РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ
МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ОКОЛНАТА СРЕДА И ВОДИТЕ
Дирекция „Координация по въпросите на ЕС и международно сътрудничество“
Изх. 54-00-6/05.01.2018 г.

ДО
Г-Н БОЯН БЕЛЕВ
ДИРЕКТОР НА ДИРЕКЦИЯ „ООН И СЪТРУДНИЧЕСТВО ЗА РАЗВИТИЕ“
МИНИСТЕРСТВО НА ВЪНШНИТЕ РАБОТИ

Относя:
Докладване по Конвенцията за опазване и използване на трансграничните водни
течения и международните езера и по индикатор 6.5.2 за постигане на целите
за устойчиво развитие.

УВАЖАЕМИ ГОСПОДИН БЕЛЕВ,

Приложено, изпращам актуализирани формули за пилотно докладване по
Конвенцията за опазване и използване на трансграничните водни
течения и международните езера (Водната конвенция) на Икономическата комисия за Европа на ООН
(ИКЕ на ООН) и за докладване по индикатор 6.5.2 за постигане на целите за устойчиво
развитие.

Моля за Вашето любезно съдействие за изпращане на формулярите на Секретариата на
Водната конвенция на ИКЕ на ООН чрез ПП-Женева.
При необходимост от допълнителна информация, лице за контакт на оперативно ниво е
Детелина Пейчева - държавен експерт в отдел „Международно сътрудничество“ (тел. 02/940 62 15, ел. поща: dpeycheva@moew.government.bg).

Приложение: Съгласно текста

С уважение,

СИЛВИЯ РАНГЕЛОВА
Директор на дирекция КВСМ.
Template for reporting under the Water Convention

Country name:

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

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.

I. (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:

Water Act

(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:

river basin management plans, flood risk management plans

(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):

According to the Water Act (Art.46) a water site use permit is required for wastewater discharge into surface waters for:

(a) design of sites, including sewerage systems of nucleated settlements, dispersed settlements and resort settlements;
(b) operation of existing sites, including sewerage systems of nucleated settlements, dispersed settlements and resort settlements;

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 ☑
- Monitoring of physical and chemical impacts on water ☑
- Monitoring of ecological impacts on water ☑
- Conditions on permits ☐
- Inspectorate ☐
- Other means (please list): [fill in]

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 ☐
- Norms for uses of manure ☐
- Bans on or norms for use of pesticides ☑
- Others (please list): Plant Protection Act (art. 130) stipulates that fertilizers, soil ameliorators, biologically-active substances and nutrient substrates shall be placed on the market and used after registration and issuing of a certificate for placing on the market and use.

**Economic and financial measures**
- Monetary incentives ☑
- Environmental taxes (such as fertilizer taxes) ☑
- 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: [fill in]

(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:
According to the Water Act (art. 2) its objectives shall be achieved by prevention of deterioration, as well as protection and enhancement of the status of aquatic ecosystems, of terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly depending on the aquatic ecosystems. The Water Act (art. 117) stipulates that for the purpose of protection of aquatic ecosystems and wetlands, there shall be determined a minimum permissible streamflow into the rivers.

(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:
The Water Act envisages issuing permits for groundwater withdrawal (art. 44) and groundwater site use for construction of new, remodelling or modernization of existing systems and facilities for withdrawal of groundwaters (art. 46). The permits shall be reviewed where the monitoring data or other information and assessments show that the environmental objectives established for a water body are not achieved or there is a risk of deterioration in the status of a water body or the potential of an artificial or heavily modified water body (art. 50a).

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:

Environmental Protection Act, Chapter Six “ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT”

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): [fill in]

Convention on Co-operation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube (Danube River Protection Convention)

Agreement between the Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Environment and Water Management of Romania on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management


Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey on Cooperation in the Field of Water Resources

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. 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 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.

a 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.

b 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.
Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country’s share of the basin: [fill in]

DANUBE RIVER BASIN
(riparian States – Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine)

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 [X]
   - Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force [ ]
   - Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians [X]

   Please insert the name of the agreement or agreements or arrangements:
   Convention on Co-operation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube (Danube River Protection Convention)
   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

Convention on Co-operation for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube (Danube River Protection Convention)

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the basin area subject to cooperation?
   Yes [X]/No [ ]

   If yes, does it cover the entire basin, or group of basins, and all riparian States?
   Yes [X]/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):
   Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Ukraine

   (b) Are aquifers (or groundwater bodies) covered by the agreement/arrangement?
   Yes [X]/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]

(c) 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]
Not identified

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [fill in]
Improving the ecological status of the Danube River on the basis of international co-operation.

