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## World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on  
Water and Health to the Convention on  
the Protection and Use of Transboundary  
Watercourses and International Lakes

### Fourth session

Geneva, 14–16 November 2016

## Report of the Meeting of the Parties on its fourth session

### Programme of work for 2017–2019

#### Addendum

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## **I. Overarching objectives of the programme of work**

1. The main objective of the programme of work for 2017–2019 of the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) is to support Parties in the implementation of and compliance with the Protocol and to assist non-Parties in acceding to the Protocol.

2. In particular, the programme of work aims to address the main challenges related to water, sanitation and health in the pan-European region by:

(a) Building evidence on the prevailing problems and existing solutions and tracking progress achieved in order to underpin rational policy development and decision-making;

(b) Strengthening political commitment to address the problems identified through policy dialogue, advocacy and awareness-raising;

(c) Developing policy and technical guidance and tools that substantiate and guide the implementation of the Protocol's provisions, as well as supporting their use and implementation;

(d) Building capacity and fostering the exchange of knowledge and experience and the development of partnerships to promote human health, well-being and sustainable water management;

(e) Providing assistance to countries in the implementation of the Protocol, through capacity-building, in-country assistance and the promotion and establishment of partnerships with relevant actors, including in sectors other than health and environment, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, international organizations and international financing institutions;

(f) Ensuring long-term impact in policy and practice by fostering the adoption of measures to promote human health, well-being and sustainable water management across all relevant policies, including through the setting of targets and target dates in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol and through the establishment of action plans for their implementation.

### **A. Relevance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global and regional commitments**

3. The Protocol on Water and Health is a powerful tool to promote and operationalize the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and its Sustainable Development Goals. With its strong integrated and intersectoral approach, its focus on prevention and on the whole water cycle and its attention to safety and equity aspects, the Protocol's provisions and principles fully align with Goal 6: "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all". The Protocol can therefore be a tool to operationalize the implementation of Goal 6 and to foster its achievement in the pan-European region. Moreover, the Protocol supports the implementation of other Sustainable Development Goals pertinent to water, sanitation and health, including Goal 1 on ending poverty, Goal 2 on improving nutrition, Goal 3 on ensuring health lives and well-being, Goal 4 on equitable quality education, Goal 11 on safe, resilient and sustainable cities and Goal 13 on combating climate change and its impacts. The Protocol's planning and accountability approach offers a practical framework for Parties to translate the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda into specific national targets and action. Activities under the programme of work will promote the implementation of such

targets, offer guidance and capacity development and provide an intergovernmental regional platform to facilitate exchange of experience on the implementation of the water, sanitation and health aspects of the 2030 Agenda.

4. Moreover, the programme of work will:

(a) Promote the fulfilment of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, as articulated in United Nations General Assembly resolutions 64/292, 68/157 and 70/169;

(b) Support the implementation of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>1</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>2</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;<sup>3</sup>

(c) Support the implementation of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, 20–22 June 2012), “The future we want”,<sup>4</sup> which reiterates the importance of integrating water into sustainable development and underlines the critical importance of water and sanitation within the three dimensions of sustainable development;

(d) Implement World Health Assembly resolution 64/24 on “Drinking water, Sanitation and Health”, which acknowledges the Protocol as an instrument of reference for safe water management and the protection of human health and urges member States to ensure the progressive realization of the human right to water and sanitation;

(e) Attain the Regional Priority Goal on water and sanitation adopted by European Member States at the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health through the 2010 Parma Declaration on Environment and Health (Parma Declaration),<sup>5</sup> particularly with respect to providing “each child with access to safe water and sanitation in homes, child care centres, kindergartens, schools, health care institutions and public recreational water settings by 2020” and taking “advantage of the approach and provisions of the Protocol on Water and Health as a rationale and progressive tool to develop integrated policies on water resource management and health, addressing the challenges to safe water services posed by climate change”;

(f) Contribute to the implementation of the European health policy framework, “Health 2020”,<sup>6</sup> of the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), which sets out an agenda for action across government and society to improve health and well-being, strengthen public health capacities, reduce health inequalities and create resilient communities.

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<sup>1</sup> Report of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Paris, 30 November–13 December 2015 (FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, annex).

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>5</sup> See EUR/55934/5.1 Rev. 2. Available from [www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/events/events/2010/03/fifth-ministerial-conference-on-environment-and-health/documentation/parma-declaration-on-environment-and-health](http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/events/events/2010/03/fifth-ministerial-conference-on-environment-and-health/documentation/parma-declaration-on-environment-and-health) (accessed on 14 April 2016).

<sup>6</sup> *Health 2020: A European policy framework and strategy for the 21st Century* (Copenhagen, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, 2013). Available from [www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-policy/health-2020-the-european-policy-for-health-and-well-being/publications/2013/health-2020.-a-european-policy-framework-and-strategy-for-the-21st-century-2013](http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/health-policy/health-2020-the-european-policy-for-health-and-well-being/publications/2013/health-2020.-a-european-policy-framework-and-strategy-for-the-21st-century-2013) (accessed on 14 April 2016).

