

Drin Core Group

6th Meeting

**30 May 2012
Ohrid**

Report of the Meeting

Within the frameworks of
**UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes**
and
Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process

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A. BACKGROUND

The Drin Basin (Basin) comprises of the watersheds of the Prespa, Ohrid and Skadar/Shkoder Lakes and Drin and Buna/Bojana Rivers. The Drin River is the “connecting body” of this complex water system, linking the international lakes, wetlands, shared rivers and other aquatic habitats.

Each of the Drin sub-basins is of ecological importance as it hosts unique biotopes with many indigenous species, which are important from a European and international conservation perspective. The Basin encounters diverse and unsustainable management approaches; this leads to the degradation of ecosystems and inhibits sustainable development.

Legally binding agreements among the littoral countries form the basis for water resources and ecosystem management cooperation in each of the three international Lakes.

The MoU for the for the Management of the Extended Transboundary Drin Basin

Coordinated action at the Drin Basin level has been absent until the development of the Shared Vision for the sustainable management of the Basin and the signing of a related Memorandum of Understanding (MoU -Tirana, Albania, 25 November 2011) by the Ministers of the water and environment management competent ministries of the Riparians. The establishment of the Shared Vision among the Drin Basin Riparians was the outcome of a structured multi-stakeholders process at the national and transboundary levels, the so called Drin Dialogue (launched on 1 December 2009, in Podgorica, Montenegro), supported by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Global Water Partnership – Mediterranean (GWP-Med), with contribution by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Related activities were financed primarily by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, but also with contributions from UNECE as well as GWP-Med. Support activities were implemented in the framework of the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process, the UNEP/MAP GEF MedPartnership and the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI).

The MoU describes the Strategic Shared Vision for the management of the Drin and identifies key issues, along with short, medium and long term actions to develop an integrated management of the Basin in close cooperation among the Riparians.

The Drin Core Group (DCG), established through the Drin Dialogue, was given the mandate to coordinate actions for the implementation of the MoU. The DCG comprises of representatives of the (i) competent Ministries of the Riparians, (ii) the joint structures already in place¹, (iii) UNECE, (iv) European Commission, (v) GWP-Med, and (vi) MIO-ECSDE. GWP-Med was appointed through the MoU as the Secretariat of the DCG. Decisions are taken by the Drin Riparians; according to the MoU, “the decisions of the DCG will be taken by the representatives of the Parties on the basis of consensus”.

Objective of the MoU (Shared Vision)

The Parties committed to promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore to the extent possible the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin.

Goals of the MoU

The Parties to the MoU agreed to undertake concrete actions to address problems identified as affecting sustainable development in the entire Drin Basin or in one or more of the Sub-Basins:

¹Prespa Park Coordination Committee; Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee; Skadar/Shkoder Lake Management Commission

- (i) Improving access to comprehensive data and adequate information to fully understand the current state of the environment and the water resources and the hydrologic system (including surface, underground and coastal waters) as well as ecosystems of the Drin Basin;
- (ii) Establish conditions for a sustainable use of water and other natural resources;
- (iii) Develop cooperation and measures to minimise flooding especially in the lower parts of the Drin Basin;
- (iv) Improve management and appropriate disposal of solid wastes;
- (v) Decrease nutrient pollution deriving from untreated or poorly treated wastewater discharges and unsustainable agricultural practices;
- (vi) Decrease pollution from hazardous substances such as heavy metals and pesticides, and
- (vii) Minimise effects of hydro-morphologic interventions that alter the nature of the hydrologic system and the supported ecosystems, resulting in their deterioration.

The 6th Drin Core Group Meeting

The **sixth meeting of the Drin Core Group**, the first as a joint body according to the Drin MoU, was organized on 30 May 2012, in Ohrid with the support and collaboration of the: UNECE, GWP-Med, Ministry for Environment and Physical Planning, FYR Macedonia and MIO-ECSDE. UNDP actively supports the Drin dialogue process by providing technical support and expertise.

