

PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

BUREAU/2007/1

BUREAU OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

First meeting
Geneva, 13-14 September 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST MEETING

Prepared by the joint secretariat

The meeting of the Bureau will take place in the Palais des Nations in room A-206. It will start on 13 September 2007 at 14.00 and finish on 14 September at 15.00. 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 Chairman of the Bureau has invited a representative of Italy 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**
(Thursday 13 September, 14.30-14.40)
- 2. Composition of the Bureau**
(Thursday 13 September, 14.40-14.50)

Ms. Sirkka Haunia who was elected Bureau member at the first meeting of the Parties is unfortunately unable to serve in the Bureau. According to rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure, the remaining members of the Bureau shall co-opt a successor by consensus, taking into account the proposal for a successor by Finland.

- 3. Implementation of activities in the programme of work**
(Thursday 13 September, 14.50-17.00)

Since the first meeting of the Parties, a number of activities have been initiated or plans for their implementation have been made. On the basis of information provided by the secretariat and by the representatives of lead countries, the Bureau will examine progress made and difficulties accounted.

The following areas of activities and future meetings will be discussed. The Bureau will advise on further implementation.

- Surveillance and early-warning systems, contingency plans and response capacities: Roger Aertgeerts will inform about progress and future plans related to the Task Force on Surveillance;
- Ad Hoc Project Facilitation Mechanism: Roger Aertgeerts will inform about the progress in the recruitment of the Facilitator and about the future plans related to the Ad hoc Project Facilitation Mechanism;
- Public awareness, education, training, research and development and information: Ana Drapa will inform about future plans in this area of work;
- Development of targets and indicators and reporting, including development of guidelines: Pierre Studer will inform about progress and future plans in this area of work;
- Equitable access: Francesca Bernardini will inform about progress and future plans in this area of work;
- Workshop on man-made recreational waters: Mihaly Kadar will inform about the outcome of the Second International Conference on Health and Water Quality Aspects of the Man Made Recreational Water Environment (Munich, Germany, 14-16 March 2007).

- 4. Resources to implement the programme of work and implementation of unfunded activities**
(Thursday 13 September, 17.00-18.30)

The joint secretariat will inform Bureau on contributions, pledges and expenditures since the first meeting of the Parties.

Due to lack of funds to cover the costs of human resources in the joint secretariat as well as other costs (support of eligible participants, organization of workshops, etc) the following activities have not progressed since the first meeting of the Parties:¹

- Compliance Committee;
- Integrated management of small water supply and sanitation systems;
- Regional and subregional workshops, other than on man-made recreational waters and the protection of groundwater as a source of drinking water.²

The Bureau will discuss and agree on how to fundraise for the missing resources and make preliminary plans to implement the above-mentioned activities.

5. Cooperation with key partners³

- (a) **Activities and processes within the framework of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe**
(Friday 14 September, 9.00-10.30)

Roger Aertgeerts will present future plans related to the following meetings. The Bureau will discuss ways and means to develop synergy and raise the visibility of the Protocol in such events.

- The fifty-seventh session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe (Belgrade, Serbia, 17-20 September 2007);
- The fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health which will take place in 2009 in Italy;
- Bilateral collaborative agreements (BCAs) related to the Protocol.

- (b) **Other partners**
(Friday 14 September, 10.30-11.30)

The Bureau will discuss opportunities to strengthen cooperation and future partnerships with other key partners, such as the European Commission, the Barcelona Convention, the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), the World Water Week, UNDP and OECD.

The Bureau will discuss opportunities related to the 2008 International Year of Sanitation and to the 16th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (5-16 May 2008).

The Bureau will also discuss the potential to further investigate the possibility of ratification of the Protocol by the European Community.

¹ Given its importance, the communication plan will be discussed separately under item 6.

² Croatia had an exchange with the secretariat confirming the commitment to organize such workshop but no more information is available.

³ Cooperation with the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention will be discussed during the joint meeting before the Protocol Bureau meeting.

6. Communication plan and promotion of the Protocol (by the Bureau, Parties and the Secretariat)

(Friday 14 September, 11.30-13.00)

The Bureau will agree on the basic components of a communication plan for the Protocol (target audience, relevant tools, partners to be involved, etc) and make arrangements on how to further develop and implement the plan.

The Bureau will also discuss how to promote the Protocol 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. First meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health

(Friday 14 September, 14.00-14.20)

In light of the previous discussion and agreed future plans, the Bureau will make arrangements for the organization of the first meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health.

8. Next Bureau meetings

(Friday 14 September, 14.20-14.30)

The Bureau will preliminary schedule its next meetings.

9. Other business

(Friday 14 September, 14.30-15.00)

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item.

10. Closing

The Chairperson will close the meeting on 14 September at 15.00.