## **B. Methods of work**

5. The programme of work for 2017–2019 continues the work carried out under previous programmes of work and capitalizes on the achievements made to date. In general, activities under the different programme areas will assist Parties, non-Parties and other actors in their efforts to achieve stepwise progress — from creating awareness, to building evidence and increasing technical capacities through to the realization of policy uptake.

6. Synergies and partnerships are vital for the successful implementation of the programme of work. The implementation of the different activities will:

(a) Take advantage of the manifold thematic interlinkages between the different programme areas, inherent in the nature of the issues covered by the Protocol, and promote synergies in the overall implementation of activities, to ensure the most cost-effective use of available resources;

(b) Ensure exchange and coordination with the work under the Water Convention, other relevant multilateral environmental agreements and the European Environment and Health Process;

(c) Reach out to sectors other than environment and health to strengthen their awareness and commitment to water, sanitation and health issues and involve them in the implementation of the programme of work.

7. Activities under the different programme areas will ensure coordination with the work on setting targets and implementing measures so that knowledge, experience and capacity gathered under the different areas are translated into the setting of targets in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol.

8. The fulfilment of the above objectives and the implementation of the activities in the programme of work are subject to the availability of resources to cover the costs of activities, including the human resources costs in the joint secretariat.

## **II. Bodies to implement the programme of work**

9. The Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties will oversee programme execution and carry out tasks to strengthen the Protocol's implementation, as set out in rule 20 of the rules of procedure (see ECE/MP.WH/2/Add.1-EUR/06/5069385/1/Add.1). The main responsibilities of the Bureau include: (a) making arrangements to further develop the programme of work, adapt it to changing circumstances and avoid, to the extent possible, duplication of efforts with water- and health-related activities of other United Nations bodies and other international organizations; (b) taking initiatives to strengthen implementation of the Protocol; and (c) taking appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work.

10. In accordance with its terms of reference, the Working Group on Water and Health will be responsible for overseeing the overall implementation of the programme of work. It will review and evaluate the progress in implementing the Protocol, propose modifications to the work programme to adapt to changing conditions and report to the Meeting of the Parties.

11. The Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting will carry out the parts of the programme of work related to implementation of and compliance with articles 6 and 7 of the Protocol.

12. The Compliance Committee will be responsible for the review of compliance by Parties with their obligations under the Protocol, in accordance with decision I/2 on review of compliance (ECE/MP.WH/2/Add.3-EUR/06/5069385/1/Add.3).

13. In accordance with article 16 of the Protocol, the Meeting of the Parties will establish close cooperation and develop joint activities together with the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention and relevant international governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and institutions, including World Health Organization (WHO) collaborating centres.

14. Parties welcome youth participation in the work of the Meeting of the Parties and the subsidiary Bodies of the Protocol, including in the implementation of the programme of work. To facilitate this participation, Parties are encouraged to provide support for youth representatives to participate in these meetings.

15. In accordance with article 17 of the Protocol, the joint United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)-WHO/Europe secretariat will assist the above-mentioned bodies and support the implementation of the activities under the programme of work, pending availability of resources and in accordance with the provisions of the ECE-WHO/Europe memorandum of understanding on the work-sharing arrangements regarding the secretariat functions of the Protocol, concluded on 21 June 2013.

### III. Areas of work and activities

#### A. Programme area 1 — Improving governance for water and health: support for setting targets and implementing measures

*Responsible body:* Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting.

*Lead Parties:* Romania and Switzerland.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Reinforce the implementation of the core provisions of the Protocol on target setting and reporting under articles 6 and 7 by:

(a) Providing support to Parties and other States to set targets and target dates in accordance with article 6 and to establish action plans and implement measures towards the achievement of the targets set, including by fostering the implementation of the *Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting*;<sup>7</sup>

(b) Promoting networking on the regional and subregional levels to exchange experiences and good practices, address common challenges and assess the benefits of implementing the Protocol;

(c) Increasing awareness of the importance of public participation in implementing the Protocol, in particular when setting targets and target dates, as well as establishing action plans and implementing measures in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol, and reviewing and assessing progress in accordance with article 7, including by promoting understanding and use of the *Guide to Public Participation under the Protocol on Water and Health* (ECE/MP.WH/9);<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> United Nations sales publication, No. Sales No. E. 10.II.E.12. Available from <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=11644> (accessed on 14 April 2016).

<sup>8</sup> Available from <http://www.unece.org/?id=34075> (accessed on 14 April 2016).

(d) Ensuring coordination with activities under other areas of the programme of work to facilitate the translation of their findings and recommendations into possible targets and measures;

(e) Supporting Parties and other States in translating the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and other global and regional commitments into national targets and action;

(f) Providing assistance in strengthening the reporting capacity of Parties and other States, including through aligning the reporting under the Protocol with the 2030 Agenda reporting process.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* The target areas under article 6 of the Protocol are linked to all Sustainable Development Goal targets relevant to water, sanitation and health. This programme area will support the attainment of the objectives of the 2030 Agenda at pan-European level, including the identification of national priorities and the establishment of national road maps to fulfil these commitments.

*Possible partners:* Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment; European Union Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management and on Water Supply and Sanitation in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia under the Water Convention (National Policy Dialogues); Nordic/Baltic Network for Water and Health; WHO Collaborating Centre at the University of Bonn, Germany; and WHO headquarters (including WHO/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking water (GLAAS) and Global Expanded Monitoring Initiative (GEMI)).

