



ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF  
CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva

Your ref

Our ref

Date

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**Norway: Pilot reporting on the Water Convention and Sustainable  
Development Goals indicator 6.5.2**

Dear colleagues,

Please find enclosed Norway's response to the pilot reporting under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and on the monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2

Yours sincerely

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Deputy Director General

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*This document is signed electronically and has therefore no handwritten signature*

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## Template for reporting under the Water Convention and for global SDG indicator 6.5.2

**Country name: NORWAY**

This template or reporting form is in the form of a questionnaire to be filled out. Questions can be either “closed”, Yes /No , with appropriate boxes to tick; “open”, requiring further information to be supplied, indicated by the words in square brackets [fill in]; or a combination of both. Depending on the country situation, it will not always be necessary to fill in extra information where space is provided for this.

The questions are divided into four parts: national (section I); by transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (section II); list of transboundary waters and information for calculation of the SDG indicator 6.5.2, Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation (section III), and final questions (section IV). Please answer open questions very briefly, and in less than 200 words, using bullet points as appropriate. Section II will need to be completed for each of the transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers (please just copy the template for these questions and fill out again for each additional transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer).

The template encourages those reporting to refer to the reporting under other multilateral environmental agreements to which their country is a Party.

### I. Transboundary water management at the national level

In this first section, you are requested to provide general information on transboundary water management at the national level. Information on specific transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers and agreements should be presented in section II and not repeated here.

1. (a) Does your country’s national legislation refer to measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact (art. 2 of the Convention)?

Yes /No

*If yes, list the main national legislation:*

- The Pollution Control Act  
(<http://www.miljodirektoratet.no/en/Legislation1/Acts/Pollution-Control-Act/>)
- The Water Resources Act (<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/Acts-and-Regulations-/id106724/>)
- The Nature Diversity Act  
(<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/nature-diversity-act/id570549/>)
- The Planning and Building Act  
(<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/planning-building-act/id570450/>)

- (b) Do your country’s national policies, action plans and strategies refer to measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact?

Yes /No

*If yes, list the main national policies, action plans and strategies:*

- Action plan for liming in watercourses in Norway 2016-2021
- Action plan against the salmon parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris* 2014-2016
- An action plan/national programme of measures against invasive species is under development

- (c) Does your country’s legislation provide for the following principles?

Precautionary principle Yes /No

Polluter pays principle Yes /No

Sustainable development Yes /No

(d) Does your country have a national licensing or permitting system for wastewater discharges and other point source pollution (art. 3, para. 1 (b)) (e.g., in industry, mining, energy, municipal, wastewater management or other sectors)?

Yes /No

If yes, for which sectors? (please list):

- Wastewater
- Industry
- Agriculture (point source pollution regarding manure treatment)
- Mining
- Aquaculture (all aquaculture sites have permits, including freshwater sites)

If not, please explain why not (giving the most important reasons) or provide information if there are plans to introduce a licensing or permitting system: [fill in]

If your country has a licensing system, does the system provide for setting emission limits based on best available technology?

Yes /No

(e) Are the authorized discharges monitored and controlled (art. 3, para. 1 (b))?

Yes /No

If yes, how? (Please tick the ones applicable):

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Monitoring of discharges                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitoring of physical and chemical impacts on water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitoring of ecological impacts on water            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Conditions on permits                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Inspectorate   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Other means (please list):

If your country does not have a discharge monitoring system, please explain why not or provide information if there are plans to introduce a discharge monitoring system: [fill in]

(f) What are the main measures which your country takes to reduce diffuse sources of water pollution on transboundary waters (art. 3, para. 1) (e.g., from agriculture, transport, forestry or aquaculture)? The measures listed below relate to agriculture, but other sectors may be more significant. Please be sure to include these under "others":

**Legislative measures**

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Norm for uses of fertilizers           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Norms for uses of manure               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Bans on or norms for use of pesticides | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Others (please list): [fill in]        |                                     |

**Economic and financial measures**

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Monetary incentives                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Environmental taxes (such as fertilizer taxes) | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Others (please list): [fill in]                |                                     |

**Agricultural extension services**

## Technical measures

### Source control measures

- Crop rotation
- Tillage control
- Winter cover crops
- Others (*please list*): [fill in]

### Other measures

- Buffer/filter strips
- Wetland reconstruction
- Sedimentation traps
- Chemical measures
- Others (*please list*): [fill in]

## Other types of measures

*If yes, please list:*

(g) What are the main measures which your country takes to enhance water efficiency (art. 3)?

*Please tick as appropriate (not all might be relevant)*

- A regulatory system regarding water abstraction
- Monitoring and control of abstractions
- Water rights are clearly defined
- Water allocation priorities are listed
- Water-saving technologies
- Advanced irrigation techniques
- Demand management activities
- Other means (*please list*)

(h) Does your country apply the ecosystems approach (art. 3, para. 1 (i), and art. 2, para. 1 (d))?