The meeting was financially supported by the ENVSEC initiative and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

B. MINUTES IN BRIEF ²

The Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Dejan Panovski (Representative of FYR Macedonia in the Drin Core Group / Head, Drin River Basin Management Unit) and Mr. Bo Libert (Regional Adviser, UNECE).

Agenda item 1. Opening – Welcome; Agenda item 2. Tour de table - Opening brief statements

Mr. Panovski welcomed the members of the Drin Core Group (DCG) and the other participants, in the first meeting of the DCG as an official joint body according to the Memorandum of Understanding for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin (MoU - 25 November 2011, Tirana).

H.E. Mr. Velizar Vojinovic, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Montenegro, reaffirmed the commitment of his country towards enhanced cooperation for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin in line with the EU *acquis communautaire*. Mr. Vojinovic added that the MoU is an important basis for cooperation among the Drin Riparians and the DCG a key instrument in this regard. Mr. Vojinovic stated that he looks forward to the implementation of the MoU.

Mr. Bo Libert underlined the importance of the legal background that is in place providing an official status to the DCG to be an instrument to facilitate the delivery of outcomes towards the achievement of the objective of the MoU.

Mr. Libert and Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos (Programme Coordinator for Southeastern Europe, GWP-Med / Secretariat of the Drin Core Group) assured the representatives of the Parties to the MoU (Parties) that UNECE and GWP-Med will continue providing support to the extent possible until the DCG becomes self-sustained.

Mr. Antoine Avignon (Sector Manager, Environment, Energy, Civil Protection and Local Governance, European Union Delegation to Tirana) stressed that the signed MoU facilitates enhanced regional cooperation hence, it constitutes a very positive step. Mr. Avignon encouraged the Parties to use the Water Framework Directive as a tool in the development of transboundary water resources management. He underlined that the presence of representatives of the EU Delegations in Tirana and Skopje in the meeting reflects the importance that the EU Delegations attach to the on-going co-operation process as well as their intention to offer their support to the extent possible.

Ms. Teodora Andreeva (Environment and infrastructure, European Union Delegation to Skopje), stressed the importance of the fact that cooperation among the Drin Riparians has become official. Ms. Andreeva encouraged the DCG to work to provide solutions wherever this is possible and informed that the EU Delegations would be happy to provide assistance in line with their mandate.

Mr. Ralf Peveling (Team Leader, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity at Lakes Prespa, Ohrid and Shkodra/Skadar Project, GIZ) thanked the DCG for the invitation to participate in the meeting. Mr. Peveling spoke about the importance of cooperation among the Riparians and he informed on his intention to work for the alignment of the activities under the project he coordinates with those under the coordination of the DCG for the implementation of the MoU.

² Prepared by Dimitris Faloutsos, Secretariat of the Drin Core Group / Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean

Agenda item 3. Adoption of the Report of the 5th Drin Core Group Meeting - Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Panovski requested the DCG to provide comments on the Report of the 5th DCG meeting sent via email by the Secretariat. As there were no comments the Report of the 5th DCG meeting was adopted.

Mr. Panovski proposed the following change in the agenda that was accepted by the meeting: Item 7 “Regional projects related to the management of the Drin Basin” to be discussed after Item 6.1 “Action Plan for the implementation of the MoU for the management of the Drin Basin - Actions to be implemented during 2012”.

Agenda item 4. Purpose of the meeting

Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos made a brief overview of the adopted agenda and presented the scope of the meeting highlighting that the DCG should:

- Be reminded of the main points of the MoU including its new mandate, and its rules of operation.
- Discuss and agree on actions for the implementation of the MoU for the period 2012-2014 including objectives, timeframe etc.
- Discuss and adopt the Terms of Reference of the Study for the actions and steps necessary for the preparation of coordinated RBM plans for the parts of the Drin Basin extending in the territory of the Riparians.
- Be informed about projects supported by the international community related to the management of the Drin Basin with the aim to explore opportunities to fostering coordination among the projects towards the achievement of the objective of the MoU.
- Discuss the developments with regard to the project proposal to be submitted to GEF for financing.