## 1. Setting targets and implementing measures

The Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting will support efforts of Parties and other States to set targets and target dates in accordance with article 6 of the Protocol, and to establish action plans and to implement measures towards the achievement of such targets. In particular, the Task Force will:

(a) Focus on building capacity of Parties and other States to address specific issues and common challenges related to setting targets and implementing measures identified through regional, subregional and national workshops and based on the analysis of the third reporting exercise in accordance with article 7. The yearly meetings of the Task Force will therefore be oriented towards thematic exchanges, for example on the interlinkages between the Protocol and the 2030 Agenda and the implications for target setting of work under other programme areas;

(b) Further support the organization of tailor-made national and subregional workshops to support the setting of targets, the implementation of measures and public participation in the Protocol's implementation, including through promoting the exchange of experience and cross-fertilization of ideas between countries. Synergies with the National Policy Dialogues under the Water Convention will be further strengthened;

(c) Continue promoting good practices on setting targets and implementing measures, including through the facilitation of twinning of Parties and relevant authorities to match the specific national needs of a Party with available expertise in another Party;

(d) Foster exchange of experience and analysis of the benefits, outcomes and concrete results achieved through the implementation of the Protocol at both the national and regional levels;

(e) Develop a guidance booklet on how to translate the 2030 Agenda into national targets set under the Protocol.

## 2. Strengthening reporting capacity

The Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting will:

(a) Continue to support improvement in the quality of reporting in accordance with article 7 at the regional level, including exploring possibilities to develop an electronic tool for reporting;

(b) Raise awareness and share knowledge on the linkages between the reporting system under the Protocol and the 2030 Agenda monitoring framework. It will further support establishing linkages with WHO/UNICEF JMP, GLAAS and GEMI;

(c) Continue assisting Parties to comply with the reporting obligations of article 7, and will guide the secretariat in the preparation of the regional implementation report oriented towards showcasing progress achieved at the regional level based on the national summary reports submitted prior to the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

## B. Programme area 2 — Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases

*Lead Parties:* Belarus and Norway.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Support Parties and other States in implementing article 8 of the Protocol, specifically to (a) strengthen national capacities with regard to maintaining and sustaining vigilant surveillance and early warning systems of water-related disease, preparedness and contingency planning and outbreak response and investigation; and (b) support countries in building effective systems for surveillance of drinking water quality.

Activities in programme area 2 will substantiate and foster the setting of targets for improving surveillance systems according to article 6 of the Protocol. It will also reinforce implementation of article 12 of the Protocol on joint and coordinated international action and thereby support implementation of the International Health Regulations.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* This programme area aligns with and supports efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 to combat waterborne disease; target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination; target 3.d to strengthen the capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of risks; and target 6.1 to achieve access to safe drinking water.

*Possible partners:* European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control; Nordic/Baltic Network for Water and Health; WHO Collaborating Centres (at the University of Bonn, Germany; at the Drinking Water Inspectorate, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; at the Watercycle Research Institute (KWR), the Netherlands; and at the University of Surrey, United Kingdom); and WHO headquarters.

### 1. Strengthening capacity in surveillance of water-related diseases and outbreak management

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Further develop the training modules on water-related disease surveillance initially piloted in the previous programme of work, including the establishment of a website where these materials can be accessed in English and Russian;

(b) Support national capacity-building activities on water-related disease surveillance and outbreak management for public health and environmental health professionals, based on the recommendations of the available guidance documents and training modules on water-related disease surveillance;



(c) Revise the technical guidance document on water-related disease surveillance based on a technical review, expert consultations and feedback and lessons learned from national capacity-building activities, including the inclusion of good practice case studies;

(d) Create a roster of experts on water-related disease surveillance, epidemiological investigation and management of waterborne outbreaks and laboratory testing to support national responses to outbreaks and emergencies.

## **2. Strengthening capacity in uptake of risk-based approaches in drinking water quality surveillance**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Develop advocacy and guidance materials on the principles of risk-based approaches in drinking water quality surveillance, including special consideration of such approaches for rural areas (in cooperation with programme area 4). The documents will be based on the concepts of the WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality and address criteria for identifying country-specific priority water quality parameters subject to routine monitoring. The development of the materials will be supported by expert consultations;

(b) Conduct national and subregional advocacy and capacity-building activities to capacitate and support Parties and other States in long-term uptake of risk-based surveillance approaches in regulations and practice.

## **C. Programme area 3 — Institutional water, sanitation and hygiene**

*Lead Parties and country:* Hungary, Republic of Moldova and Georgia.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Improve water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in institutional settings, particularly in schools and health-care facilities, as an emerging priority across the pan-European region. Assist Parties and other States to: (a) prioritize, monitor and improve WASH services in institutional settings; (b) promote effective cooperation with the education and health systems' sectors to foster improved health and educational outcomes and higher quality of health-care services; and (c) support translating regional and global commitments on institutional WASH into national targets and actions according to article 6 of the Protocol.

