Main outcomes of the buzz-discussion

Session 5
1. Challenges faced

• Politics: political will, political instability, upstream-downstream, no data sharing
• Perspectives: identifying common benefits and priorities; balancing national benefits vs shared benefits; mindsets
• Differences: in technological and socioeconomic development levels
• Decision-making process
• Convening countries: lack of a convenor or champion, getting countries to work together at political level
• Capacities: lack of resources and technical capacities
• Methodology (and data) for assessment
• Solutions: how to share benefits
• Need to «refresh memories» if benefits work done in the past
2. Usefulness of benefits approach

- A good basis to enhance TWC
- For awareness raising
- Because it incorporates new perspectives (e.g. social)
- It can catalise establishment of RBOs
- If linked to national development planning
- If tailored to the basin
- If including previous training on methodology
3. Future work on benefits under the Water Convention

- Build on current work programme
- Awareness raising (e.g. health and livelihoods)
- Develop guiding principles, updating and disseminating policy guidance note
- Workshops (RBOs to share experiences, hydrodiplomacy)
- Training (benefit assessment, benefit sharing, twinning)
- Capacity development of stakeholders
- All types of basins (established, not yet solidified, conflict regions,...)
- More involvement of other sectors
- RECs, RBOs, IUCN, IWMI, international research organisations, local NGOs, donors, academics, local communities,...
4. Potential contributions to benefits work

• Political support
• Technical support (e.g. updating guidance, security perspective)
• Manpower and local knowledge
• Participate in workshops to share experiences
• Organisation of workshops and trainings
• Financial and technical support in pilot projects
• Dissemination of results, awareness raising