Yes /No

*If yes, please describe how:*

- Implementation of Water Framework Directive in Norwegian law (Vannforskriften - <http://www.vannportalen.no/english/>)
- The Nature Diversity Act's aim is to protect the function, structure and productivity of ecosystems, within reason.
- There is a Norwegian Action Plan for Nature Diversity, which seeks to maintain well-functioning ecosystem services in order to address issues such as climate change mitigation, protection of endangered species, and improve knowledge.

(i) Does your country take specific measures to prevent the pollution of groundwaters (art. 3, para. 1 (k))?

Yes /No

*If yes, please list the most important measures:*

- Emissions to groundwater is strictly controlled and regulated, and there are few cases where emissions to groundwater are permitted.

2. Does your country require transboundary environmental impact assessment (EIA)?

Yes /No

Does your country have procedures for transboundary EIA?

Yes /No

*If yes, please make reference to the legislative basis (please insert the name and section of the relevant laws). (Please note: If your country is a Party to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, you may refer to your country's report under that Convention.):*

- The following directives have been implemented in Norwegian legislation:
  - Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (SEA)
  - Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment

3. Does your country have transboundary agreements or arrangements for the protection and/or management of transboundary waters (i.e., surface waters or aquifers), whether bilateral, multilateral and/or at the basin level?

Yes /No

*If yes, list the bilateral, multilateral and basin agreements (listing for each of the countries concerned):*

Finland:

- Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Commission
- Agreement between Norway and Finland concerning the Norwegian-Finnish River Basin (Tana, Neiden, Pasvik) + Memorandum of Understanding (Water Framework Directive)
- The Finnish-Norwegian Agreement concerning salmon fisheries in Tana. On the Norwegian side, several regulations are in place to manage fishing activity in transboundary watercourses.

Sweden:

- Norwegian-Swedish Strategy for transboundary river basins (Water Framework Directive – WFD)
- Agreement between Norway and Sweden concerning management of salmon and trout in Svinesund, Iddefjorden and Enningdalselva
- InterReg project Vänerlaksen to reintroduce local salmon populations to the Trysil and Femund rivers in Norway and Klarälven in Sweden
- Convention between Sweden and Norway pertaining to certain issues concerning activities in water courses which affect water courses in the neighbouring country (from 1929)

Russia:

- The Joint Norwegian-Russian Commission on Environmental Protection
- Agreement with Russia concerning fishing and protection of fish population in Grense Jakobselv and the river Pasvik. On the Norwegian side, several regulations are in place to manage fishing activity.

Nordic/Barents arenas where Norway participates, and environment and water management are issues:

- Barents Artic-Euro Cooperation
- Nordic Council of Ministers

- Artic Council

## II. Questions for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or for group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement and where conditions are similar. It might also be convenient to group basins or sub-basins for which your country's share is very small.<sup>a</sup> In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins, for example, where you have agreements<sup>b</sup> on both the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares the basin or aquifer or even prepare a joint report for shared basins. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section I and not repeated here.

Please reproduce the whole section II with its questions for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

**Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country's share of the basin:**

**Norwegian-Finnish river basins (Tana, Neiden, Pasvik, Torionjoen, Kemijoki)**

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin (art. 9)?

One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force

Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force

Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

*Please insert the name of the agreement or agreements or arrangements:* [fill in]

Agreement or arrangement is under development

No agreement

*If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation:* [fill in]

**If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body for the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement, but a joint body then go to question 3.**

**Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer or group of basins or sub-basins**

Questions 2 and 3 have been completed separately for the agreement between Norway and Finland regarding the Norwegian-Finnish River Basin District (under the Water Framework Directive), and for the agreement regulating salmon fisheries in the River Tana.

<sup>a</sup> In principle, section 2 should be submitted for every transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, in the country, but States may decide to group basins in which their share is small or leave out basins in which their share is very minor, e.g., below 1 per cent.

<sup>b</sup> In section II, "agreement" covers all kinds of treaties, conventions and agreements ensuring cooperation in the field of transboundary waters. Section II can also be completed for other types of arrangements, such as memorandums of understanding.

Question 3 has been completed for the Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission, which has existed as a joint body since the 1980s.

From question 4, the form is completed for the Norwegian-Finnish river basins, independently of any agreement.

**Agreement between Norway and Finland regarding a Norwegian-Finnish River Basin District (WFD)**

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the basin area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

If not, what does it cover?

There are several river basins shared between Norway and Finland. A formal agreement adopted in 2014 covering the majority of the sub-basins between Norway and Finland. The agreement, a result of the Water Framework Directive, covers the sub-basins Tana, Pasvik and Neiden, which cover substantial spatial areas and many watercourses and lakes in both countries. The Pasvik sub-basin also enters Russian territory, but since Russia does not implement the Water Framework Directive, they do not enter into the agreement, and this part of the sub-basin is thus not covered by the agreement. Two other sub-basins, Kemijoki and Tornionjoki, which cover very small spatial areas in Norway, are also not part of the agreement.

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?  
(Please list): Norway, Finland

(b) Are aquifers (or groundwater bodies) covered by the agreement/arrangement?

Yes /No

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- All water uses
- A single water use or sector
- Several water uses or sectors

*If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):*

**Water uses or sectors**

- Industry
- Agriculture
- Transport (e.g., navigation)
- Households
- Energy: hydropower and other energy types
- Tourism
- Nature protection
- Other (please list): [fill in]

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement (art. 9)?