Programme area 3 supports implementation of the WHO global action plan on WASH in health-care facilities and Regional Priority Goal 1 of the Parma Declaration on providing each child with access to safe water and sanitation, inter alia, in childcare centres, kindergartens, schools and health-care facilities. The Protocol capitalizes on these developments and provides a platform for policy dialogue and leadership in regional implementation. Work under this programme area also complements efforts under the child-friendly school and environmentally sustainable health systems initiatives.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* This programme area aligns with and supports implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 3.2 to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under five years of age; target 3.3 to eliminate neglected tropical diseases and waterborne disease; target 3.8 to improve access to quality essential health-care services; target 4.a to provide safe learning environments for all; and targets 6.1 and 6.2 to ensure universal access to safe water and sanitation for all.

*Possible partners:* European Environment and Health Youth Coalition; German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) sector programme Sustainable Sanitation; Swiss Water and Sanitation Project in the Republic of Moldova; UNICEF country offices; UNICEF headquarters; UNICEF Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States; Water Institute of the University of North Carolina

at Chapel Hill; WHO Collaborating Centre at the University of Bonn, Germany; WHO headquarters; and Women in Europe for a Common Future.

### **1. Strengthening water, sanitation and hygiene in schools**

The expert group on WASH in schools will guide the work and provide a platform for regional networking.

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Conduct regional and subregional workshops to disseminate available evidence on WASH in schools, promote leadership and cooperation between the education and health sectors, facilitate the sharing of good practices and support target setting and policy uptake of WASH in schools;

(b) Develop a practical tool for public health authorities to improve surveillance and adequate monitoring of WASH in schools, specifically taking into account children's needs and perceptions to assess baseline situations and track incremental improvement;

(c) Develop a "WASH toolkit" for school administrations to promote good practices and improve operation and maintenance of WASH facilities in schools.

### **2. Strengthening water, sanitation and hygiene in health-care facilities**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Support baseline analysis of the situation in relation to WASH in health-care facilities in two countries to inform national target setting and action planning. The analysis will include, inter alia, review of national legislation, regulations and standards, assessment of WASH conditions in different types and levels of health-care facilities and identification of bottlenecks and priority needs, including consideration of environmental hazards deriving from wastewater disposal practices in health-care facilities;

(b) Organize a regional workshop on WASH in health-care facilities to raise health sector leadership and to call for national action to address WASH in health-care facilities and support uptake in target setting and policies;

(c) Support pilot projects in selected health-care facilities with a focus on application of a WHO risk-based tool for improving and maintaining WASH services and the development of improvement plans for further scale-up across the pan-European region.

## **D. Programme area 4 — Small-scale water supplies and sanitation**

*Lead Parties:* Germany and Serbia.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Programme area 4 aims to: (a) increase policy attention to small-scale water supply and sanitation systems; (b) support policy uptake and implementation of good practice-based approaches in the regulation, management and surveillance of small-scale water supply and sanitation at the national level; and (c) assist Parties and other States in improving access to safe, sustainable and equitable drinking water and sanitation services in rural areas, small towns and peri-urban areas.

Activities under this programme area will further substantiate and foster consideration of small-scale water supply and sanitation in target setting under article 6. Complementary field activities will contribute to improving the in-country evidence base on this topic and to scaling up water safety and sanitation safety planning approaches in policy and practice.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* This programme area aligns with and supports implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 to combat waterborne disease;

target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination; targets 6.1–6.3 to achieve equitable access to safely managed water and sanitation services for all; and target 6.b to support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.

*Possible partners:* European Commission; IRC, the Netherlands; Kyrgyz Alliance for Water and Sanitation; MAMA-86; Nordic/Baltic Network for Water and Health; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); Oxfam; Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia; WHO Collaborating Centres (at the Drinking Water Inspectorate, United Kingdom; at the Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG), Switzerland; and at the University of Surrey, United Kingdom); WHO headquarters; and Women in Europe for a Common Future.

### **1. Strengthening capacity for policy development**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Promote tools and good practices supporting the formulation of national road maps, policies, regulations and programmes that aim to improve the situation of small-scale water supply and sanitation through consultations, as well as national and subregional capacity-building workshops for national decision makers and local authorities. The activities will also support analysis of gaps and needs towards improving the situation of small-scale water supply and sanitation and encourage Parties to consider small-scale water supply and sanitation as an area of target setting according to article 6;

(b) Build capacities, share and promote good practices and tools on sustainable financing of small-scale water supply and sanitation, including the development of a guidance document in English and Russian that summarizes key principles in the costing and sustainable financing of small-scale water supply and sanitation services.

### **2. Improving the evidence base and implementing field demonstration projects**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Assist Parties and other States in undertaking situation analyses, as a basis for target setting and developing national improvement strategies on small-scale water supply and sanitation, for example through representative rapid assessments at the national or subnational level of the prevailing types and conditions of small-scale water supply and sanitation;

(b) Support field projects on improved planning, operation and management of small-scale water supply and sanitation systems, with a particular focus on capacity development and implementation of integrated water safety and sanitation safety plans in rural areas (in cooperation with programme area 5).

### **3. Regional networking**

Work will be undertaken to further support regional networking and inter-country collaboration, including through study visits and facilitating the access of Parties and other States to the WHO-hosted Small Community Water Supply Management Network.

## **E. Programme area 5 — Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems**

*Lead Parties and organization:* Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Netherlands and International Water Association (IWA).

