European Environment and Health Process (EHP)

- In 1989 WHO/Europe launched a process to eliminate the most significant environmental threats to human health
- Progress towards this goal is marked by a series of Ministerial Conferences held every five to seven years
- The Conferences bring together Ministries of Health and Ministries of Environment on a equal footing to shape European policies and actions on environment and health
EHP Conferences

Adoption of Protocol on Water and Health

Parma Declaration:
Focus on children’s health
RPG 1 on water and sanitation

Budapest Declaration:
Focus on children's health:
RPG 1 on water and sanitation

1989 Frankfurt
1994 Helsinki
1999 London
2004 Budapest
2010 Parma
2017
Parma Declaration:
Protecting children’s health in a changing environment

• **Regional Priority Goal 1:** Ensuring public health by improving access to safe water and sanitation:

  “We will strive to provide each child with access to safe water and sanitation in homes, child care centres, kindergartens, schools, health care institutions and public recreational water settings by 2020, and to revitalize hygiene practices.”

• Reference to **Protocol on Water and Health** as policy instrument for implementation
Preparatory process towards 6th MC

Political process

Objective:
To achieve a broad consensus on a selected number of outcomes

6th MC

Thematic review

Objective:
To review evidence and frame E & H issues for the 21st century
Themes considered

- EHTF oversees preparatory process
- Mid-Term Review meeting (Haifa, Apr 2015) broadly confirmed:
  - Water and sanitation as relevant priority
  - Importance of legal instruments such as the Protocol
- Protocol priorities discussed and confirmed at 5th EHTF Meeting (Skopje, Nov 2015)
Outcome document

Outcome document / Ministerial Declaration:

• Political declaration focusing on strategic matters
• Implementation/action plan with SMART targets

Protocol invited to contribute and suggest targets/commitments
A commitment towards ratification of the Protocol by all Member States that have not yet done so

- Reinstate the value added of the Protocol as the prime MEA in the pan-European Region to progressively achieve regional and global commitments

- Translate and operationalize the ambitions of 2030 Agenda into specific national targets and action plans

- Make reference to the substantive priorities identified under the programme of work for 2017-2019
A vitalizing recall of RPG 1 to provide each child with access to safe WASH at home and all institutional settings

- Encourage all Member States to accelerate their efforts towards meeting RPG 1 by 2020
- Programme of work for 2017-2019 strongly supports the attainment of RPG 1 with its emphasis on safe WASH in schools and health-care facilities, on safe management of water and sanitation services and on equitable access to such services
A new regional commitment to address the strategic importance of sustainability of water resources and resilience of water and sanitation services

- Roots in water-food-energy-climate change nexus
- Responds to global change (urbanization, climate change)
- Concern about long-term availability and quality of freshwater resources and safe drinking-water
- Look into emerging patterns (reuse, SSPs), opportunities for other sectors (agriculture, food) and implications on human health and water environment