



**Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary
Watercourses and International Lakes**

BUREAU/2007/1

BUREAU OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

Tenth meeting
Geneva, 12-13 September 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TENTH MEETING

Prepared by the secretariat

The meeting of the Bureau will take place in the Palais des Nations in room A-206. It will start on 12 September 2007 at 9.00 and finish on 13 September at 11.00. A joint meeting of the Bureaux of the Water Convention and of the Protocol will be held back-to-back, from 11.00 to 13.00 on 13 September.

The meeting will be held in English.

The Chairperson of the Bureau has invited a representative of Norway to attend the meeting on 13 September.

In line with the accreditation procedures for meetings held at the Palais des Nations, participants of the Bureau meeting are requested to complete the registration form available from the Water Convention's web site (<http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/registrationmeeting.htm>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by **7 September 2007**, either by fax (+ 41 22 917 0621) or by e-mail (olga.carlos@unece.org). Prior to the meeting, the participants are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (across from the Red Cross building - buses 8, Z, V, 28, at stop "Appia"), 14, Avenue de la Paix (working hours 8am-5pm) a map is available at the above web address.

- 1. Adoption of the agenda**
(Wednesday 12 September, 9.00-9.10)
- 2. Implementation of the work plan by the Bureau and the Working Groups**
(Wednesday 12 September, 9.10-17.00)

On the basis of information provided by the secretariat, by the Chairpersons of the Working Groups and other lead countries, the Bureau will examine progress made and difficulties accounted in the implementation of the work plan that fall under the auspices of: (a) the Bureau (programme area I)¹; and (b) the Working Groups on Integrated Water Resources Management (WGIWRM),² Monitoring and Assessment (WGMA).

The following areas of activities will be discussed, however the focus should be on identifying strategic opportunities for future work and on ways and means to make progress in the areas where activities are less advanced:

- Input to the Belgrade Ministerial Conference (secretariat);
- Promotion of the Convention, its Protocols and its soft-law tools outside the UNECE region (secretariat);
- Strategic guidance on integrated management of transboundary water resources (Sibylle Vermont);
- Ecosystem services and payments for such services in integrated water resources management (Sibylle Vermont);
- Management of transboundary groundwaters in the UNECE region (secretariat);
- Water and industrial accidents (Maria Galambos);
- Synergies between the Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive (Adriana Dembowska and Massimo Cozzone);
- Future plans concerning the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management, in particular cooperation with the forestry sector (Sibylle Vermont);
- Assessment of the status of transboundary waters and international lakes in the UNECE region (Lea Kauppi);
- Establishment of a meta-database on the transboundary waters of the UNECE region (Lea Kauppi);

¹ Activity 1.1, Promotion of the Convention will be considered under item 6.

² Activities related to Water and Climate adaptation, the EU Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues, the Third International Conference on Sustainable Management of Transboundary Waters in the UNECE Region and the Project “Capacity for Water Cooperation” (CWC) will be discussed jointly with the Bureau of the Protocol on Water and Health on 13 September.

- Capacity-building for monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters (Lea Kauppi and Peter Rončák);
- Activities of the Legal Board (Massimo Cozzone);

3. International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC)
(Wednesday 12 September, 17.00-17.30)

Mr. Peter Rončák will inform the Bureau on the Slovak arrangements for transferring IWAC to the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, as well as envisaged future role of IWAC and proposed future activities, including pilot projects.

The Bureau will discuss IWAC future priorities as well as financing aspects.

4. Cooperation with key partners³
(Thursday 13 September, 8.30-9.15)

The Bureau will discuss opportunities to strengthen cooperation and future partnerships with other key partners, such as the European Commission, UN-Water and the World Water Assessment Programme.

5. Resources to implement the workplan and management of the Water Convention's trust fund
(Thursday 13 September, 9.15-10.00)

The secretariat will inform the bureau about human resources in the secretariat.

On the basis of a report by the secretariat on contributions and expenditures, the Bureau will overview the management of the Water Convention's trust fund and take appropriate action to raise missing funds according the Bureau's mandate (see decision III/1 on the establishment of a trust fund under the Convention, ECE/MP.WAT/15/Add.1, annex II).

6. Communication plan and promotion of the Convention (by the Bureau, Parties and the Secretariat)
(Thursday 13 September, 10.00-10.40)

The Bureau will discuss how to promote the Convention in order to strengthen political support. In particular it will agree on actions to be carried out by the Bureau itself, all Parties and the secretariat.

7. Next Bureau meetings
(Thursday 13 September, 11.40-11.50)

The Bureau will preliminary schedule its next meetings.

8. Other business
(Thursday 13 September, 10.50-11.00)

³ Cooperation with the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health will be discussed during the joint meeting later in the day.

The Bureau will be informed about the outcome of the International workshop on involving the public in international forums, organized within the framework of the Aarhus Convention (Geneva, 20-21 June 2007).

9. Closing

The Chairperson will close the meeting on 13 September at 11.00.