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Support Parties and other States to ensure safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation services by strengthening national capacities regarding the sustainable management of water resources and scaling up risk-based management approaches, including consideration of the impacts of water-related natural disasters on human health and the environment. Activities will aim to support improving management of water supply and sanitation services by capacitating regulators and managers, promoting cooperation and exchange of experiences with a view to protecting the environment and public health.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* Programme area 5 aligns with and supports implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 3.3 to combat waterborne disease; target 3.9 to reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from water pollution and contamination; and targets 6.1–6.3 to achieve access to safely managed drinking water and adequate sanitation for all, to improve water quality, to halve the proportion of untreated wastewater and to substantially increase recycling and safe reuse.

*Possible partners:* European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Commission; European Federation of National Associations of Water Services (EurEau); Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe; IRC, the Netherlands; United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); Wageningen University and Research Centre; Women in Europe for a Common Future; WHO Collaborating Centres (at EAWAG, Switzerland; at the German Environment Agency, Germany; and at the Drinking Water Inspectorate, United Kingdom); and WHO headquarters.

### **1. Scaling-up the adoption of water and sanitation safety plans**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Build capacity at the national, subregional and regional levels on water safety plan and sanitation safety plan approaches in policy and practice on the basis of existing WHO guidance and tools developed under the Protocol. Capacity-building and assistance will specifically focus on strengthening uptake of water safety plans and sanitation safety plans in national legislation and supporting the development of country road maps towards long-term scaling up of the plans, including building capacities on water safety plan auditing; consideration will also be given to small-scale water supply and sanitation systems (in coordination with programme area 4) and health-care facilities and schools (in coordination with programme area 3);

(b) Support implementation of pilot projects on integrated water and sanitation safety plans with a focus on small-scale water supply and sanitation systems (in coordination with programme area 4);

(c) Promote mainstreaming in decision-making and policy uptake of water safety plans and sanitation safety plans through national target setting under article 6 (in coordination with programme area 1);

(d) Organize a regional symposium on extreme weather events and safe water supply and sanitation, specifically focusing on water safety plan and sanitation safety plan approaches in the light of climate change, floods and droughts (in coordination with programme area 7 on increasing resilience to climate change).

## 2. Focusing policy attention and technical efforts on sanitation

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Review existing challenges and practices in sanitation management, including reuse, throughout the pan-European region, through an initial scoping study. The study will investigate the policy, technical and financial dimensions, the potential health risks and the challenges deriving from global pressures, such as climate change and water scarcity, urbanization, migration and increasing inequalities;

(b) Organize, on the basis of the study results, a regional workshop on safe and efficient management of sanitation, including reuse, to discuss priority needs and actions under the Protocol and to promote the sharing of knowledge and experiences. The workshop will bring together practitioners and policymakers from the public and private sectors in the fields of sanitation, health, water resources and environment management;

(c) Based on the needs identified in the regional workshop, an expert group on sanitation will lay the basis for and guide the development of further policy and/or technical guidance and practical tools under the Protocol (e.g., a self-assessment tool);

(d) Special attention and support will be given to the identification of policy measures and actions, and to foster the adoption of targets under article 6, to address the needs identified. Activities will be developed in cooperation with activities under programme areas 1 on target setting, 4 on small-scale water supplies and sanitation, 6 on equitable access to water and sanitation and 7 on increasing resilience to climate change, in particular in urban areas.

## F. Programme area 6 — Equitable access to water and sanitation: translating the human right to water and sanitation into practice

*Lead Parties:* France and Hungary.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Activities under programme area 6 will support the implementation of the Protocol's requirement to ensure access to water and sanitation for all, including those suffering a disadvantage or social exclusion (article 5) and, thereby, the progressive realization of the human right to water and sanitation. Work under this programme area will:

(a) Support giving priority attention to equity aspects in policymaking processes related to the provision of water and sanitation services;

(b) Contribute to the development of baseline studies on the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation to inform policy development and improvement actions in countries;

(c) Strengthen capacity in addressing challenges and adopting possible solutions to ensure equitable access in the pan-European region.

Activities will further substantiate and foster consideration of equity aspects in target setting according to article 6 (in coordination with programme area 1) and will complement activities on small-scale water supplies and sanitation under programme area 4.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* This programme area aligns with and supports implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 1.4 to ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have access to basic services; target 4.a to provide safe learning environments for all; target 6.1 to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all; target 6.2 to achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, paying special attention to the needs of women

and girls and those in vulnerable situations; and target 11.1 to ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.

*Possible partners:* Aquafed; EurEau; European Commission; IWA; national human rights institutions and NGOs working on access to water and sanitation, including WaterLex, MAMA-86 and Journalists for Human Rights; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; relevant cities' networks; Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation; UN-Water; and WHO headquarters.