**Procedural and institutional issues**

- Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- Consultation on planned measures
- Mutual assistance (art. 15)

**Topics of cooperation**

- Joint vision and management objectives
- Joint significant water management issues
- Navigation
- Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- Water quality
- Water quantity or allocation
- Cooperation in addressing floods
- Cooperation in addressing droughts
- Climate change adaptation

**Monitoring and exchange**

- Joint assessments
- Data collection and exchange (art. 13)
- Joint monitoring (art. 11)
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Common early warning and alarm procedures (art. 14)
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on planned measures

**Joint planning and management**

- Development of joint regulations on specific topics
- Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Development of shared infrastructure
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any (*please describe, if applicable*):

Differences in classification methods (parameters for quality elements) and water body delineation, as well as differences in organisation (levels and degree of local participation), and deadlines for public hearings. These issues will be tackled during the next planning cycle of the WFD.

- (f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success.

Main achievements have yet to be defined as the agreement is quite recent (2014), and joint management plans have not yet been developed. During the next planning period of the Water Framework Directive, we hope to address the differences mentioned above. However, a great deal of cooperation has taken place already.

The keys to achieving this is close cooperation and dialogue at the local (municipal) and regional level, as these actors are directly involved in water management and familiar with the challenges to achieving good water quality. Nevertheless, national government must also be informed of the local/regional processes, in order to address larger issues which must be resolved at the national level (political decisions, or harmonisation of national standards).

- (g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

The Agreement between Norway and Finland regarding a Norwegian-Finnish River Basin and Memorandum of Understanding, as well as the Agreement regarding a Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission are available here: <http://www.vannportalen.no/english/norway-as-part-of-international-river-basin-districts/>

3. Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?

Yes /No

*If no, why not? (please explain):* [fill in]

**Where there is a joint body (or bodies)**

- (a) If there is a joint body, which kind of joint body (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

- (b) Does the joint body cover the entire transboundary basin or sub-basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

- (c) Which States (including your own) are member of the joint body? (*Please list*):

Norway and Finland, with Russia as an invited observer (Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission)

- (d) Does the joint body have any of the following features (*please tick the ones applicable*)?

A secretariat

*If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):*

A subsidiary body or bodies

*Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):* [fill in]

Other features (*please list*): [fill in]

- (e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?<sup>c</sup>
- Identification of pollution sources
  - Data collection and exchange
  - Joint monitoring
  - Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
  - Setting emission limits
  - Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
  - Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
  - Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
  - Water allocation and/or flow regulation
  - Policy development
  - Control of implementation
  - Exchange of experience between riparian States
  - Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
  - Settling of differences and conflicts
  - Consultations on planned measures
  - Exchange of information on best available technology
  - Participation in transboundary EIA
  - Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
  - Management of shared infrastructure
  - Addressing hydromorphological alterations
  - Climate change adaptation
  - Joint communication strategy
  - Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
  - Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
  - Capacity-building
- Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]
- (f) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body, if any?
- Governance issues   
*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
  - Unexpected planning delays   
*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

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<sup>c</sup> This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

- Lack of resources   
*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]
- Lack of mechanism for implementing measures   
*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]
- Lack of effective measures   
*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]
- Unexpected extreme events   
*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
- Lack of information and reliable forecasts   
*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
- Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]
- (g) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body how does the body cooperate with them?
- No cooperation   
 They have observer status   
 Other (*please describe*): [fill in]
- (h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?  
 Yes /No   
 If yes, how frequently does it meet?
- (i) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?: [fill in]
- (j) Are representatives of international organizations invited to the meetings of the joint body (or bodies) as observers?  
 Yes /No
- (k) Did the joint body ever invite a coastal State to cooperate (art. 9, paras. 3 and 4)?  
 Yes /No   
*If yes, please give details. If no, why not?:*
- Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?  
 Yes /No   
*If no, why not? (please explain):* [fill in]

**Agreement between Norway and Finland regarding fishing regulations in River Tana**

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the basin area subject to cooperation?  
 Yes /No   
 If yes, does it cover the entire basin, or group of basins, and all riparian States?  
 Yes /No

If not, what does it cover? The agreement does not cover parts of the basin that are not andronomous, as the agreement pertains to andronomous fish populations (salmon).

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?  
(Please list): Norway, Finland

(b) Are aquifers (or groundwater bodies) covered by the agreement/arrangement?

Yes /No

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

- All water uses
- A single water use or sector
- Several water uses or sectors

*If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):*

**Water uses or sectors**

- Industry
- Agriculture
- Transport (e.g., navigation)
- Households
- Energy: hydropower and other energy types
- Tourism
- Nature protection
- Other (please list): Fishing regulations

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement (art. 9)?

**Procedural and institutional issues**

- Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- Consultation on planned measures
- Mutual assistance (art. 15)

**Topics of cooperation**

- Joint vision and management objectives
- Joint significant water management issues
- Navigation
- Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- Water quality
- Water quantity or allocation
- Cooperation in addressing floods
- Cooperation in addressing droughts

Climate change adaptation

**Monitoring and exchange**

Joint assessments

Data collection and exchange (art. 13)

Joint monitoring (art. 11)

Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

Common early warning and alarm procedures (art. 14)

Exchange of experience between riparian States

Exchange of information on planned measures

**Joint planning and management**

Development of joint regulations on specific topics

Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

Management of shared infrastructure

Development of shared infrastructure

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any (*please describe, if applicable*):

Different interests among various user groups.