(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): [https://www.icpdr.org/main/]

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]
Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Ukraine

(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 permanent joint secretariat has been established.
  A subsidiary body or bodies ☐
Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

7 Expert groups: River Basin Management, Flood Protection, Pressures and Measures, Accident Prevention and Control, Monitoring and Assessment, Information Management and Geographic Information Systems, Public Participation) and one ad-hoc Expert Group for legal and administrative questions (ad-hoc Strategic EG).

Other features (please list): [fill in]

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

- 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):
- Public participation and information

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.
(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): [Contracting parties which have good bilateral cooperation with non-members volunteer to communicate and cooperate as appropriate, otherwise official diplomatic channels are used]

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

- Yes [ ] No [ ]

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [twice a year]

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

- Elaborated joint transboundary Danube River Basin Management Plan and Transboundary Danube Flood Risk Management Plan; celebrating International Danube Day – 29 June each year; Carrying out Joint Danube Surveys, Operating the Transboundary Network for Monitoring, maintaining the Accident Emergency Warning System.

(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?: [The Black Sea Commission is an observer and a Memorandum of Understanding between the two commissions was signed in 2001]

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: [Danube River Basin Management Plan and Danube Flood Risk Management Plan developed]

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): [fill in]

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: [fill in]

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

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

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<th>Covered?</th>
<th>Hydrological</th>
<th>Ecological</th>
<th>Chemical</th>
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<td>Border surface waters</td>
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<td>Surface waters in the entire basin</td>
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<td>Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
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(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: [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: [https://www.icpdr.org/main/activities-projects/jds3 ]

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?: [fill in]

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): [fill in]
- 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): [Danube River Basin Flood Risk Management Plan]
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 ☐
     Availability of information to the public ☐
     Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans ☐
     Public involvement ☐
     Other (please specify): [fill in]

Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country’s share of the basin: [fill in]
Danube River Basin
(riparian States – Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Switzerland, Ukraine)

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:
   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]

   d Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
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

Agreement between the Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Environment and Water Management of Romania on Cooperation in the Field of Water Management

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?: [water management issues of transboundary nature or of mutual interest]
   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):
   Bulgaria, Romania.

(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]

Not identified

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [transboundary coordination for the development of Danube River Basin Management Plans and Danube Flood Risk Management Plans in both countries]

Contribution to the improved ecological status of the Black Sea on the basis of international co-operation.
(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]
   Bulgaria, Romania

(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 permanent joint secretariat has been established.
   A subsidiary body or bodies ☐
   Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics): [Working Group on River Basin Management Planning, Danube Working Group, Black Sea Working Group]
   Other features (please list): [fill in]

(e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?
   Identification of pollution sources ☒
   Data collection and exchange ☒
   Joint monitoring ☐
   Maintenance of joint pollution inventories ☐
   Setting emission limits ☐

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>( \square )</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governance issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please describe, if any: [fill in]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unexpected planning delays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please describe, if any: [fill in]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of resources</td>
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<td>Please describe, if true: [fill in]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of mechanism for implementing measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please describe, if true: [fill in]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of effective measures</td>
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<td>Please describe, if true: [fill in]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unexpected extreme events</td>
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<td>Please describe, if any: [fill in]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of information and reliable forecasts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Please describe, if any: [fill in]</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
(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? [Annually for Working Groups and as necessary for the Joint Commission]

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

- Designated a common transboundary surface water body on the Danube river and common transboundary ground water bodies, coordinated the characterisation process and provided joint input for the development of the Danube River basin District management Plan developed by the ICPDR
- Provided coordinated input to the ICPDR for the elaboration of the Danube River Basin Flood Risk management Plan for the common section of the Danube river.

(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: [please see the section on the Danube River Protection Convention]

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 (ii))? 