## **1. Enhancing knowledge of the situation of equitable access to water and sanitation through assessments and awareness-raising**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Scale up application of the Equitable Access Score-card<sup>9</sup> and supporting baseline analyses on the equity of access to water and sanitation at the national and local levels;

(b) Facilitating the exchange of experience on the assessment process through sharing experiences of countries or municipalities that have already carried out a self-assessment with countries or municipalities that want to carry out the self-assessment using the Equitable Access Score-card;

(c) Further developing training materials on equitable access to water and sanitation based on the publication *No One Left Behind: Good Practices to Ensure Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation in the Pan-European Region*<sup>10</sup> and the knowledge and experience accumulated in this area of work;

(d) Promoting political awareness on existing inequities based on the outcomes of national or local self-assessments and raising awareness on the need for action to address the issue, in particular through the organization of dedicated sessions in international events (such as World Water Week and the World Water Forum) and national workshops and the communication of findings on existing platforms.

## **2. Fostering the adoption of measures to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation**

Work will be undertaken to:

(a) Support the development of national or local equitable access action plans to address inequities in access to water and sanitation, on the basis of the "Strategic note on the development of action plans to achieve equitable access to water and sanitation" (currently being finalized). These action plans will be designed based on the outcomes of national or local self-assessments of equitable access as well as other sources of information (e.g., UN-Water GLAAS reports and country profiles or findings of the WHO/UNICEF JMP equity assessment by income groups). The action plans will promote the inclusion of equitable access aspects in different sectors' strategies or programmes (e.g., for water, health, social protection, regional development or education) as well as the setting of targets under article 6 towards eliminating inequities;

(b) Share lessons learned and promote good practices on the process of development of equitable access action plans and measures implemented to improve

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<sup>9</sup> *The Equitable Access Score-card: Supporting policy processes to achieve the human right to water and sanitation* (ECE/MP.WH/8). Available from <http://www.unece.org/?id=34032> (accessed on 14 April 2016).

<sup>10</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.12.II.E.5. Available from <http://www.unece.org/?id=29170>.

equitable access through the expert group on equitable access and thematic regional, subregional and national workshops.

## **G. Programme area 7 — Increasing resilience to climate change**

*Lead Party and country:* Spain and Italy.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Strengthening resilience of communities to water-related disasters and other effects induced by climate change, particularly in urban areas. Programme area 7 will specifically focus on building awareness, evidence and capacities in addressing the issues of water scarcity and wastewater reuse in agriculture in the broader water resource management context.

The activities will build on and further expand the work previously undertaken under the Protocol in relation to water supply and sanitation in extreme weather events and adaptation to climate change. The implementation of the *Guidance on Water Supply and Sanitation in Extreme Weather Events*<sup>11</sup> will be further promoted with specific emphasis on building capacities on preparedness planning.

Synergies will be sought with the activities of the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management on resilient and healthy human settlements, with the activities on adapting to climate change in transboundary basins undertaken under the Water Convention and with the activities undertaken under the European Environment and Health Process on cities and climate change as well as the WHO Healthy Cities Network.

Due to its cross-cutting nature, resilience to climate change will also be mainstreamed into activities organized under other programme areas of the Protocol.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* This programme area aligns with and supports implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 6.3 to increase recycling and safe reuse of wastewater; target 6.4 to increase water-use efficiency, ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity; target 11.5 to reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and decreasing the direct economic losses caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations; and Goal 13 to combat climate change and its impacts. It will also help to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement.

*Possible partners:* European Commission; International Water Association; OECD; UN-Habitat; United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR); WHO headquarters; and World Meteorological Organization.

### **1. Building capacity to deal with water scarcity and its health impacts**

In cooperation with the Water Convention, work will be undertaken to increase the capacity of national and local authorities, as well as water operators, to manage water scarcity and in particular prevent and mitigate related health impacts. A regional workshop will be organized to review the evidence related to the effects of water scarcity and to identify good practices and lessons learned in water resource management, including wastewater reuse, to

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<sup>11</sup> Copenhagen, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, 2011. Available from <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/water-and-sanitation/protocol-on-water-and-health/ongoing-work/development-of-guidance/guidance-on-water-supply-and-sanitation-in-extreme-weather-events> and <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29338> (accessed on 14 April 2016).

address water scarcity at the institutional, policy, scientific and technological levels. In implementing this activity cooperation will be sought with programme area 5 (safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems).

## **2. Exchanging experience on building resilience to climate change in urban areas**

In order to assist Parties and other States to increase the resilience of water supply and sanitation systems to the climate change impacts in urban areas, the following events will be organized:

(a) A regional workshop covering issues such as disaster preparedness and response, adaptation, wastewater management, recycling and reuse. The workshop will be organized jointly with the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management and other partners and will provide a regional forum for fostering progress towards global recommendations and incorporating scientific findings in policy approaches. It will facilitate the exchange of knowledge and joint identification of solutions to build climate change resilient water supply and sanitation systems in urban areas through bringing together the communities of water, sanitation and health, as well as urban planning and climate change experts;

(b) A regional symposium on extreme weather events and safe water supply and sanitation, specifically focusing on water safety plan and sanitation safety plan approaches in the light of climate change, floods and droughts (in coordination with programme area 5).

## **H. Programme area 8 — Assistance to support implementation at the national level**

*Responsible body:* Bureau and the joint secretariat.

*Objectives and expected outcomes:* Assisting Parties and other States in setting targets, establishing action plans and implementing measures to achieve them through providing, upon demand and pending the availability of resources, tailor-made support at the national level. Activities under programme area 8 will support activities under programme area 1 and promote approaches and tools developed under programme areas 2 to 7, including capacity-building and exchange of good practices. Countries that have not set targets will be supported in the process.

