



# Regional report on the status of implementation of the Protocol

Nataliya Nikiforova, UNECE



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Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health

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# Background

- According to Article 6 of the Protocol, Parties have to **set targets** within 2 years of acceding to/ratifying the Protocol
- In accordance with Article 7, every 3 years Parties have to **report on their progress** to the MOP. Other States are also invited to report
- Reports shall be in accordance with the **guidelines and template for reporting** adopted by the MOP (MOP4 adopted revised guidelines and template for summary reports)
- **Four reporting cycles conducted so far** – 2010, 2013, 2016, **2019**





## Objectives of reporting

- **Assess progress** – self-assessment by Parties and assessment by the MOP
- Exchange **experience**, share **lessons learned**
- Identify the main **challenges/obstacles** in implementing the Protocol → inform the Protocol's programme of work
- Gather **harmonized information on water, sanitation and health** in the pan-European region

**Reporting is an important moment to reinforce commitment to the Protocol at national level!**



# Procedural aspects of the 4<sup>th</sup> reporting cycle

- **All 26 Parties** submitted summary reports!
- **6 other States** submitted summary reports on a voluntary basis

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Andorra

Israel

Armenia

Malta

Georgia

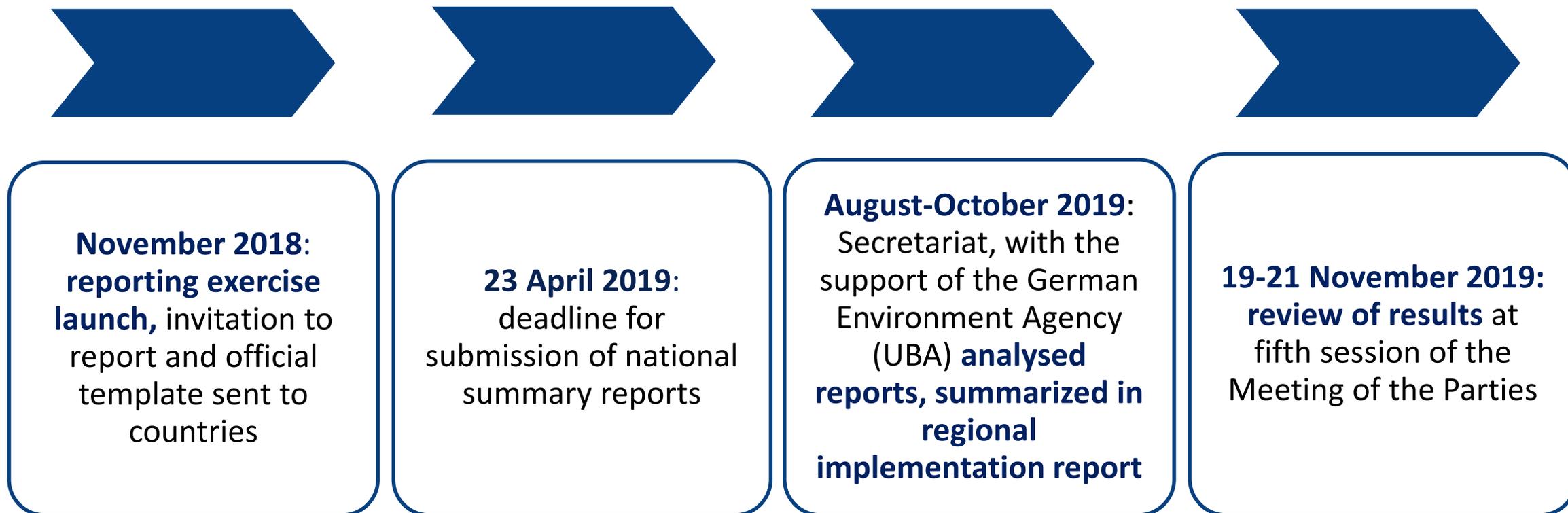
Uzbekistan

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- **All reports are available online** and translated into ENG where needed and possible



### 3. Timeline of the 4th reporting exercise





## Key highlights of the country reports – setting and implementing targets

- Most of the targets set by reporting countries relate to the work on **safe and efficient management of sanitation** and **equitable access**
- Targets address the increasing effects of **climate change** as an emerging issue
- **Improvements in the legal framework** are often considered as a first step to implement targets
- **Lack of funding is a challenge** for implementing targets, especially those on infrastructure development





## Key highlights – Common indicators

- **Drinking water quality has improved** compared to the third reporting cycle, but most countries **do not provide segregated data for urban/rural areas**
- Access to water and sanitation has generally increased, but **far fewer people have access to sanitation than to drinking water**
- Freshwater resources in the pan-European region:
  - ❖ **Groundwater resources are generally reported to be in good status**
  - ❖ **Quality of surface water bodies is uneven** – need to protect the ecological status!
- **Several countries have reduced water exploitation** since previous reporting cycle





## Key highlights – Article 8 of the Protocol

- **Almost all countries have water-related disease surveillance in place** as part of their overall surveillance system
- Also **contingency plans** to respond to outbreaks
- Public authorities have the **necessary response capacity**
- A few countries established **mandatory reporting of water-related diseases**





## Key highlights – International cooperation

- **International cooperation** on water, sanitation and health **is reported as good practice by some countries of the region** (e.g. through international river basin commissions)
- This may cover:
  - ❖ **Surface and groundwater quality**
  - ❖ **Water ecology**
  - ❖ **Flood protection**
  - ❖ **Warning and alarm systems** in case of accidents





## Key highlights – Thematic areas of work



- Most countries are taking steps to **assess and improve WASH in schools and health-care facilities**
- Many also report the uptake of **risk-based management approaches in drinking water supply**
- **Equitable access to water and sanitation** has also been assessed in many countries
- Equity policies mainly focused on **reducing geographical disparities** and ensuring **affordability** of water and sanitation services



# Key highlights – contribution to international commitments

- Application of principles of **universality, safety and prevention** demonstrate **strong alignment** of the Protocol with international commitments such as the 2030 Agenda
- Countries specifically stated that Protocol targets contribute to **achievement of the 2030 Agenda** (SDG6, SDG3, SDG9 and SDG11 but also many others)
- Targets also contribute to implementing **Ostrava Declaration on Environment and Health** – equity, social inclusion and gender equality in environmental and health policies



# Thank you for your attention