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success.

Common rules and regulations and protection and recovery of salmon populations. Success achieved over a long period of time and with the consultation of affected parties.

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*):

Information on the agreement here: <https://www.regjeringen.no/no/aktuelt/norsk-finsk-avtale-om-fisket-i-tanavassdraget/id2537660/> (Norwegian text)

3. Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?

Yes /No

*If no, why not? (please explain):* [fill in]

**Where there is a joint body (or bodies)**

(a) If there is a joint body, which kind of joint body (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Other (*please describe*):

There is a negotiation commission responsible for negotiating the agreement, which only exists when the agreement needs to be re-negotiated. In addition there is a common scientific body.

- (b) Does the joint body cover the entire transboundary basin or sub-basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

- (c) Which States (including your own) are member of the joint body? *(Please list)*:

Norway and Finland

- (d) Does the joint body have any of the following features *(please tick the ones applicable)*?

A secretariat

*If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):*

A subsidiary body or bodies

*Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics): [fill in]*

*Other features (please list): [fill in]*

- (e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?<sup>a</sup>

Not applicable, since the commission is only used for negotiation.

Identification of pollution sources

Data collection and exchange

Joint monitoring

Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

Setting emission limits

Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

Management and prevention of flood or drought risks

Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures

Water allocation and/or flow regulation

Policy development

Control of implementation

Exchange of experience between riparian States

Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations

Settling of differences and conflicts

Consultations on planned measures

Exchange of information on best available technology

Participation in transboundary EIA

Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

<sup>a</sup> This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

- Management of shared infrastructure
- Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- Climate change adaptation
- Joint communication strategy
- Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- Capacity-building

Any other tasks (*please list*):

(f) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body, if any?

Not applicable, since the commission is only used for negotiation.

Governance issues

*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

Unexpected planning delays

*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

Lack of resources

*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]

Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]

(g) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body how does the body cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

During negotiation the commission met regularly (6 negotiation meetings over 5 years). After the agreement has been approved, the commission will meet yearly to evaluate the agreement and its implementation.

(i) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?:

A renewed agreement which has been approved by both countries.

(j) Are representatives of international organizations invited to the meetings of the joint body (or bodies) as observers?

Yes /No

(k) Did the joint body ever invite a coastal State to cooperate (art. 9, paras. 3 and 4)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please give details. If no, why not?:*

Norway and Finland are coastal states

Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?

Yes /No

*If no, why not? (please explain):* [fill in]

### **Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission**

3. Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?

Yes /No

*If no, why not? (please explain):* [fill in]

**(a) If there is a joint body, which kind of joint body (please tick one)?**

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Other (please describe): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body cover the entire transboundary basin or sub-basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are member of the joint body? (Please list):

Norway and Finland, with Russia as an invited observer

(d) Does the joint body have any of the following features (please tick the ones applicable)?

A secretariat

*If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):*

Both countries have a permanent secretariat, and take turns in organising annual meetings. The secretariats are financed by national agencies/ministry.

A subsidiary body or bodies

*Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):* [fill in]

Other features (please list): [fill in]

- (e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?<sup>e</sup>
- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Identification of pollution sources   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Data collection and exchange  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint monitoring  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Maintenance of joint pollution inventories  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Setting emission limits   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Elaboration of joint water quality objectives   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Management and prevention of flood or drought risks   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Water allocation and/or flow regulation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Policy development  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Control of implementation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Exchange of experience between riparian States  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Settling of differences and conflicts   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Consultations on planned measures   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Exchange of information on best available technology  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Participation in transboundary EIA  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Management of shared infrastructure   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Addressing hydromorphological alterations   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Climate change adaptation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Joint communication strategy  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Capacity-building   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Any other tasks ( <i>please list</i> ): [fill in]   |                                     |
- (f) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body, if any?
- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Governance issues                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Please describe, if any:</i> [fill in] |                          |
| Unexpected planning delays                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>Please describe, if any:</i> [fill in] |                          |
| Lack of resources                         | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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<sup>e</sup> This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]

Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]

Others (*please list and describe, as appropriate*): [fill in]

(g) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body how does the body cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet?

Once a year

(i) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?:

Secures communication and dialogue between various levels of government in the two countries, and provides an arena to exchange information, share concerns and discuss issues that are of local importance. Results from scientific projects and monitoring programmes are shared. Recommendations from the commission are sent to the national authorities (government) of each country.

(j) Are representatives of international organizations invited to the meetings of the joint body (or bodies) as observers?

Yes /No

(k) Did the joint body ever invite a coastal State to cooperate (art. 9, paras. 3 and 4)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please give details. If no, why not?:*

Norway and Finland are coastal states.

