Session 6 - Revision and clarification of the guidance concerning Implementing arrangements

(Section II, question 6)
Data and information exchange
Recap of Question 6 – Key elements

The Question seeks responses to report on:

- Whether a riparian country regularly exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin, sub-basin, part of a basin or group of basins
- Extent of regularity, if so
- Description of how the information is exchanged
- Subject areas information and data are exchanged and other comments e.g. spatial coverage of data and information exchange:
  - Whether there is a shared database or information platform, and if it is publicly available.
  - Main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable - frequency, timing of exchanges, comparability, and resources adequacy,
- Main benefits of the data exchange
Guidance Notes on Implementing Arrangements

Type of data and exchange: Guidance found in the provisions of the Water Convention, the Watercourses Convention and the ILC Draft Articles on Transboundary Aquifers.

Type of exchange: Seeks to capture data and information that is regularly exchanged rather than one-off exchanges.

Consistency in responses: Responses to Question 6(a) should be considered alongside other questions related to data and information exchange.

A key distinction: Question 6 asks whether data and information is actually exchanged, irrespective of whether it is provided for in an agreement or arrangement - 2(d), or the tasks and activities of a joint body or mechanism - 3(g) of Section II).

Intervals: Consider the most frequent rate of data and information exchange.

Means of exchanging data and information: common web-based information system or meetings of joint bodies or mechanisms
Overview of Example – Volta Basin

The experience of data and information exchange between Ghana and Volta Basin States:

• Ghana and Burkina Faso have established a seasonal data sharing initiative to minimise the impacts from flooding.

• Data and information actually exchanged regularly on water levels of the Bagre and Kompienga dams during the rainy season every year.

• Transmitted daily via email uploads from dam managers in Burkina Faso to key water, disaster management, and local government institutions in Ghana.

• Hydrological data is also submitted as input to the Volta Basin Authority to feed into the Regional Hydrological Database and operate the Volta Basin Information System.