Support reporting on SDG Indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention (Budget: $650,000)

❖ Prepare a guide on reporting under the Convention in 2019*
❖ Carry out second reporting exercise in cooperation with UNESCO (2020-2021)*
❖ Capacity-building and exchange of experience on reporting, especially at WGIWRM in 2020 **
❖ Develop a proposal for an online reporting system and database* 

6.2 Promote the use of reports for identifying and addressing gaps in cooperation ** (Budget: $45,000)

Key: *Global level, **Regional/basin-level, ***National level
Programme Area 7: Partnerships, communication and knowledge management

7.1 Cooperation with UN-Water, global and regional partners and other MEAs ** (Budget: $55,000)

7.2 Activities by the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents: disseminate and apply guidelines on firefighting water and other JEG documents, conduct transboundary exercises** ** (Budget: $15,000)

7.3 Communication and knowledge management * (Budget: $138,000)

Key: *Global level, *Regional/basin-level, *National level
Intergovernmental structure:

WGIWRM (3 meetings) and WGMA (2 meetings): $605,000
MOP 9: $459,600
Overall resource requirements

- Total resources required for the entire programme of work: $10,702,000
- **Total, including 7-13% overhead costs: $11,993,400**
- 26% increase compared costs for 2019-2021
- Higher resources requirements mostly linked to opening
- Some pledges (NPDs, nexus, Implementation committee) but do not cover all resource needs
- Importance of having clear indications on the financing of programme of work before adoption
Budget by programme area

- Hydrodiplomacy and Conventions: 2,447,000
- Monitoring And Assessment: 422,000
- Intersectoral management: 3,771,000
- Climate change: 1,807,000
- Financing: 228,000
- Reporting: 695,000
- Communication/ partnerships: 208,000
- Bodies: 1,064,600
Thank you for your attention!

More information

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Additional slides
Pledges for 2019-2021

**Programme Area 3 on inter-sectoral management:**
- Nexus: funds for South-Eastern Europe from Austrian Development Agency through GWP-MED: 155,000 EUR
- Drina project funded by Italy: 71,000 EUR for 2019
- NPDs funded by EU: 1,800,000 EUR for 2019 to mid-2020 (1 million mentioned above under section IV expected to be received at the end of 2018)

**Programme Area 4 on adapting to climate change**
- Italy contribution (unsure), global network of basins working on climate change adaptation and climate change financing for 2018-2020 (1,000,000 assumed for 2019-2021)

**Programme Area 6 on reporting and 1 on the Implementation Committee:**
- Norway: 100,000 USD for 2019 for reporting and Implementation Committee