The remaining questions have been answered for Norwegian-Finnish transboundary waters, independent of the agreements/joint bodies mentioned above

4. Is there a joint or coordinated management plan (such as an action plan or a common strategy) or have joint objectives been set specifically on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation (art. 9, para. 2 (f)) ?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide further details:

The agreement on a Norwegian-Finnish River Basin clarifies that the competent authorities will endeavour to produce a common River Basin Management Plan, as described in the Water Framework Directive.

The agreement for fishing regulations in the autonomous transboundary waters also states that a joint action plan will be made.

5. How is the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use (art. 2, para. 2 (b), and art. 3, para. 1 (i)) ?

Afforestation

Restoration of ecosystems

Environmental flow norms

Groundwater measures (e.g., protection zones)

Other measures (please list):

A wide number of measures for improving and protecting water quality and quantity are possible through the work that results from the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

6. (a) Does your country exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin (art. 13)?

Yes /No

- (b) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

Environmental conditions (art. 13, para. (1) (a))

Research activities and application of best available techniques (arts. 5, 12 and 13, para. 1 (b))

Emission monitoring data (art. 13, para. 1 (c))

Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts (art. 13, para. 1 (d))

Point source pollution sources

Diffuse pollution sources

Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

Discharges

Water abstractions

Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

Other subjects (please list): [fill in]

- (c) Is there a shared database or information platform?

Yes /No

(d) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide the web address:*

The Norwegian database for the Water Framework Directive: [www.vann-nett.no](http://www.vann-nett.no). There is currently no connection with Finnish or Swedish databases.

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable? *(please describe):*

There is no common database or possibility for viewing data for transboundary waterbodies in the neighbouring country in our national database. However, there are no difficulties in exchanging data. There is good data exchange at the regional and local level.

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? *(please describe):*

Data exchange permits better cooperation and ensures that an overall assessment of the ecological and chemical status of the waterbody is made on both sides of the border. This enables us to suggest appropriate measures and coordinate efforts in improving and protecting our transboundary waterbodies.

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. 11, para. 1)?

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Covered?	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connected aquifers (or groundwaters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint and agreed methodologies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joint sampling	<input type="checkbox"/>
Common monitoring network	<input type="checkbox"/>
Common agreed parameters	<input type="checkbox"/>

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any: [fill in]

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring: [fill in]

8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. 11)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment:*

Finland and Norway meet regularly at the regional level to discuss water management in the terms of the Water Framework Directive. During the last planning process,

meetings in 2013 and 2014 were used to discuss joint assessments and objectives. In addition, water management according to the WFD is a topic at the meetings of the Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission, which occur yearly (last one held in autumn 2016).

National authorities will exchange data in 2017 on transboundary water courses in connection with reporting to WISE, the WFD database run by the European Environment Agency

Norway and Finland also meet annually in connection with the Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission to exchange information on various subjects.

9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

Yes /No

*If yes, is the basis an international or regional standard (please specify which) or has it been adapted from the national standards of the riparian States?:*

The standards of the Water Framework Directive are used.

10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution (art. 14)?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint alarm system for accidental water pollution

Other (*please list*):

The following European directives have been implemented into Norwegian legislation:

- o Directive 2003/105/EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances
- o Directive 96/82/EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances

No measures

*If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]

11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events (art. 14)?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods

Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

Joint climate change adaptation strategy

Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

No measures

*If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation (art. 15)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide a brief summary:* [fill in]

13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, river, lake or aquifer? (art. 16)?

Yes /No

*If yes, how? (please tick all applicable) (Please note: If your country is a Party to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), you may refer to your country's report under that Convention.):*

Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body

*If yes, please specify the stakeholders for each joint body: [fill in]*

Availability of information to the public

Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans<sup>f</sup>

Public involvement

Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

**Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers. Please also remember to attach copies of agreements, if any.**

**Attachments:**

- Agreement between Finland and Norway regarding a Norwegian-Finnish River Basin
- Memorandum of Understanding (Tana, Pasvik, Neiden)
- Agreement on Norwegian-Finnish Transboundary Water Commission
- Agreement between Norway and Finland concerning fishing regulation in the River Tana

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<sup>f</sup> Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country's share of the basin:

**Norwegian-Swedish river basins (Västerhavet, Bottenviken, Bottenhavet, Torneälvs)**

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin (art. 9)?

One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force

Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force

Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

*Please insert the name of the agreement or agreements or arrangements:* [fill in]

Agreement or arrangement is under development

No agreement

*If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation:*

There is a Norwegian-Swedish strategy regarding practical issues, but not a formal agreement between the two countries. The strategy will be updated 2017/2018. There are currently no plans to adopt a formal strategy, but this will be taken into consideration. The informal strategy sets out agreed-upon methods for assessment of the water bodies, and how information can be shared across the borders, especially at the regional level.

**If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body for the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement, but a joint body then go to question 3.**

**Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer or group of basins or sub-basins**

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the basin area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

If not, what does it cover?: [fill in]

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement?  
(Please list):

Norway, Sweden

- (b) Are aquifers (or groundwater bodies) covered by the agreement/arrangement?

Yes /No

- (c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

All water uses

A single water use or sector

Several water uses or sectors

*If one or several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):*

**Water uses or sectors**

Industry

Agriculture

Transport (e.g., navigation)

Households

Energy: hydropower and other energy types

Tourism

Nature protection

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement (art. 9)?