Agenda Item 5. Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Drin Basin (MoU) – The Drin Core Group

Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos reminded the DCG the main points of the MoU i.e. its objective; the common concerns acknowledged regarding the sustainable development of the Drin Basin; the short, medium and long term priority actions at national, bilateral and/or multilateral levels towards the achievement of the objective; the mandate of the DCG which is prolonged and expanded to facilitate communication and cooperation among the Parties for the implementation of the provisions of the MoU; the set-up, functions and responsibilities of the DCG. Furthermore, Mr. Faloutsos presented in brief the rules of operation of the DCG as these were decided during the 1st DCG meeting in Podgorica, 1 December 2009. The presentation is annexed to this report as Annex III.

Following a short discussion on the subject, the DCG decided that the rules of operation prepared to facilitate the function of the DCG as the coordinating body of the Drin Dialogue, should be updated to be in line with the new mandate of the DCG and respond to its role as the body that coordinates cooperation among the Riparians for the management of the Drin Basin.

The DCG asked the Secretariat to prepare the new terms of reference / rules of operation, send these to the representatives of the Parties for comments, and then present these for discussion in the next DCG meeting.

Mr. Faloutsos informed the DCG that Mr. Antoine Avignon has been appointed as a representative of the EU Delegation in Albania to the DCG. Following a proposal by the Secretariat the DCG decided to request the Ministers to consider asking the EU to become a full member of the DCG.

Finally the DCG decided, on the basis of the Annex, point (v) of the MoU referring to the meetings of the DCG, to have two ordinary meetings per year in the months of May and November. Extraordinary meetings may be organized on the initiative of the Parties in accordance to the Annex, point (vi) of the MoU.

Agenda Item 6. Action Plan for the implementation of the MoU for the management of the Drin Basin

Mr. Faloutsos presented the Action Plan for the implementation of the MoU in the period 2012-2014. The Action Plan was prepared by the Secretariat of the DCG in response to a request of the Ministers during the signing of the MoU (Tirana, 25 November 2011). Concrete planning for “medium-term” actions is set to be made towards the end of 2014. The presentation was structured around the main actions:

1. Enhancement of coordination mechanisms among the Parties.
2. Enhancement of the knowledge basis about the Drin Basin.
3. Improvement of information exchange through the establishment of a system for regular exchange of relevant information among the competent authorities of each Party.
4. Enhancement of cooperation in the field of flood risk preparedness, management and mutual support.
5. Institutional strengthening in the field of integrated water resources management.
6. Promotion of public participation and stakeholders engagement.

The proposed activities under each action including the objectives, institutions that will be responsible for the implementation of each activity, resources to be used, deliverables etc. were presented.

It was acknowledged that the timeframe with regard to the implementation of the activities will depend on the availability and level of financing. Mr. Faloutsos reminded the DCG that the activities included in the Action Plan are also part of the Project Identification Form to be submitted to GEF Council for approval later this year.

The DCG accepted the proposal of the Secretariat and UNECE that in case the project proposal is not approved by GEF, alternative sources of financing will be sought, one option being through a donors conference.

In the discussion followed, Mr. Libert stressed that the proposed Action Plan is ambitious and demands substantial financial resources, adequate expertise and most of all considerable efforts made by the Parties of the MoU.

Mr. Avignon reminded the participants that the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) is an instrument that can be used to support the implementation of activities under the Action Plan. The Parties should work with the EU Delegations to include activities decided on, in the IPA planning documents; the representatives of the Parties in the DCG should facilitate such process.

Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni (Programme Officer, MIO-ECSDE) informed the DCG that should the HORIZON 2020 project, where MIO-ECSDE is part of the consortium, be granted an extension regarding the duration of the project by the European Commission for capacity building activities to be implemented in Southeastern Europe (SEE), a number of workshops can be organized with a focus on the Drin Basin. Such workshops would fall under point 5 of the Action Plan “Institutional strengthening in the field of integrated water resources management”, covering related needs.

