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7th MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE IN WATER SECTOR OF AZERBAIJAN

Date: 4 July 2018

Location: Caspian Plaza Hotel, Baku

Background: *The objective of the meeting is to discuss the key issues in the development of the national water policy and the status of ongoing activities within the EUWI+ project in Azerbaijan. The meeting will also serve as a platform for strengthening of synergies with other international projects implemented in Azerbaijan.*

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

9:00-9:30 Registration of participants

9:30-10:00 Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Opening remarks

- Mr. Mutallim Abdulhasanov, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) of Azerbaijan
- Ms. Ulviya Abdullayeva, EU Delegation to Azerbaijan
- Mr. Alisher Mamadzhanov, UNECE
- Ms. Tatiana Efimova, OECD
- Mr. Michael Sutter, EU Member States Consortium (Austria, France)

Purpose of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

- Mr. Mutallim Abdulhasanov, MENR

10:00-11:30 Session 1 – Key priorities of the national water policy

- Presentation on the status of the work on the development of the National Water Strategy of Azerbaijan, Mr. Mutallim Abdulhasanov, MENR and Ms. Tatiana Efimova, OECD
- Setting up long-term priorities for the water sector to overcome existing and future challenges – Ms. Tatiana Efimova, OECD and Mr. Rafiq Verdiyev, National expert





- Developing National Water Strategy for Ukraine: opportunities of approximation with the EU water acquis and challenges with its implementation – Ms. Natalia Zakorchevna, National expert (Ukraine)

Discussion on long-term priorities for the water sector. Going beyond legal approximation: what are the challenges of implementation

11:30-11:50 Coffee/tea

11:50-13:00 Session 2 – Implementation of national water and health targets

- Presentation of the national targets under the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health, Ms. Leyla Tagizade, Ministry of Health and Ms. Gunel Gurbanova, MENR
- Protocol on Water and Health as a tool to implement Sustainable Development Goals at the national level, Mr. Alisher Mamadzhanov, UNECE

Discussion on the implementation of targets under the Protocol on Water and Health and national programmes on water supply and sanitation.

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Session 3 – Progress, needs and outlook of monitoring development and for territorializing the national water policy at the basin scale through participative River Basin Management Planning

Presentations and discussion by Mr. Michael Sutter, Ms. Yunona Videnina and Mr. Yannick Pochon; EU Member States Consortium (Austria, France), with feedback from the beneficiary country representatives:

- An update on EUWI+ Laboratories' development
- An update on surface water, coastal & transitional waters and ground water monitoring
- Enabling organization for participative RBM Planning
- Geographic breakdown from river basin districts to water bodies and monitoring
- Data sharing as base for knowledge development and multidisciplinary integration
- Participation of stakeholder in the basin planning process and awareness raising as key for policy implementation

Discussion



16:00-16:30 *Coffee/tea*

16:30-17:15 **Session 4 – Synergies with other international projects implemented in Azerbaijan**

- UNDP/GEF Kura-2 project, Ms. Mary Matthews (TBC)
- EU twinning project “Upgrading the National Environmental Monitoring System (NEMS)”, Ms. Katja Loven (TBC)
- SEIS project, Mr. Vafadar Ismayilov (TBC)

10 mins presentations followed by 5 mins discussion after each.

17:15-17:30 **Session 5 – Closure of the meeting**

Reflections and decisions