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

Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management

Fifteenth meeting
Geneva, 30 September and 1 October 2020
Item 12 of the provisional agenda
Resources for the implementation of the programme of work

Report on contributions and expenditures from January until December 2019

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The present document reports on the contributions and expenditures related to the implementation of the programme of work for 2019–2021 for the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.1), adopted at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (Nur-Sultan, 10–12 October 2018). The document contains detailed contributions and expenditures from 1 January to 31 December 2019 for all Water Convention-related trust funds, including for the Convention's global opening, the reporting on indicator 6.5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, the European Union Water Initiative Plus National Policy Dialogues in Eastern Partnership countries and Central Asia, and some projects on the ground, such as the Drin project.

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I. Approximate balance as at 31 December 2018

1. The approximate balance of the Water Convention's trust funds as at 31 December 2018 was $3,111,653 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2019/INF.9, para. 3).

II. Contributions received from 1 January to 31 December 2019[1]

2. A breakdown of contributions (plus interest income) received from 1 January to 31 December 2019 is set out in table 1 below.

Table 1
Breakdown of contributions

Contributor	*Date received*	*Currency*	*Amount*	*Amount (in US dollars)* [a]	*Earmarked/explanation*
Luxembourg	14 Jan. 2019	EUR	2 500	2 854	Unearmarked
UNDP Albania	31 Jan. 2019	USD	55 000	55 000	Drin project
(Refund to UNDP Albania)	7 Oct. 2019	USD	(8 942)	(8 942)	Drin project leftovers
UN-Water	26 Feb. 2019	USD	11 119	11 119	Reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2
Luxembourg	18 Mar. 2019	EUR	4 750	5 404	Unearmarked
UN-Water	18 Mar. 2019	USD	72 526	72 526	Reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2
European Union	1 Apr. 2019	EUR	903 051	1 027 362	EUWI NPDs Eastern Partnership
Italy	4 Apr. 2019	EUR	178 000	199 776	Nexus assessment in Drina River basin
European Union	12 Apr. 2019	EUR	659 854	733 714	Promoting accession to the Water Convention
Germany	16 Apr. 2019	EUR	30 000	33 822	First meeting of the Drafting Group on the Guide to Reporting (9 and 10 May 2019)
Switzerland	29 Apr. 2019	CHF	65 000	64 806	Workshop on ecosystem-based adaptation, tenth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate (29 Apr.–1 May 2019)
Kazakhstan	21 May 2019	USD	74 000	74 000	Unearmarked
France	31 May 2019	CHF	79 186	77 557	Unearmarked
Netherlands	6 June 2019	EUR	50 000	55 617	High-level workshop on financing transboundary basin development and MOP8 (9–12 Oct. 2018)

[1] This includes the Water Convention trust fund, the UN-Water trust fund, the Drin River basin project trust fund, the opening of the Convention project trust fund, the European Union Water Initiative Plus National Policy Dialogues trust fund for Eastern Partnership countries and the National Policy Dialogues in Central Asia trust fund. Among projects supporting implementation of the Convention according to programme area 1.3, the project funded by United Nations Development Programme-Global Environment Facility on the Drin basin was included, whereas the following projects were not: projects on dam safety; and the network of Eastern Europe water management organizations funded from the Russian Federation contribution to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. For funds provided to the Water Convention trust fund, programme support costs are 13 per cent; programme support costs for all other trust funds are 7 per cent.

Contributor	*Date received*	*Currency*	*Amount*	*Amount (in US dollars)* [a]	*Earmarked/explanation*
UN-Water	28 June 2019	USD	29 703	29 703	Reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2
Austria	5 July 2019	EUR	10 000	11 364	Unearmarked
Switzerland (SDC)	11 July 2019	USD	550 000	550 000	Unearmarked
European Union	22 July 2019	EUR	25 000	28 409	Unearmarked
Luxembourg	13 Aug. 2019	EUR	11 000	12 263	Unearmarked
Finland	22 Aug. 2019	EUR	25 000	27 964	Unearmarked
GWP-Med	17 Sep. 2019	EUR	235 447	255 724	Nexus in South-Eastern Europe
Hungary	17 Sep. 2019	USD	15 000	15 000	Unearmarked
European Union	24 Sep. 2019	EUR	200 000	219 780	EUWI NPDs Central Asia
Sweden	3 Oct. 2019	SEK	900 000	91 827	Workshop data exchange and WGMA (Dec. 2019)
Germany	5 Nov. 2019	EUR	25 000	27 778	Workshop data exchange and WGMA (4–6 Dec. 2019)
Netherlands	6 Nov. 2019	EUR	200 000	222 222	Unearmarked
UNESCO	14 Nov. 2019	USD	22 000	22 000	IW:Learn-4
Finland	20 Nov. 2019	EUR	10 000	11 111	Unearmarked
Switzerland (FOEN)	6 Dec. 2019	CHF	100 000	100 100	WGIWRM, Expert Group on water allocation and regional workshop on reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.2 (21 Oct. 2019)
Italy	16 Dec. 2019	EUR	39 935	43 933	Nexus assessment in Drina River basin
Norway	16 Dec. 2019	NOK	884 746.68	96 430	Implementation Committee, reporting and benefits of cooperation
North Macedonia	27 Dec. 2019	USD	1 000	1 000	Unearmarked
Finland	27 Dec. 2019	EUR	200 000	220 022	Unearmarked
Estonia	30 Dec. 2019	EUR	5 000	5 501	Unearmarked
Interest income				*95 770*	
Total				**4 492 516**	

