



WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION



International Workshop on Water Scarcity Taking action in transboundary basins and reducing health impacts

11-12 December 2017

Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland,
starting at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 11 December 2017

DRAFT PROGRAMME

The workshop aims to **accelerate actions to address water scarcity and thereby reduce the related health, social, economic and environmental risks**, by sharing practical solutions, in particular from the perspective of transboundary water cooperation and health impacts. It will **review measures** to prevent scarcity and mitigate its consequences taken in transboundary basins and at national level, identify **good practices** and **lessons learned** and formulate some **conclusions** for further activities.

Day 1 11 December 2017

10:00 – 11.15 **Opening session: setting the scene**

- Opening speech, *Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)*
- Opening remarks from the lead party of the Water Convention, *Ms. Sibylle Vermont, Switzerland*
- Opening remarks from the lead party of the Protocol on Water and Health, *Mr. Aldo Di Benedetto, Italy*
- Introduction to the programme of the event, *Ms. Sonja Koepfel, UNECE*
- Keynote speech: water scarcity trends on a global level, *Mr. Michel Jarraud, former Secretary-General of WMO and former chair of UN-Water*
- Keynote speech: water scarcity and health, *Mr. Oliver Schmoll, WHO Regional Office for Europe*
- Interactive element: mapping of participants

11.15 – 13.00 **Session 1: Policy and institutional setups to address water scarcity**

- Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP): guidance on drought management plans and tools, *Mr. Bob Stefanski, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Mr. Frederik Pischke, Global Water Partnership (GWP)*
- Addressing water scarcity in agriculture: the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG), *Mr. Ruhiza Jean Boroto, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*
- IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), *Mr. John Kabayo, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)*
- Addressing water scarcity in the Alpine region: lessons learned and planned measures, *Mr. Paolo Angelini, Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea, Italy*
- Discussion

13.00-15:00 **Lunch break**

15.00 – 17.00 **Session 2: Addressing water scarcity through transboundary cooperation: legal and practical experiences**

Moderator: Ms. Francesca Bernardini, UNECE

- How do international agreements at the global and basin level address water scarcity, *Mr. Owen McIntyre, Cork University*
- Working on low water in the Rhine basin, *Mr. Adrian Schmid-Breton, International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine*
- How drought has triggered creation of a river basin organization in the Senegal basin, *Ms. Aram Ngom Ndiaye, Organization for the Development of the Senegal Basin*
- How droughts are addressed in the transboundary water cooperation between Mexico and the United States of America as well as within Mexico, *Mr. Edwin Fernando Zetina Robleda, National Water Commission, Mexico*
- Not allowing boundaries to hamper water resources systems developments for effective utilization of the transboundary INCO Maputo River Basin, *Mr. Beason Mwaka, Department of Water, South Africa*
- Water allocation provisions in the transboundary agreement on the Helmand basin, shared by Afghanistan and Iran, *Mr. Kawa Sahab, Ministry of Energy and Water, Afghanistan*
- Discussion

17.00 -18.00 **Group work**

- Which measures are beneficial and effective from a transboundary perspective?
- Is water scarcity an issue in your basin? How is it addressed at the transboundary level? If not, have discussions started on this? What could be done to do so?
- What are the health implications of scarcity in your basin? How are they addressed?

18:30 **Reception**

Day 2 12 December 2017

10.00 - 10.20: Reporting back from Day 1

10.20 - 12.00 **Session 3: Practical measures to address water scarcity from the health perspective**

Moderator: Mr. Luca Lucentini, National Institute of Health, Italy

- The WHO sanitation safety plan (SSP) approach – a practical tool for managing health risks from wastewater reuse, *Ms. Kate Medicott, World Health Organization (WHO)*
- Regulatory aspects of wastewater reuse and SSPs, *Ms. Ghada Kassab, University of Jordan*
- Climate resilient water safety planning, *Mr. Michael Hammond, World Health Organization (WHO) consultant*
- Impact of droughts on water quality: data and risk analysis, *Mr. Enrico Veschetti, Mr. Mario Cerroni, National Institute of Health, Italy*
- Discussion

12.00 – 13.30 **Marketplace of approaches, tools and examples for addressing water scarcity**

Share practical experiences to address water scarcity from the health perspective and in transboundary basins: interactive session

- Addressing water scarcity in agriculture, *Mr. Ruhiza Jean Boroto, Food and Agriculture Organization of the (FAO)*
- Environmental flow assessment, *Mr. Dean Muruven, WWF*
- Practical measures for reducing water scarcity in the lake Chad basin, *Mr. Ndara, Lake Chad Basin Commission*
- Monitoring low water at the basin and national level: the Meuse river basin and the Dutch system, *Mr. Willem Schreurs, International Meuse Commission and Jos Timmerman, The Netherlands*
- Danube experience and national drought plan development in the context of the European Union Water Framework Directive, *Ms. Sabina Bokal, IDMP Central Eastern Europe*
- From EU guidelines on water reuse to practical applications, *National Institute of Health, Italy*
- Water scarcity provisions in the transboundary Chu-Talas basin, *XXX*
- Conjunctive use of surface water and ground water for drought management: example of the Orange basin, *Mr. Lenka Thamae, Orange-Senqu River Commission (ORASECOM)*
- Facilitating financing of transboundary adaptation projects, *Ms. Florence Pintus, International Office for Water*

13.30-15:00 **Lunch break**

15.00 – 16.30 **Session 4: The enabling environment for addressing water scarcity**

Moderators: Mr. Ruhiza Jean Boroto, FAO and Ms. Sibylle Vermont, Switzerland

- Financing drought management measures, *Mr. Andre Oosterman, European Investment Bank (EIB)*
- Drought risk management: towards a strategic approach, *Mr. Paul Sayers, WWF Consultant*
- Governance (tbc)
- Panel discussion

16.30 – 18.00 **Session 5: Conclusions and next steps**

- Discussion in small groups: What was the most important issue you have learned during the workshop? What will you do differently afterwards/ what do you take home? What activities should the partner organizations (UNECE, WHO, FAO, INBO, EIB, WMO, GWP, iw:learn) and others focus on in the future in terms of water scarcity?
- Plenary discussion
- Conclusions of the workshop and closing remarks

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