



Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

Core group of the pilot projects on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins under the UNECE Water Convention

First meeting

**15-16 February 2011, Geneva
starting at 10 a.m. in Room V, Palais des Nations**

AGENDA

At the launch of the pilot projects during the workshop "How to adapt to climate change in transboundary basins", held in Geneva on 10-12 May 2010, it was decided to establish a core group composed of representatives of the pilot projects in order to exchange experience between the projects. The first meeting of this core group aims to exchange information and experience on the activities, lessons learnt, challenges and success factors of the projects in the year 2010. The meeting also aims to discuss ways and means for intensifying and continuing this exchange of experience through a web-based platform and other means. Finally, the meeting will help to prepare and design the next workshop on water and climate change, scheduled to take place back-to-back with the next meeting of the Water Convention's Task Force on Water and Climate on 12-14 April 2011 in Geneva, in a way which is most useful for the pilot projects.

Tuesday, 15 February 2011

10.00- 10.30: Session 1: Introduction

Introduction to the meeting's objectives by the UNECE secretariat and the two co-chairs of the Task Force on Water and Climate.

10.30- 13.00 and 15.00- 18.00: Session 2: Presentations by pilot projects:

Per project max. 40 minutes: 20 min presentation, 20 min discussion

The presentation on each project will focus on the following points:

- Background of the project, situation, expected impacts, partners, level of advancement of the project
- Achievements so far
- Difficulties encountered

- Lessons learnt that could be of use for the other projects
- Need for technical support (models, methods, etc.)
- Reflection on the Guidance: was it useful, in what respect, were any flaws or omissions found?

Dniester

Sava

Rhine

13.00- 15.00: Lunch

Session 2 ctd.

Meuse (AMICE project)

Danube

Neman

Chu Talas

Dauria transboundary rivers

Evening: dinner

Wednesday, 16 February

9.30-10.30: Sessions 3: Conclusions, lessons learnt and inputs for the workshop

On the basis of the discussions during the previous day, the Core Group will draw general conclusions and lessons learned and discuss how the identified challenges can be addressed.

The Core Group will also discuss the programme of the workshop on water and adaptation to climate change scheduled for 12-14 April 2011 so that it can promote exchange of experience on the common difficulties and can address through specific presentations the lessons learned and the challenges ahead.

10.30- 12.15: Session 4: Platform for exchanging experience

A platform is being established in order to exchange experience between the pilot projects as well as other similar initiatives on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins. This will enable sharing lessons learnt and best practices as well as challenges and possible solutions to overcome them. The

core group will discuss ways and means for establishing such a continuous exchange of experience, through a web platform as well as regular meetings.

The Core Group will also discuss about promotion of the pilot projects programme, in particular about a possible input of the pilot projects programme to the Seventh Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (to be held in Astana, Kazakhstan, 21-23 September 2011)

12.15-12.30: Session 5: Next meeting of the Core group and closing

Practical information

The core group meeting will start at 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 15 February 2011 and end at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 16 February 2011. It will be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, conference room V. The working languages will be English and Russian.

Eligible participants from countries with economies in transition may apply for financial support to facilitate their participation in the workshop. Requests for financial support should be submitted to the UNECE secretariat (olga.carlos@unece.org) as soon as possible, but not later than **10 January 2011**.

Participants requiring entry visas should inform the secretariat as soon as possible. The minimum amount of time needed for obtaining a visa is now 15 working days. **Participants needing a visa are therefore requested to submit their application as soon as possible and initiate visa procedures at least three weeks before the meeting.**

In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to complete the attached registration and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by 1 February 2010 either by fax (+ 41 22 917 0621) or e-mail (olga.carlos@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, participants should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section located at the Pregny Gate, 14 Avenue de la Paix (see map on the UNECE Water Convention website). Please allow time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1926.

Practical information on the Palais des Nations, as well as on transport and accommodation in Geneva, is available online at:
<http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>.