Abbreviations: EUWI NPDs, European Union Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues; FOEN, Federal Office for the Environment; GWP-Med, Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean; IW:Learn-4, International Waters: Learning Exchange and Resource Network; MOP8, eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties; SDC, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; SDG, Sustainable Development Goal; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme; UNESCO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; WGIWRM, Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management; WGMA, Working Group on Monitoring Assessment.

[a] United States dollars. Exchange rate from currency of contribution to dollars is calculated on the date of funds transfer. Figures are rounded.

III. Expenditures in 2019

3. Total expenditures from 1 January to 31 December 2019 were $3,430,633. A breakdown of costs by programme area is set out in table 2 below.

Table 2
Breakdown of costs by programme area

Description[a]	*Amount in US dollars*
(a) Official meetings (Working Group and Bureau meetings)	
Staff and personnel cost[b]	69 004
Contract service[c]	44 166
Operating and other direct costs[d]	24 018
Travel[e]	154 329
Subtotal (a)	**291 517**
(b) Programme area 1: Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention and application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation[f]	
Staff and personnel cost	395 201
Contract service	36 045
Operating and other direct costs	40 063
Grants[g]	20 327
Travel	241 299
Subtotal (b)	**732 935**
(c) Programme area 2: Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins	
Staff and personnel cost	60 003
Contract service	11 646
Operating and other direct costs	6 149
Travel	132 034
Subtotal (c)	**209 833**
(d) Programme area 3: Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels	
Staff and personnel cost	1 167 101
Contract service	15 614
Operating and other direct costs	10 810
Grants	34 857
Travel	170 248
Subtotal (d)	**1 398 630**
(e) Programme area 4: Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins	
Staff and personnel costs	191 282
Contract service	17 478
Operating and other direct costs	10 244
Travel	165 500
Subtotal (e)	**384 505**
(f) Programme areas 5: Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation	
Staff and personnel costs	6 219
Travel	11,042
Subtotal (f)	**17 261**

Description[a]	*Amount in US dollars*
(g) Programme area 6: Reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention	
Staff and personnel costs	147 314
Contract service	20 001
Operating and other direct costs	9 423
Travel	88 388
Subtotal (g)	**265 125**
(h) Programme area 7: Partnerships, communication and knowledge management	
Staff and personnel costs	70 175
Contract service	11 413
Operating and other direct costs	21 780
Grants	1 151
Travel	26 309
Subtotal (h)	**130 827**
Total ((a)–(h))	**3 430 633**

Note: All figures include 13 per cent United Nations standard programme support costs. For contributions from the European Union, UN-Water and United Nations Development Programme-Global Environment Facility, programme support costs are 7 per cent.

[a] Categories of expenditures in the present report follow the categories in the Umoja administrative and financial system. The footnotes below explain the different categories.

[b] This includes staff costs, consultancies costs and consultants' travel costs.

[c] This includes costs for individual contractors, for example, for: outsourced translations; procurement, for example for catering services for conferences and events, etc.

[d] This includes all logistics costs, for example, for events organized outside Geneva, and costs for translation, layout and printing of publications by the United Nations Office at Geneva, as well as extrabudgetary interpretation costs.

[e] This includes staff travel costs, as well as travel support to eligible participants.

[f] Expenses reported include some expenses for projects on the ground implemented under programme area 1.3. Such costs were not reflected in the budget adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session as these are project-driven activities depending on the availability of funds. Table 2 also reflects all expenditures related to the contributions from the European Union for Eastern Neighbourhood countries (in the framework of the European Union Water Initiative Plus project) and for Central Asia. However, it should be noted that the two projects funded activities beyond the Convention's programme of work. In particular, approximately 30 per cent of the expenditures are related to the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health to the Water Convention and its programme of work.

[g] This includes costs for grants for not-for-profit organizations to carry out activities under specific projects.

IV. Approximate provisional balance as at 31 December 2019

4. The approximate provisional balance of the various trust funds as at 31 December 2019 was $4,173,536.