The DCG gave the mandate to the Secretariat to make an official request to the H2020 project, should an extension is granted by the European Commission, to include among the capacity building activities to be implemented in the SEE a number of workshops with a focus on the Drin Basin in line with the point 5 of the Action Plan.

The reaction of the representatives of the Parties with regard to the Draft Action Plan was requested. Following a 10 minutes break to allow consultations of the Albanian Delegation with their headquarters in Tirana, the DCG approved the Draft Action Plan. In addition the DCG decided to propose to the Ministers to adopt the Action Plan in their forthcoming meeting, and adopted the following timeline of activities in this regard:

- The DCG Secretariat amends the Action Plan with detailed steps and circulates the updated document to the DCG for comments by the end of June;
- The DCG provides comments by the end of July;
- The DCG Secretariat incorporates comments made by the DCG and prepares the final Action Plan by the end of September;
- The Action Plan is presented for discussion to the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting (Meeting of the Parties).

The Draft Action Plan is annexed to this report as Annex IV.

Agenda Item 6.1. Actions to be implemented during 2012

A detailed presentation was made by Mr. Faloutsos on the proposed activities to be implemented within 2012 including the: (i) Preparation of the Action Plan; (ii) Organization of a Ministerial Meeting; (iii) Organization of two Drin Core Group Meetings; (iv) Preparation of a study for the actions and steps necessary for the preparation of coordinated RBM plans for the parts of the Drin Basin extending in the territory of the Riparians; (v) Establishment and organization of one meeting for each of the Expert Working groups (Water Framework Directive, Monitoring and exchange of information, Biodiversity and Ecosystems).

These activities are aimed at establishing, and sustaining its functioning in 2012 in accordance to the MoU (until financing from GEF or other sources for the implementation of the MoU becomes available), an operational institutional structure (DCG) that would respond to the:

- mandate defined in the MoU;
- additional current or future functions i.e. (i) steering committee of the two Projects financed by ENVSEC and Swedish EPA; (ii) if accepted by donors, assist in the coordination of transboundary projects; (iii) be the governing body of the planned GEF funded project (if approved);

Financial support for the following activities has been secured by the ENVSEC initiative, the Swedish EPA, the service contract of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative, GEF MedPartnership and GWP-Med: Preparation of the Action Plan; Organization of one Drin Core Group Meeting; Preparation of a study for the actions and steps necessary for the preparation of coordinated RBM plans for the parts of the Drin Basin extending in the territory of the Riparians; Establishment and organization of one meeting for each of the Expert Working groups on Water Framework Directive, Monitoring and exchange of information, Biodiversity and Ecosystems.

Financial resources for the remaining activities i.e. a DCG meeting and a Ministerial meeting should be secured.

Mr. Avignon, responding to a related request by the DCG, informed that the DCG is welcome to have the next, 7th meeting of the DCG organized in the premises of the Delegation of the EU in Tirana.

The DCG accepted the offer and decided that the 7th Meeting of the DCG will take place in Tirana, Albania.

The DCG decided that the Ministerial Meeting will take place in November 2012 in Tirana, Albania.

Mr. Faloutsos presented the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) of the three Expert Working Groups (EWG) that the DCG had decided on establishing during its 5th Meeting (24 November 2011, Tirana) to establish:

- Water Framework Directive implementation EWG;
- Monitoring and Information exchange EWG;
- Biodiversity and Ecosystems EWG.

The DCG reviewed the text of all ToRs. All representatives of the Parties except Montenegro, indicated that they would have to consult with the leadership of their Ministry before agreeing to the following two points: point 8.1 (i) *“the expenses related to the participation of the EWG Members as well as of additional experts in the EWG meetings will be borne directly by the Parties-each Party will cover expenses for its representatives- unless financial assistance from international organizations, donor countries or projects is secured”* and; point 8.2 *“the costs for a meeting room, technical equipment if necessary etc. will be borne by the Party or subordinate institute / organization hosting the EWG meeting”*.