- Afforestation ☒
- Restoration of ecosystems ☒
- Environmental flow norms ☐
- Groundwater measures (e.g., protection zones) ☒
- Other measures (please list): [fill in]

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

- Yes ☒
- No ☐ please see the section on the Danube River Protection Convention

(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: [fill in]

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

Not identified

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

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covered?</th>
<th>Hydrological</th>
<th>Ecological</th>
<th>Chemical</th>
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<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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: [participating laboratories take part in annual analytical quality control exercise]
(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: [please see the section on the Danube River Protection Convention]

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?: [fill in]

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): [fill in]
    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 ☐
    As part of other agreements
    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
Public involvement
Other (please specify): [fill in]

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country’s share of the basin: [fill in]

Struma River
(riparian States – Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece)

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:
   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

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

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

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*Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.*
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?: [water management issues of transboundary nature or of mutual interest]

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):
Bulgaria, Greece

(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


(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [Transboundary coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries]

(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]

Bulgaria, Greece

(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):

The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats

A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies ☐

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Sub-working group on technical data

Other features (please list): [fill in]

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

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

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* 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.
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): [Cooperation on bilateral basis]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?
Yes ☑/No ☐
If yes, how frequently does it meet? [At least annually for the Joint Expert working group and annually for the subsidiary body]

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

Provided platform for coordination of the respective River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans of 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? [ ]*

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: [coordinated River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans]*

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): [fill in]*

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: [fill in]*

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable? (please describe):
Not identified

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [coordinated approach and objectives, better planning of measures]

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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: []

(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 ☑ coordinated assessment

*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: []*

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? (as Bulgaria and Greece are both EU members, the relevant EU water related legislation is applicable to both)*
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): [Communication through diplomatic channels and through communication channels of emergency services]
- 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 ☐
  
  As part of other agreements

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
- Availability of information to the public
- Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans
- Public involvement
- Other (please specify): [fill in]

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

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Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
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 [X]
- 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:

- 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

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

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

- Yes [X]/No [☐]

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

- Yes [X]/No [☐]

If not, what does it cover?: []

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):

Bulgaria, Greece

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

- Yes [X]/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 ☐


(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [Transboundary coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries]

(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]

Bulgaria, Greece

(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):
The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats.

A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Sub-working group on technical data

Other features (please list): [fill in]

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

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

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1 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.
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): [not applicable]

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

Yes [ ] No [ ]

- If yes, how frequently does it meet? [At least annually for the Joint Expert working group and annually for the subsidiary body]

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

- Provided platform for coordination of the respective River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans of 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?: [not applicable]

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? [water use as percentage of multiannual flow]
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):
Bulgaria, Greece

(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): [Revising the baseline annual flow at least once in seven years]

(c) 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): []

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

(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]

Bulgaria, Greece

(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 permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Working group on technical issues

Other features (please list): [fill in]

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

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

[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.]

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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): [Not applicable]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?
  Yes ☐ No ☒
  If yes, how frequently does it meet? [occasionally]

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

(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 ☐ not applicable

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

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: [coordinated River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans]

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): [fill in]

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ not applicable

(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: [fill in]*

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable? (please describe):
Not identified

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [coordinated approach and objectives, better planning of measures]

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Hydrological</th>
<th>Ecological</th>
<th>Chemical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Border surface waters</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface waters in the entire basin</td>
<td>☒</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surface waters on the main watercourse</td>
<td>☒</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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: []

(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 ☒ coordinated assessment

*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: []*

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?: [as Bulgaria and Greece are both EU members, the relevant EU water related legislation is applicable to both]*

}
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): Communication through diplomatic channels and through communication channels of emergency services
- 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, 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
- Availability of information to the public
- Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans
- Public involvement
- Other (please specify): [fill in]

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
- Availability of information to the public
- Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans
- Public involvement
- Other (please specify): [fill in]

Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country’s share of the basin: [fill in]

k Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
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:

   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.

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

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? [ ]

   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):

   Bulgaria, Greece

   (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

(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: Transboundary coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries

(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]
   - Bulgaria, Greece

(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]
The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats.

A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies

*Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):*

*Sub-working group on technical data*

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

(e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)\(^1\)

- 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

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\(^1\) 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.
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): [not applicable]

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

Yes ☑/No ☐

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [At least annually for the Joint Expert working group and annually for the subsidiary body]

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

- Provided platform for coordination of the respective River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans of 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?: [not applicable]

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: [coordinated River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans]

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): [fill in]

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

- Yes ☑/No ☐/Not applicable

(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: [fill in]

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

- Not identified

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [coordinated approach and objectives, better planning of measures]

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Ecological</th>
<th>Chemical</th>
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<tr>
<td>Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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: [ ]

(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 [ ] coordinated assessment

*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:* [ ]

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?* [as Bulgaria and Greece are both EU members, the relevant EU water related legislation is applicable to both]

[ ]

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)*: [Communication through diplomatic channels and through communication channels of emergency services]
- 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 ☐ As part of other agreements
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* ☑
Public involvement ☑
Other (please specify): [fill in]

Byala River

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:
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]

* Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
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

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

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?: []

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):

Bulgaria, Greece

(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


(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [transboundary
coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries.

