

The Water Convention and the joint meeting of the Working Groups on **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)** and on **Monitoring and Assessment (M&A)**

Introduction

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The Water Convention: What is it for?

Objective: Protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation

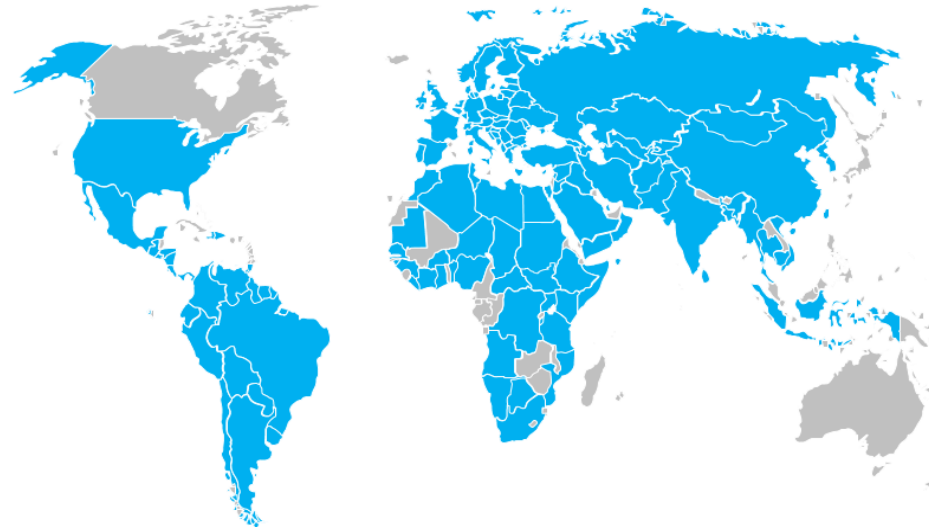
→ Support to transboundary water cooperation (initially in the pan-European region, now globally) for the sustainability of water resources

1992: Signature

1996: Entry into force

2016: Effectively open for accession to all UN Member States

2018: Accession by Chad, 42 Parties



The Water Convention: what does it require?

3 main pillars

Parties have the obligation to:



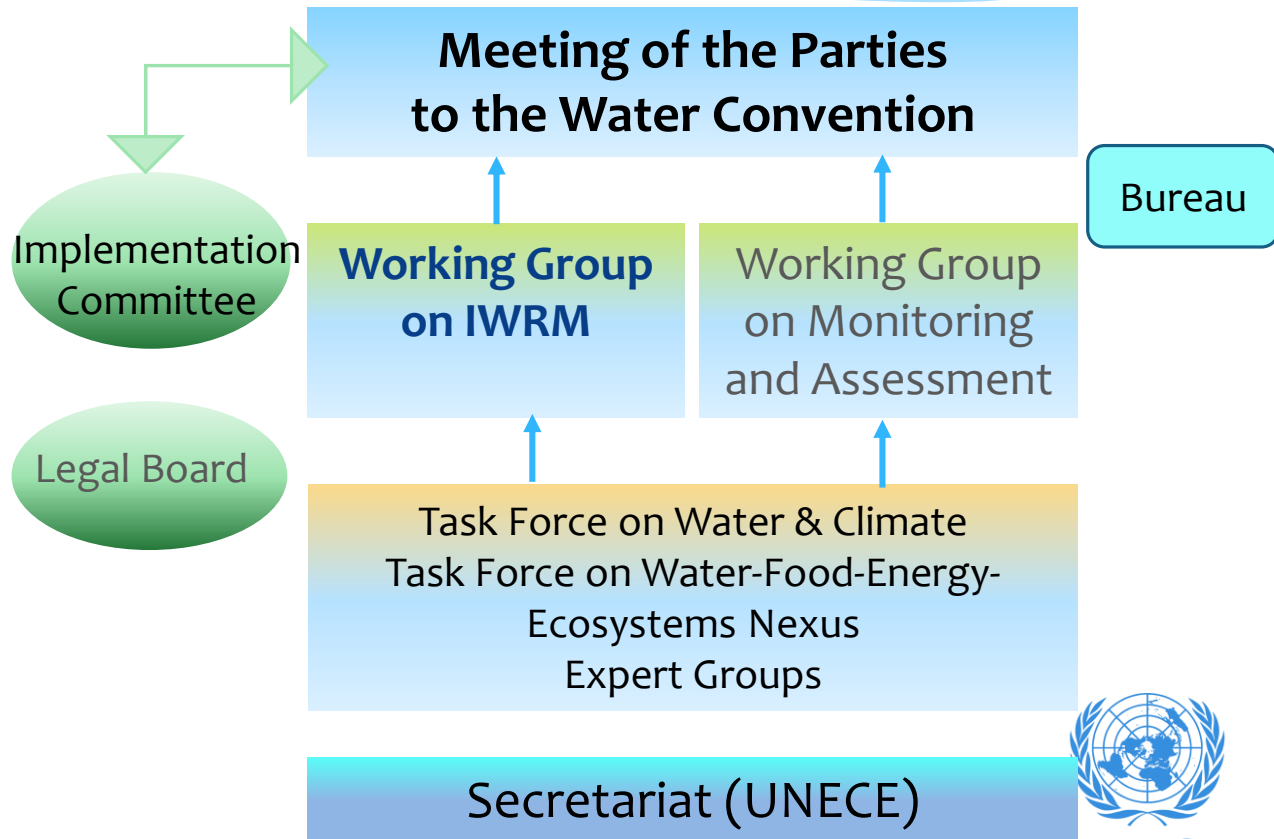
Prevent, control and reduce transboundary impacts