**Procedural and institutional issues**

Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution

Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)

Consultation on planned measures

Mutual assistance (art. 15)

**Topics of cooperation**

Joint vision and management objectives

Joint significant water management issues

Navigation

Environmental protection (ecosystem)

Water quality

Water quantity or allocation

Cooperation in addressing floods

Cooperation in addressing droughts

Climate change adaptation

**Monitoring and exchange**

Joint assessments

Data collection and exchange (art. 13)

Joint monitoring (art. 11)

Maintenance of joint pollution inventories

Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

Common early warning and alarm procedures (art. 14)

Exchange of experience between riparian States

Exchange of information on planned measures

### Joint planning and management

Development of joint regulations on specific topics

Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

Management of shared infrastructure

Development of shared infrastructure

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any (*please describe, if applicable*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [fill in]

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*): [fill in]

3. Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?

Yes /No

*If no, why not? (please explain):* [fill in]

### Where there is a joint body (or bodies)

(a) If there is a joint body, which kind of joint body (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body cover the entire transboundary basin or sub-basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are member of the joint body? (*Please list*): [fill in]

(d) Does the joint body have any of the following features (*please tick the ones applicable*)?

A secretariat

*If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe):* [fill in]

A subsidiary body or bodies

*Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):* [fill in]

Other features (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?<sup>g</sup>

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<sup>g</sup> This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be included.

- Identification of pollution sources
- Data collection and exchange
- Joint monitoring
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Setting emission limits
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- Policy development
- Control of implementation
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- Settling of differences and conflicts
- Consultations on planned measures
- Exchange of information on best available technology
- Participation in transboundary EIA
- Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- Climate change adaptation
- Joint communication strategy
- Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- Capacity-building
- Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body, if any?

- Governance issues   
*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
- Unexpected planning delays   
*Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
- Lack of resources   
*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]
- Lack of mechanism for implementing measures   
*Please describe, if true:* [fill in]
- Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Others (please list and describe, as appropriate): [fill in]

(g) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body how does the body cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (please describe): [fill in]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [fill in]

(i) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?: [fill in]

(j) Are representatives of international organizations invited to the meetings of the joint body (or bodies) as observers?

Yes /No

(k) Did the joint body ever invite a coastal State to cooperate (art. 9, paras. 3 and 4)?

Yes /No

If yes, please give details. If no, why not?: [fill in]

4. Is there a joint or coordinated management plan (such as an action plan or a common strategy) or have joint objectives been set specifically on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation (art. 9, para. 2 (f)) ?

Yes /No

If yes, please provide further details:

The Norwegian-Swedish Strategy for transboundary water lists the how differences in assessment, waterbody delineation and characterization should be addressed for the transboundary waters in terms of the Water Framework Directive. The main conclusion is that the principles of the down-stream country should be used. The national management plans for the international river basins can only be approved for the territory in the country that has written the plans, but the plans are available for public hearing in both countries.

The InterReg project on the restoration of salmon (Vänerlaxens fria gang) have set joint objectives, identified where there is a need for more knowledge, and which measures can be suggested to reintroduce and improve conditions for the salmon populations. Various reports have been made. The objectives are in accordance with the objectives of the WFD.

5. How is the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use (art. 2, para. 2 (b), and art. 3, para. 1 (i)) ?

Afforestation

Restoration of ecosystems

Environmental flow norms

Groundwater measures (e.g., protection zones)

Other measures (*please list*):

Cooperation between the two countries is also visible in various projects concerning the reintroduction and protection of salmon populations (e.g. Vänarlaks InterReg project).

A wide number of measures for improving and protecting water quality and quantity are possible through the work that results from the implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

6. (a) Does your country exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin (art. 13)?

Yes /No

- (b) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

Environmental conditions (art. 13, para. (1) (a))

Research activities and application of best available techniques (arts. 5, 12 and 13, para. 1 (b))

Emission monitoring data (art. 13, para. 1 (c))

Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts (art. 13, para. 1 (d))

Point source pollution sources

Diffuse pollution sources

Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)

Discharges

Water abstractions

Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development

Other subjects (*please list*): [fill in]

- (c) Is there a shared database or information platform?

Yes /No

- (d) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide the web address:*

The Norwegian database for the water framework directive: [www.vann-nett.no](http://www.vann-nett.no). There is currently no connection with Finnish or Swedish databases.

- (e) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable? (*please describe*):

There is no common database or possibility for viewing data for transboundary waterbodies in the neighbouring country in our national database. However, there are no difficulties in exchanging data. There is good data exchange at the regional and local level.

- (f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (*please describe*):

Data exchange permits better cooperation and ensures that an overall assessment of the ecological and chemical status of the waterbody is made on both sides of the border. This enables us to suggest appropriate measures and coordinate efforts in improving and protecting our transboundary waterbodies.

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. 11, para. 1)?

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Covered?	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connected aquifers (or groundwaters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- Joint and agreed methodologies
- Joint sampling
- Common monitoring network
- Common agreed parameters

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any: [fill in]

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring:

8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. 11)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment:*

Sweden and Norway meet regularly at the regional level to discuss water management in the terms of the Water Framework Directive. During the last planning process, meetings in 2013 and 2014 were used to discuss joint assessments and objectives. This process of reviewing environmental objectives will be repeated during 2019/2020, but meetings at the regional level occur more frequently in order to exchange information.