(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]

Bulgaria, Greece

(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):
  
  The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats

- A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

- A subsidiary body or bodies [ ]

  Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

  Sub-working group on technical data

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

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

- Identification of pollution sources [ ]
- Data collection and exchange [✓]

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

(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 true: [fill in]*
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): [not applicable]

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

Yes ☑/No ☐

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [At least annually for the Joint Expert working group and annually for the subsidiary body]

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

Provided platform for coordination of the respective River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans of both countries.

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

Yes ☑/No ☐

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

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: [coordinated River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans]

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): [fill in]

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

Yes ☑/No ☐ not applicable

(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 ☑
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: [fill in]

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

Not identified

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [coordinated approach and objectives, better planning of measures]

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?

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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: [ ]
8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. II)?
   Yes ☐ No ☐ coordinated assessment
   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: [ ]

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? [as Bulgaria and Greece are both EU members, the relevant EU water related legislation is applicable to both]

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): [Communication through diplomatic channels and communication channels of emergency services]
    - No measures ☐
    - If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures? [ ]

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): [ ]
    - No measures ☐
    - If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures? [ ]

12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation (art. 15)?
    Yes ☒ No ☐ As part of other agreements
    If yes, please provide a brief summary: [ ]

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  ☒
Public involvement  ☒
Other (please specify): [fill in]

Arda River

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:
      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

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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?: []

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?
    Yes ☐/No ☒

Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement? 
(Please list):
Bulgaria, Greece

(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 ☑


(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements.

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: Transboundary coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries.

(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]
Bulgaria, Greece

(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):

The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats

A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Sub-working group on technical data

Other features (please list): [fill in]

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

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

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.
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): [not applicable]

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

Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [At least annually for the Joint Expert
working group and annually for the subsidiary body]

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

Provided platform for coordination of the respective River Basin Management Plans and
Flood Risk Management Plans of both countries.

(i) 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 ☐
Yes □/No □

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

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: [coordinated River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans]

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): [fill in]

6. (a) Does your country exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin (art. 13)? Yes □/No □ not applicable

(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: [fill in]

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

Not identified
(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [coordinated approach and objectives, better planning of measures]

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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covered?</th>
<th>Hydrological</th>
<th>Ecological</th>
<th>Chemical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Border surface waters</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
<td>[ ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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: []

(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: []

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? [as Bulgaria and Greece are both EU members, the relevant EU water related legislation is applicable to both]

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): [Communication through diplomatic channels and through communication channels of emergency services]
    - 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 ☑ As part of other agreements

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 ☑
- Availability of information to the public ☒
- Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans* ☒
- Public involvement ☒
- Other (please specify): [fill in]

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Maritsa River

(riparian States – Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey)

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 ☑

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* Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

Please insert the name of the agreement or agreements or arrangements:

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

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of the Hellenic Republic on Understanding and Cooperation in the Field of Use of Water Resources on the Respective Territories of the Shared River Basins Between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Hellenic Republic

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?: [water management issues of transboundary nature or of mutual interest with focus on implementation of Water framework directive 2000/60/EC and Floods Directive 2007/60/EC in the respective territories of the shared river basins]
   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):
   Bulgaria, Greece

(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

(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [Transboundary coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries]

(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]

Bulgaria, Greece

(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):
     - The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats

   - A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

   - A subsidiary body or bodies ☐

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Sub-working group on technical data
Other features (*please list*): [fill in]

(c) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?