Ensure reasonable and equitable utilization of transboundary waters

Cooperate through establishment of agreements and joint bodies responsible for joint management

The Water Convention: How does it work?

	A sound legal framework
	An active institutional framework
	Projects on the ground



The Working Group on IWRM: role and responsibilities

- * A subsidiary body established by the Meeting of the Parties of the Water Convention
- * Open for participation to Parties, non-Parties, Non-Governmental Organizations, International Institutions and other stakeholders
- * Meets yearly to review progress in implementing the programme of work of the Convention
- * Provides an open forum for sharing knowledge and successful experiences of support transboundary water cooperation: policy guidance, bilateral and multilateral activities, pilot projects, capacity-building...

Role of countries focal points :

- Inform the Working Group on progress in your country / basins
- Inform in the capital on activities under the Water Convention

The Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment

- * A **subsidiary body** established by the Meeting of the Parties of the Water Convention
- * **Roles and responsibilities:**
 - **Assist** Parties bordering the same transboundary waters in establishing and implementing joint programmes for monitoring the conditions of transboundary waters;
 - **Lead** the preparation of periodic assessments of the status of transboundary waters and international lakes (progress in the implementation of the Convention);
 - **Promote** the exchange of data on environmental conditions of transboundary waters;
 - **Encourage** Parties to inform each other about any critical situation that may have a transboundary impact and to make available to the public the results of water and effluent sampling

Aims of this meeting

- * (a) Discuss the results and lessons learned from the reporting exercise under the Water Convention and on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2,
- * (b) Discuss and agree on the draft programme of work for 2019–2021 under the Convention to be submitted to the MOP8 (Astana, 10–12 October 2018);
 - * Draft prepared in a consultative process with discussions in bodies, survey and interviews- more than 200 persons involved
- * (c) Discuss and agree on other documents and draft decisions to be submitted to the MOP8

Overview of the programme and rules of the Joint Meeting:

**Rules for Interventions : MAX. 2 minutes, Presentations max. 10 minutes
Longer versions will be posted on the website**

Monday 28 May

3.00 p.m - 6.00 p.m: Joint meeting of the Working groups, item on Monitoring and Assessment

9.00 a.m - 10.30 a.m: Special Event on Chad accession (Salle XXIV)

Tuesday 29 May

10.40 a.m - 6.00 p.m: Joint meeting of the Working Groups

At 6.30 p.m: Water Convention Cocktail hosted by Switzerland
(Restaurant des délégués, 8th floor, Palais des Nations)

Wednesday 30 May

10.00 a.m-6.00 p.m: Joint meeting of the Working Groups



Thank you for your attention!

All presentations will be available at:

<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=46374>

Photographs available at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/waterconvention/>



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The Water Convention: How does it work?

**2016-2018
Programme
of work**

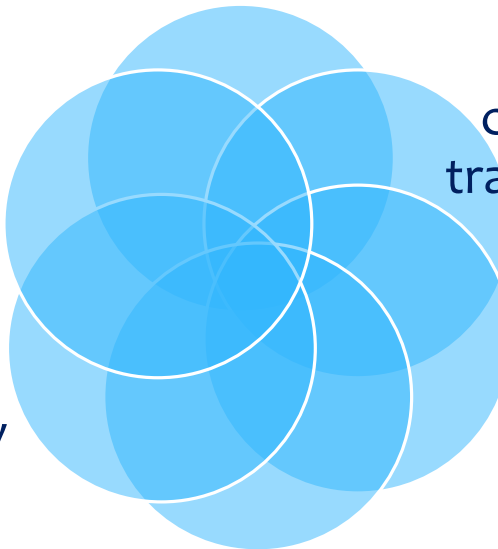
Support to implementation and application

Opening, promotion and partnerships

Identifying, assessing and communicating the benefits of transboundary water cooperation

European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins



Water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins