

European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership

THE 8TH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN



Baku, 12 July 2019

*The meeting will take place at the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan
Address: 100-A B. Agaev Street, Baku*

Languages: Azeri and English, simultaneous interpretation provided

The meeting will be chaired by Mutallim Abdulhasanov, Head of Unit, Environmental Policy Division, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Chair of the Coordination Committee of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

The objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- ✓ To take stock of achievements under the National Policy Dialogue on IWRM in the Republic of Azerbaijan over the 10 years of EU Eastern Partnership
- ✓ To hear an update on recent changes in the institutional set up and developments in water policies and legislation in the Republic of Azerbaijan
- ✓ To discuss progress in implementing the EUWI+ programme in the Republic of Azerbaijan and get feedback from key stakeholders on interim results.
- ✓ To provide a platform for inter-sectoral coordination and co-ordination of donor activities in the water sector in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

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| 8.45 – 9.00 | REGISTRATION |
| 9:00 – 9:15 | <i>Opening and welcoming statements</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Rauf Hajiyev, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan - Welcoming remarks and opening of the meeting• Mr. Rainer Freund , Program Manager , EU Delegation in Baku. |
| 9:15 – 10:15 | Stock-taking of achievements of the National Policy Dialogue on IWRM under the European Union Water Initiative in the Republic of Azerbaijan over the 10 years of EU Eastern Partnership |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Delegation to the Republic of Azerbaijan, tbd • Mr . Mutallim Abdulasanov, Head of Unit, Environmental Policy Division, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan • Ms, Leyla Tagizadeh, Head of Department, Hygiene and Epidemiology Centre, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan • Mr. Farda İmanov, Deputy Director, Su Kanal İnstitute, Azersu OJSC |
| Session 1 | Update on the evolution of water policies in the Republic of Azerbaijan and reorganised subordinated institutions - Results / Challenges |
| 10:15 – 11:15 | <p><i>In this session recent achievements in water policy development will be presented. Key challenges in water management will also be discussed.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievements in development of legislation acts in the field of Integrated Water Resources Management, MENR • Presentation on structural reforms in MENR • Institutional coordination • Q&A followed by discussion |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Coffee break |
| Session 2 | Progress in implementing the EUWI+ Work Plan in the Republic of Azerbaijan : Result 1 on legislation, policy development and institutional strengthening |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | <p><i>In this session progress and results of the EUWI+ will be presented since the 7th meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue (July , 2018).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of recent and on-going activities under the EUWI+ on legislation and policy developments and institutional strengthening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tatiana Efimova, OECD ○ Alisher Mamadzhano, UNECE • Presentation on adoption of the Water Strategy – Mutallim Abdulhasanov , MENR • Presentation on the elaboration of a methodology for the environmental flow norms, Rafiq Verdiyev, EUWI+ national coordinator and Mutallim Abdulhasanov, MENR <p>Q&A followed by discussion</p> |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch break (lunch offered by organisers) |
| Session 3 | Progress in implementing the EUWI+ Work Plan in the Republic of Azerbaijan: Results 2 and 3 targeting monitoring development and River Basin Management Plans (RBMP) implemented in line with EU principles |
| 13:30 – 15:30 | <p><i>This session will take stock of progress, discuss interim results and provide guidance for work in progress under the EUWI+ Results 2 & 3.</i></p> <p>Improving monitoring of water resources, a status update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory development and procurement of equipment • Support to surface and underground water monitoring • Consolidation of the water body delineation <p>Implementation of the management plan and pilot project in the Kura upstream of Mingachevir dam River Basin District – Yannick Pochon and Yunona Videnina, IOWater.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaboration of the basin characterization for the new RBMP and data management for knowledge development and integration • Organization of stakeholder and public consultation on the basin characterization and main issues • Intersectoral coordination and stakeholder involvement in the next steps of the RBMP development. <p>Implementation of the management plan and pilot area for transitional and coastal waters:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure and Impact Analysis of the Transitional and Coastal Water Bodies in the Kura River Delta including the Eastern part of the Kura-Aras River Basin in Azerbaijan- Alexander Zinke, UBA - Q&A followed by discussion on the different key points |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee break |
| Session 4 | A platform for co-ordination and for exploring synergies with, and between other activities on water, implemented by donors and International Organizations |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | <p>This session will be led by the key beneficiary ministry. It will provide a platform for co-ordination and exploring synergies with, and between other activities on water implemented by donors and International Organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP-GEF Kura II: Advancing IWRM Across the Kura River Basin • EU SEIS project - Q&A followed by discussion |
| 17:00 – 17:30 | <p>Other updates, decisions and way forward</p> <p><i>Decisions by the NPD Coordination Council and closure of the meeting</i></p> |