National authorities will exchange data in 2017 on transboundary water courses in connection with reporting to WISE, the WFD database run by the European Environment Agency

The InterReg project on the Vänerlaksen salmon also has joint objectives, and designs a programme of measures for endangered species. The project administration (project group and reference group) have met regularly, several times a year.

9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?

Yes /No

*If yes, is the basis an international or regional standard (please specify which) or has it been adapted from the national standards of the riparian States?:*

The standards are from the Water Framework Directive

10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution (art. 14)?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint alarm system for accidental water pollution

Other (*please list*):

The following European directives have been implemented into Norwegian legislation:

- Directive 2003/105/EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances
- Directive 96/82/EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances

No measures

*If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]

11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events (art. 14)?

Notification and communication

Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods

Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts

Joint climate change adaptation strategy

Joint disaster risk reduction strategy

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

No measures

*If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?:* [fill in]

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation (art. 15)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide a brief summary:* [fill in]

13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, river, lake or aquifer? (art. 16)?

Yes /No

*If yes, how? (please tick all applicable) (Please note: If your country is a Party to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), you may refer to your country's report under that Convention.):*

Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body

*If yes, please specify the stakeholders for each joint body:* [fill in]

Availability of information to the public

Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans<sup>h</sup>

Public involvement

Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

**Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers. Please also remember to attach copies of agreements, if any.**

<sup>h</sup> Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

- 
- Norwegian-Swedish strategy (Västerhavet, Bottenviken, Bottenhavet, Torneälv)

### III. Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

#### Methodology

Using the information gathered in section II, the information gathered in this section allows for the calculation of the Sustainable Development Goal global indicator 6.5.2, which is defined as *the proportion of transboundary basins' area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation*.

The Step-by-step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.5.2<sup>i</sup>, developed by UNECE and UNESCO in the framework of UN Water, can be referred to for details on the necessary data, the definitions and the calculation.

The value of the indicator at the national level is derived by **adding up the surface area in a country of those transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. 'transboundary' basins) that are covered by an operational arrangement and dividing the obtained area by the aggregate total area in a country of all transboundary basins (both catchments and aquifers)**.

**Transboundary basins** are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwaters which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States. For the purpose of the calculation of this indicator, for a transboundary river or lake, the basin area is determined by the extent of its catchment. For groundwater, the area to be considered is the extent of the aquifer.

An **"arrangement for water cooperation"** is a bilateral or multilateral treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement among riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation on transboundary water management.

For an arrangement to be considered **"operational"** all the following criteria needs to be fulfilled:

- There is a joint body, joint mechanism or commission (e.g. a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation,
- There are regular (at least once per year) formal communications between riparian countries in form of meetings (either at the political or technical level),
- There is a joint or coordinated water management plan(s), or joint objectives have been set, and
- There is a regular (at least once per year) exchange of data and information.

#### Calculation of indicator 6.5.2

Please list in the tables below the transboundary basins (rivers and lakes and aquifers) in your country's territory and provide the following information for each of them:

- the country/ies with which the basin is shared;
- the surface area of these basins (the catchment of rivers or lakes and the aquifer in the case of groundwater) within the territory of your country (in km<sup>2</sup>); and
- the surface area of these basins within the territory of your country which is covered by a cooperation arrangement that is operational according to the above criteria (please consider the replies to the questions in section II, in particular questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6).

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<sup>i</sup> Available at <http://www.unwater.org/publications/publications-detail/en/c/428764/>.

In case an operational arrangement is in place only for a sub-basin or portion of a basin, please list this sub-basin just after the transboundary basin it is part of. In case there is an operational arrangement for the whole basin, do not list sub-basins in the table below.

**Transboundary basin (river or lake) [please add rows as needed]**

Name of transboundary basin / sub-basin	Countries shared with	Surface area of the basin / sub-basin (in km <sup>2</sup> ) within the territory of the country	Surface area of the basin / sub-basin (in km <sup>2</sup> ) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country
Norwegian-Finnish River Basin (Tana/Tenon, Neiden/Näätämön, Pasvik/Paatsjoen). Please note that Pasvik/Paatsjoen is a sub-basin which also enters Russian territory. The agreement defining the Norwegian-Finnish river basin does not cover the Russian area of the sub-basin.	Finland	19886,77 km <sup>2</sup>	19886,77 km <sup>2</sup>
Bottenhavet	Sweden	4687,93 km <sup>2</sup>	0 km <sup>2</sup>
Bottenviken	Sweden	968,8 km <sup>2</sup>	0 km <sup>2</sup>
Västerhavet	Sweden	7436,98 km <sup>2</sup>	0 km <sup>2</sup>
Torneälv	Sweden	207,89 km <sup>2</sup>	0 km <sup>2</sup>
Kemijoki	Finland	28,3 km <sup>2</sup>	0 km <sup>2</sup>
Tornionjoen	Finland	181,14 km <sup>2</sup>	0 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total surface area of transboundary basins / sub-basins of rivers and lakes covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country ( in km<sup>2</sup>) [A] (do not double count sub-basins)</b>			19886,77 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes within the territory of the country (in km<sup>2</sup>) [B] (do not double count sub-basins)</b>		33397,81 km <sup>2</sup>	