*Linkages to the 2030 Agenda:* This programme area is directly related to Sustainable Development Goal target 6.a, which calls for expanding international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes.

*Possible partners:* National Policy Dialogues under the Water Convention; global and regional financing institutions and relevant international organizations, donors and development agencies.

### **1. Using existing platforms to promote the Protocol**

Existing platforms, such as the National Policy Dialogues under the Water Convention and the Biennial Collaborative Agreements between ministries of health and WHO/Europe, will continue to be used to secure governmental commitment and ownership with regard to accession to the Protocol as well as its application and implementation.



**2. Support to accession, target setting and implementation**

Upon demand and pending the availability of resources, support will be provided to Parties or countries working towards accession to the Protocol to assist them in assessing needs, setting targets and target dates and supporting their implementation.

**I. Programme area 9 — Compliance procedure**

*Responsible body:* Compliance Committee.

*Objective, expected outcome and work to be undertaken:* The Compliance Committee will perform its activities as set out in decision I/2 of the Meeting of the Parties decision I/2 on compliance, and will monitor and facilitate implementation of and compliance with the Protocol. Moreover, the Committee will provide assistance to Parties under the Consultation Process in accordance with its terms of reference, as amended by the Committee at its tenth meeting (Geneva, 25 November 2014)

## Overview of resource requirements for 2017–2019

(in United States dollars)

No.	Programme area or activity	Lead country/body or organization	Fraction of staff time <sup>a</sup>	Item	Estimated costs	
	Bodies to implement the programme of work	Working Group on Water and Health and Bureau		Travel of eligible experts to meetings of the Working Group on Water and Health (three meetings, 18 experts per meeting)	108 000	
				Travel of eligible Bureau members to meetings of the Bureau (six meetings, two members per meeting)	12 000	
					Travel of WHO staff	10 800
			0.30	ECE P-3 staff time per year for three years	166 300	
			0.20	ECE G-4 staff time per year for three years	85 700	
			0.12	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	87 300	
			0.13	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	79 800	
			0.06	WHO/Europe G-5 staff time per year for three years	16 000	
<b>Subtotal: Implementing bodies</b>					<b>565 900</b>	
1	Improving governance for water and health: support for setting targets and implementing measures	Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting; co-led by Romania and Switzerland		Organization of up to three thematic Task Force meetings (travel of up to 18 eligible experts)	108 000	
				Organization of up to three national and/or subregional workshops to support the setting of targets and the implementation of measures	60 000	
				Support to twinning activities (e.g. travel of national experts)	12 000	
				Development of analysis of the benefits, outcomes and concrete results achieved through the implementation of the Protocol at both the national and regional levels	15 000	
				Development and publication of a guidance booklet on how to translate the 2030 Agenda into national targets set under the Protocol	20 000	
				Other costs (consultants, including costs for the preparation of the regional implementation report, translation of summary reports, exploring possibilities to develop an electronic tool for reporting, etc.)	60 000	
				Travel of WHO staff	10 800	
			0.40	ECE P-3 staff time per year for three years	221 800	

<i>No.</i>	<i>Programme area or activity</i>	<i>Lead country/body or organization</i>	<i>Fraction of staff time<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated costs</i>
			0.20	ECE G-4 staff time per year for three years	85 700
			0.03	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	21 800
			0.04	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	24 500
			0.01	WHO/Europe G-5 staff time per year for three years	2 700
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 1</b>					<b>642 300</b>
2	Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases	Co-led by Belarus and Norway		Development of annotated training modules on water-related disease surveillance	12 000
				Organization of three national capacity-building activities on water-related disease surveillance and outbreak management	45 000
				Review and revision of technical guidance document on water-related disease surveillance, including two expert group meetings	55 000
				Development of advocacy document for decision makers on risk-based surveillance of drinking water quality	37 000
				Organization of two subregional and two national advocacy and capacity-building workshops on risk-based surveillance of drinking water quality	90 000
			0.07	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	51 000
			0.15	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	92 000
			0.06	WHO/Europe G-5 staff time per year for three years	16 000
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 2</b>					<b>398 000</b>
3	Institutional water, sanitation and hygiene	Co-led by Georgia, Hungary and the Republic of Moldova		Organization of one regional and two subregional workshops on WASH in schools	135 000
				Development of a practical tool for public health authorities to improve surveillance of WASH in schools	20 000
				Development of a "WASH toolkit" for school administration	20 000
				Organization of one expert group meeting on WASH in schools	25 000
				Support baseline analysis of the situation of WASH in health-care facilities in two countries	40 000