H.E. Mr. Vojinovic indicated that Montenegro accepts these two points. He asked that a provisional budget for the meetings should be prepared and brought to the attention of the Ministers during their meeting later this year to decide upon.

The DCG adopted the proposal of H.E. Mr. Vojinovic, endorsed the ToRs and adopted the following timeline of activities:

- Establishment of the Expert Working Groups (EWG)
 - The ToRs endorsed by the DCG, are adopted by the Parties through an official letter sent by July 2012 (sent by the Parties to the Secretariat).
 - Each of the Parties, through the respective representative to the DCG, appoints an institution as focal point and proposes a member and an alternate for each one of the EWGs by September 2012.
 - The composition of the EWGs is discussed and approved in the 7th DCG meeting.
- Preparation of the Workplan for each of the three EWGs - Functioning of the EWGs
 - Background documents -one for each EWG- including an outline of a workplan is prepared by September 2012.
 - The members of each EWG provide comments on the respective background document and elaborate on the related workplan –communication should be done via email/other electronic media- by October 2012.
 - Each EWG discuss and agree on the respective workplan in a meeting to be organized in October 2012.
 - The workplan of each of the three EWGs is discussed for approval in the 7th DCG meeting.

The draft ToR for each of the three EWGs are annexed to this report as Annexes V, VI and VII.

Agenda Item 7. Regional projects related to the management of the Drin Basin

Mr. Ralf Peveling (Team Leader, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity at Lakes Prespa, Ohrid and Shkodra/Skadar Project, GIZ) was invited to inform the DCG about developments with regard to the ongoing and planned projects supported by the GIZ in the Drin River Basin.

Mr. Peveling presented briefly the following on-going projects:

- Climate change adaptation in the Drin River Basin; the project is initiated in 2012 and may last until 2017.

The project emphasizes on flood and drought risk management and focus on Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and FYR Macedonia. It includes the following five components:

1. Setting up of a regional Flood Monitoring Centre, providing information to responsible institutions for protection against floods and flood prevention.
 2. Endorsement of a regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy by the involved countries.
 3. Development of local Flood Protection Management Plans.
 4. Enforcement of water resources utilization by-laws.
 5. Conceptual development of an inter-regional water resources management plan for the Western Balkans.
- Protection and sustainable utilization of the biodiversity in the area of Lakes Prespa, Ohrid and Shkoder (12.2011- 06.2014).

The beneficiary countries are Albania, Montenegro and FYR Macedonia. It includes the following four components:

1. Monitoring of the fauna and flora in Shkoder/ Skadar and Prespa Lakes according to the Water Framework Directive, the Fauna, Flora and Habitats Directive and the Council Directive on the conservation of wild birds.
2. Regulation and control of catches in the Prespa Lake on the basis of population and reproduction data.
3. Implementation of protection measures formulated in management plans for the Ezerani, Ohndsko-Bllato, Dnloni-Ligatina and Strushko-Bllato wetlands in Prespa and Ohrid lakes.
4. Characterization of Prespa, Ohrid and Shkoder/ Skadar Lakes according to the Water Framework Directive and presentation of related environmental goals to the governments of Albania, FYR Macedonia and Montenegro for adoption.

Mr. Peveling is managing the latter project. The project aims to both assist the countries to comply with some of the provisions of the EU directives and address some of the needs with regard to the management of the lakes. A coordination meeting took place in Ohrid, on 28-29 May 2012; representatives of key stakeholders met to prepare a draft plan for each of the four components of the project on the basis of the existing needs.

Mr. Peveling stressed that there is a need to streamline activities with those implemented at the national and the transboundary levels. In this regard the GIZ will work to streamline the activities with the MoU and contribute to achieving the objectives of the MoU.