- 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
- Settlement 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

*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 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 any: [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): [Cooperation on bilateral basis]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?
   Yes ☑/No ☐

   If yes, how frequently does it meet? [At least annually for the Joint Expert working group and annually for the subsidiary body]

(ix) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?:
   Provided platform for coordination of the respective River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans of 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?: []

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 subbasins

Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey on Cooperation in the Field of Water Resources

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?: [water management issues of transboundary nature or of mutual interest with focus on implementation of Water framework directive 2000/60/EC and Floods Directive 2007/60/EC in the respective territories of the shared river basins]

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):
Bulgaria, Turkey

(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): Identification of priority issues for cooperation, coordination of River Basin Management Plans as required by the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Risk Management Plans as required by the Flood Directive 2007/60/EC which are prepared by Bulgaria, sharing experience gained in the process of developing the above plans, other issues of mutual importance within the scope of the joint declaration

(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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of development of River Basin Management Plans or equivalent national documents for the implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements or national legislation with similar objectives

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: Knowledge transfer and exchange of experience in developing River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in Bulgaria with particular focus on the respective shared basins by both countries

(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): [There is no body with a formal statute established under the declaration. However, water management directorates of both responsible ministries are in effect such a coordinating body]

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 no body with a formal statute established under the declaration. However, water management directorates of both responsible ministries are in effect such a coordinating 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): [fill in]

Bulgaria, Turkey

(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):

The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats

A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics):

Sub-working group on technical data

Other features (please list): [fill in]

(e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)?*

Identification of pollution sources
Data collection and exchange ☑
Joint monitoring
Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
Setting emission limits
Elaboration of joint water quality objectives

* 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 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*): [bilateral cooperation]

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

Yes ☒/No ☐

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [Annually (although it is not always possible to keep to this frequency)]

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


(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?: [not applicable]
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: [fill in]

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

Not identified

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [possibility for coordinated approach and objectives, better planning of measures, exchange of experience]

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?

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</table>

(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: [ ]

(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)?
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?: [as Bulgaria and Greece are both EU members, the relevant EU water related legislation is applicable to both]

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): [Communication through diplomatic channels and through communication channels of emergency services]
- 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): [Joint alarm systems for floods with Turkey]
- 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 ☐
As part of other agreements
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

Public involvement

Other (please specify): [fill in]

Tundzha River

(riparian States - Bulgaria, Turkey)

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
   - Agreement or arrangement is under development
   - No agreement

   *Please insert the name of the agreement or agreements or arrangements:*
   - 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

   Joint Declaration of the Minister of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs of the Republic of Turkey on Cooperation in the Field of Water Resources

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the basin area subject to cooperation?
   - Yes [x]/No [ ]

   If yes, does it cover the entire basin, or group of basins, and all riparian States?
   - Yes [x]/No [ ]

   If not, what does it cover?: []

   Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?
   - Yes [ ]/No [x]

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1 Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement? 
(Please list):
Bulgaria, Turkey

(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): [Identification of priority issues for cooperation, coordination of River Basin Management Plans as required by the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Risk Management Plans as required by the Flood Directive 2007/60/EC which are prepared by Bulgaria, sharing experience gained in the process of developing the above plans, other issues of mutual importance within the scope of the joint declaration]

(c) 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 water management set ups at national level; different stages of development of River Basin Management Plans or equivalent national documents implementation of Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC and Flood Directive 2007/60/EC requirements]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [transboundary coordination for the development of River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans in for the respective shared basins by both countries]

(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): [There is no body with a formal statute established under the declaration. However, water management directorates of both responsible ministries are in effect such a coordinating body]

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 no body with a formal statute established under the declaration. However, water management directorates of both responsible ministries are in effect such a coordinating 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): [fill in]

Bulgaria, Turkey

(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):

The water management units in both ministries act as secretariats

A permanent joint secretariat has been established.

A subsidiary body or bodies ☐

Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics): Sub-working group on technical data

Other features (please list): [fill in]

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

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 ☐

* 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.
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 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): [not applicable]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?
Yes \(\checkmark\) No

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [Annually (although it is not always possible to keep to this frequency)]
(xi) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?:


(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?: [not applicable]

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: [to the extent possible the River Basin Management Plans and Flood Risk Management Plans prepared by Bulgaria have been presented at several stages of their development with the aim of ensuring coordination]

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): [fill in]

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

- Yes ☑/No ☐ not applicable

(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: [fill in]
(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable? (please describe):
   Not identified
(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (please describe): [exchange of information, capacity building]
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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covered?</th>
<th>Hydrological</th>
<th>Ecological</th>
<th>Chemical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Border surface waters</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface waters in the entire basin</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface waters on the main watercourse</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(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: [ ]
(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: [ ]
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?: [ ]
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): Communication through diplomatic channels and through communication channels of emergency services
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 ☐ As part of other agreements

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): (Bulgaria is a party to the Aarhus 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