<i>No.</i>	<i>Programme area or activity</i>	<i>Lead country/body or organization</i>	<i>Fraction of staff time<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated costs</i>
				Organization of a regional workshop on WASH in health-care facilities	55 000
				Support a pilot project on WASH in health-care facilities: application of WHO risk-based tool and development of improvement plans as a basis for further scale-up in the region	20 000
			0.06	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	43 700
			0.11	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	67 500
			0.05	WHO/Europe G-5 staff time per year for three years	13 300
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 3</b>					<b>439 500</b>
4	Small-scale water supplies and sanitation	Co-led by Germany and Serbia		Organization of two subregional workshops and two national consultations/workshops on small-scale water supplies and sanitation	125 000
				Development of a guidance document on sustainable financing of small-scale water supplies and sanitation in English and Russian	30 000
				Support situation analysis (e.g., rapid assessments) of small-scale water supplies and sanitation in a selected country as a basis for target setting and developing improvement strategies	35 000
				Support a field project on integrated water safety and sanitation safety plans in rural areas	30 000
				Support regional networking and intercountry collaboration through study visits	15 000
			0.05	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	36 400
			0.08	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	49 100
			0.05	WHO/Europe G-5 staff time per year for three years	13 300
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 4</b>					<b>333 800</b>
5	Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems	Co-led by Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Netherlands and IWA		Organization of up to five subregional/national capacity-building consultations/workshops on water and sanitation safety plan approaches to support policy uptake and development of national road maps	90 000
				Organization of a regional symposium on extreme weather events and safe water supply and sanitation, specifically focusing on water safety plan and sanitation safety plan approaches	70 000

<i>No.</i>	<i>Programme area or activity</i>	<i>Lead country/body or organization</i>	<i>Fraction of staff time<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated costs</i>
				Undertake a scoping study on sanitation management (including reuse) in the pan-European region	20 000
				Organization of a regional workshop on safe and efficient management of sanitation, including reuse	70 000
				Expert group meeting on sanitation management for development of policy/technical guidance tools	40 000
			0.30	ECE P-3 staff time per year for three years	166 300
			0.10	ECE G-4 staff time per year for three years	42 800
			0.05	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	36 400
			0.06	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	36 800
			0.02	WHO/Europe G-5 staff time per year for three years	5 300
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 5</b>					<b>577 600</b>
6	Equitable access to water and sanitation: translating the human right to water and sanitation into practice	Co-led by France and Hungary		Equitable access self-assessment exercises in up to three countries (national and international consultancy, local costs for two local workshops, trips by two national experts for exchange of experience)	90 000
				Definition of equitable access action plans in up to three countries (international and national consultancy, local costs for local workshop, translation)	60 000
				Up to two meetings of the expert group on equitable access to water and sanitation	30 000
				One regional workshop on good practices for the development of equitable access action plans	50 000
				Consultancy costs, translation, interpretation, printing	25 000
			0.40	ECE P-3 staff time per year for three years	221 800
			0.10	ECE G-4 staff time per year for three years	42 800
			0.01	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	6 100
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 6</b>					<b>525 700</b>

<i>No.</i>	<i>Programme area or activity</i>	<i>Lead country/body or organization</i>	<i>Fraction of staff time<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated costs</i>
7	Increasing resilience to climate change	Co-led by Italy and Spain		Organization of a regional workshop on water scarcity and water resources management, including water reuse	50 000
				Organization of a regional workshop on increasing the resilience of cities to water-related disasters (disaster preparedness and response, adaptation, wastewater management, recycling and reuse)	50 000
			0.30	ECE P-3 staff time per year for three years	166 300
			0.10	ECE G-4 staff time per year for three years	42 800
			0.02	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	14 600
			0.02	WHO/Europe P-4 staff time per year for three years	12 300
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 7</b>					<b>336 000</b>
8	Assistance to support implementation at the national level	Bureau and the joint secretariat		Assistance-related activities are to commence upon demand and availability of resources. The following allocations of staff time account for establishing/maintaining dialogue with partners/donors and preparing assistance-related activities.	
			0.10	ECE P-3 staff time per year for three years	55 400
			0.05	WHO/Europe P-5 staff time per year for three years	36 400
<b>Subtotal: Programme area 8</b>					<b>91 800</b>
9	Compliance procedure	Compliance Committee		Organization of up to six meetings (travel of committee members, translation, other costs)	120 000
				Support to three consultation processes (travel of committee members and country representatives, translation, interpretation)	100 000
			0.20	ECE P-3 staff per year for three years	110 900
			0.10	ECE G-4 staff per year for three years	42 800
<b>Subtotal: Programme Area 9</b>					<b>373 700</b>
<b>Total for all programme areas</b>					<b>4 284 300</b>
Programme support costs (13%)					556 959
<b>Grand total</b>					<b>4 841 259</b>

<i>No.</i>	<i>Programme area or activity</i>	<i>Lead country/body or organization</i>	<i>Fraction of staff time<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated costs</i>
Of which staff costs:					
<b>Subtotal ECE staff</b> (2 P-3 and 0.8 G-4 per year for three years, including programme support costs)					<b>1 765 399</b>
<b>Subtotal WHO/Europe staff</b> (0.45 P-5, 0.60 P-4 and 0.25 G-5 per year for three years, including programme support costs)					<b>861 399</b>

<sup>a</sup> Figures for Professional (P) and General Service (G) staff time represent the fraction of the total work time of a full-time staff member. ECE staff time is calculated at the P-3 level at the average cost of US\$ 184,800 per person-year and at the G-4 level at the average cost of US\$ 142,800 per person-year. WHO/Europe staff time is calculated at the average cost of US\$ 242,500 for P-5 staff, US\$ 204,500 for P-4 staff and US\$ 88,500 for G-5 staff, per person-year.