**Transboundary aquifers [please add rows as needed]**

Name of the transboundary aquifer	Countries shared with	Surface area (in km <sup>2</sup> ) <sub>j</sub> within the territory of the country	Covered by an operational arrangement (yes/no)
Västerhavet:	Sweden	160,26 km <sup>2</sup>	No
Bottenviken	Sweden	0,17 km <sup>2</sup>	No
Bottenhavet	Sweden	54,57 km <sup>2</sup>	No
Torneälv	Sweden	0 km <sup>2</sup>	No
Tana	Finland	230,68 km <sup>2</sup>	Yes
Pasvik	Finland, Russia	17,65 km <sup>2</sup>	Finland: Yes Russia: No
Neiden	Finland	8,3 km <sup>2</sup>	Yes
Kemijoki	Finland	0 km <sup>2</sup>	No
Torionjoen	Finland	0 km <sup>2</sup>	No
<b>Sub-total: surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements (in km<sup>2</sup>) [C]</b>	256,63 km <sup>2</sup>		
<b>Total surface area of transboundary aquifers (in km<sup>2</sup>) [D]</b>	471,63 km <sup>2</sup>		

**Indicator value for the country**

$$((A + C)/(B + D)) \times 100\% = 59,46 \%$$

**Additional information**

If the respondent has comments that clarify assumptions or interpretations made for the calculation, or the level of certainty of the spatial information, please write them here:

Please note that Pasvik/Paatsjoen is a sub-basin which also enters Russian territory. The agreement defining the Norwegian-Finnish river basin does not cover Russian territory. The surface area given for Pasvik is included in the area for which there is an agreement with Finland concerning transboundary water management.

**Spatial information**

If a map (or maps) of the transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. 'transboundary basins') is available, please attach them. Ideally, shapefiles of the basin and aquifer delineations that can be viewed in Geographical Information Systems should be sent.

<sup>j</sup> For a transboundary aquifer, the extent is derived from the aquifer system delineation which is commonly done relying on information of the subsurface (notably the extent of geological formations). As a general rule, the delineation of aquifer systems is based on the delineation of the extent of the hydraulically connected water-bearing geological formations. Aquifer systems are three-dimensional objects and the aquifer area taken into account is the projection on the land surface of the system. Ideally, when different aquifer systems not hydraulically connected are vertically superposed, the different relevant projected areas are to be considered separately, unless the different aquifer systems are managed conjunctively.

#### IV. Final questions

1. What are the main challenges your country faces in implementing the Convention and cooperating on transboundary waters? (*Please describe*):

The main challenges have been adapting different methods and organisation systems to each other, and finding good arenas for cooperation. However, there are few major challenges between Norway and Finland/Sweden concerning cooperation in transboundary waters, and most challenges are relatively easy to address, either through formal agreements or through communication and dialogue.

Both Finland, Sweden and Norway meet regularly at the national and regional level in connection with the Nordic WFD conferences, which are held every 1-1½ years. The conference includes workshops to discuss cooperation and challenges for various topics related to water management.

Russia: There is no formal cooperation with Russia on transboundary water courses, as Russia does not implement the Water Framework Directive. Several channels for environmental cooperation exist: The Joint Norwegian-Russian Commission on Environmental Protection, the Arctic Council, and the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (Finland and Sweden also participate in the latter two). These cooperation forums cover many topics, but transboundary freshwater management specifically is not formalised between the two states.

2. What have been the main achievements in implementing the Convention and cooperating on transboundary waters? What were the keys to achieving that success? (*Please describe concrete examples*):

A result of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive has been a closer and more formalised cooperation on both the local/regional and the national level. This will lead to better management of our transboundary waters, as they are viewed more holistically and in a set system/framework that all the countries follow.

Other main achievements in cooperating on transboundary water are the concrete projects that have arisen, e.g. the InterReg project to reintroduce local salmon populations to the Trysil and Femund rivers in Norway and Klarälven in Sweden (Vänerlaksen project)

The keys to achieving this success is communication on all levels of water management (national, regional and local), as well as focusing on shared experiences and best practices that can be of use for other Nordic countries. Agreements and strategies are also necessary to identify areas of cooperation and set the framework for cooperation. Participation of affected/interested parties and organisations is also important, ensuring local knowledge and reinforcing ownership and support for the project/measures.

3. Name and contact details of the person(s) who filled out the questionnaire:

Kerry Maria Agustsson, The Norwegian Environment Agency

Date: 27.04.2017

Signature:

4. Please include any additional information on the process of preparing the report (e.g., whether there was an exchange or consultation within the joint body or with riparian countries), in particular which institutions have been consulted (*please describe*):

Consulted parties: Norwegian Environment Agency, County Governor of Finnmark, County Governor of Hedmark.

5. If you have any other comments please add them here (*insert comments*): [fill in]

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this report.