Public involvement

Other (please specify): [fill in]

* Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.
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.
IV. Final questions

1. What are the main challenges your country faces in implementing the Convention and cooperating on transboundary waters? (Please describe): [not all neighbouring countries are parties to the Water convention; differences in national institutional settings with respect to water management]

2. What have been the main achievements in implementing the Convention and cooperating on transboundary waters? What were the keys to achieving that success? [Signing the Convention for the Protection and Sustainable Use of the River Danube and results achieved through cooperation in the most international river basin in the world]

Please describe concrete examples):
[see the section on the Danube River]

3. Name and contact details of the person(s) who filled out the questionnaire (please insert):
Violeta Roiatchka, State expert, Water Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water, e-mail: vroyachka@moew.government.bg
Date: 12/07/17 Signature: [Signature]

Rumyana Bratovanova, State expert, Water Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water, e-mail: Rumy@moew.government.bg
Date: 12/07/17 Signature: [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): [fill in]

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

Country name:

REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

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.

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, 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 km²); 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).

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)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of transboundary basin / sub-basin</th>
<th>Countries shared with</th>
<th>Surface area of the basin sub-basin (in km²) within the territory of the country</th>
<th>Surface area of the basin sub-basin (in km²) covered by an operational arrangement within the territory of the country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Danube River basin</td>
<td>Romania, and Danube River Protection Convention Contracting parties</td>
<td>47 235</td>
<td>47 235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Struma River basin</td>
<td>Greece, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>10 797</td>
<td>10 797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Mesta River basin</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>2 767</td>
<td>2 767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dospat River basin</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>633.5</td>
<td>633.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Byala River Basin</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### The Arda River Basin
- **Country:** Greece
- **Surface Area (in km²):** 5201
- **Operational Arrangement:** 5201

### The Maritza River Basin
- **Countries:** Greece, Turkey
- **Surface Area (in km²):** 21084
- **Operational Arrangement:** 21084

### The Tundja River Basin
- **Country:** Turkey
- **Surface Area (in km²):** 8026
- **Operational Arrangement:** 8026

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total surface area of transboundary basins / sub-basins of rivers and lakes covered by operational arrangements within the territory of the country (in km²) [A]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>96379.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Do not double count sub-basins)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total surface area of transboundary basins of rivers and lakes within the territory of the country (in km²) [B]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>96379.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Do not double count sub-basins)

### Transboundary Aquifers [please add rows as needed]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the transboundary Aquifer</th>
<th>Countries shared with</th>
<th>Surface area (in km²)b within the territory of the country</th>
<th>Covered by an operational arrangement (yes/no)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarmatian aquifer</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>5428</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Jurassic - Lower Cretaceous aquifer</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>15476</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salasha-Montana karstic aquifer</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>148.08</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nisava karstic aquifer</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>314.80</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaber-Nesla karstic aquifer</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>10.32</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*b 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.
Tran carstic aquifier

| Porous carstic water within Gotze Delchev carstic aquifier, Water body with code BG4G0001Pt1036 | Greece | 463.64 | yes |
| Porous water within Quaternary Svilengrad-Stambolovo - water body with code BG3G000000Q052 | Greece | 164.13 | Yes |

Sub-total: surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements (in km²) [C]

21 531.77

Total surface area of transboundary aquifers (in km²) [D]

22 062.60

Indicator value for the country

\[
\frac{(A + C)}{(B + D)} \times 100\% = \frac{96 379.5 + 21 531.77}{96 379.5 + 22 062.60} \times 100\% = 117.911.27/118 442.1 \times 100\% = x 100\% = 99.55\%
\]

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:

There are few other groundwater bodies on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria situated near the borders of the country but their transboundary status has not been determined yet.

The list of groundwater bodies in the table above may be subject to change based on additional studies, investigations and bilateral communication.

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.
IV. Final questions

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

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): [fill in]*

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

   Violette Roiatchka, State expert, Water Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water, e-mail: vroyachka@moew.govemment.bg

   Date: December 2017  Signature: 

   Rumyyna Rangelova-Bratovanova, State expert, Water Management Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water, e-mail: Rumy@moew.govemment.bg

   Date: December 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): [fill in]*

   The calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2 has been prepared on the basis of information provided by the Basin Directorates in the Republic of Bulgaria and data and information contained in the River Basin Management Plans 2016-2021 for the 4 river basin districts in the republic of Bulgaria.

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.