Answering to a question posed by Mr. Avignon about what are the authorities that the GIZ works with in regard to its projects, Mr. Peveling said that the GIZ projects for the moment works with the line Ministries in each beneficiary country. Mr. Peveling expressed the wish to coordinate with the DCG and ultimately if it becomes possible to refer to the DCG; appropriate opportunities and operational arrangements should be explored in this regard.

Mr. Libert informed the DCG about the technical assistance SIDA provides to the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of Albania for the preparation of an IWRM plan and the implementation of the EU WFD. Mr. Libert added that there is an exchange of information established with SIDA aiming to find synergies; there are also on-going discussions between SIDA, the World Bank, UNECE and the Secretariat of the DCG in this regard.

Mr. Arduen Karagjozi (Water Resources Specialist, Ministry of Environment, Forestry & Water Administration, Albania) informed the DCG that the ToR for the following activities are being prepared by SIWI in the framework of the project that Mr. Libert referred to: (i) River Basin Management Plan for Drin River; (ii) Cadastre of water; (iii) Strategy for water.

Mr. Avignon reminded about the project, financed by the World Bank, on technical works in Buna/Bojana River related to floods management and prevention. Mr. Avignon underlined that cooperation among donors and organizations financing different projects in the area as well as among the beneficiary countries is of paramount importance. He proposed close cooperation among GIZ, SIDA and the World Bank with regard to the projects related to the management of the Drin Basin and its sub-basins. Finally he suggested that the DCG facilitates coordination as well as the creation of synergies among the projects supported and implemented by different donors.

The DCG asked the Secretariat to include the World Bank, SIDA and GIZ offices in Tirana in the distribution of information.

Following a proposal by Mr. Arduen Karagjozi, the DCG decided that the Parties to the MoU share information regarding on-going and planned projects for the management of the natural resources of the Drin Basin and its sub-basins. The Secretariat was requested to facilitate this task by creating a template for the Parties to use. Ms. Vlachogianni offered to supply the Secretariat with a template. In addition the Secretariat was asked to prepare a table containing all the legal documents related to the management of the Drin Basin and its sub-basins; the Parties will review the table.

The DCG requested the GIZ (Mr. Peveling) to explore opportunities for the creation of operational linkages between the project "Protection and sustainable utilization of the biodiversity in the area of Lakes Prespa, Ohrid and Shkoder" and the DCG. It was proposed that a representative of the project would participate in the EWG Monitoring and Information Exchange.

Agenda Item 8. Study for the actions and steps necessary for the preparation of coordinated RBM plans for the parts of the Drin Basin extending in the territory of the Riparians

Mr. Faloutsos made an introduction on the study for the actions and steps necessary for the preparation of coordinated RBM plans for the parts of the Drin Basin extending in the territory of the Riparians. He explained that this study will briefly assess the overall status of water resources management as well as the stage regarding the implementation of activities related to the preparation of an RBM plan in the Drin Basin in each of the Riparians. This assessment will allow the identification of the concrete steps to be followed to ensure that RBM planning in accordance to WFD is coordinated to the extent possible. The activity will be implemented under and supported by the service contract of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative in coordination with GWP-Med (separately funded).

Mr. Faloutsos presented the ToR of the study. The method of work will include a desk study and a number of interviews with representatives of key institutions regarding the management of water resources in the Drin Riparians. There were no comments from the DCG members.

The ToR were adopted by the DCG. The DCG decided that each of the representatives of the Parties will assist in the identification of the persons to be interviewed and provide contact details. The Secretariat of the DCG was requested to undertake the coordination.

Agenda Item 9. Project proposal to be submitted to GEF for future funding

Mr. Libert and Mr. Faloutsos informed the DCG about a meeting with Mr. Mamaev, Regional Technical Advisor United Nations Development Programme Europe and the CIS. Mr. Mamaev requested Mr. Libert and Mr. Faloutsos to inform the DCG that the proposal for a project in Drin, in the form of a Project Identification Form (PIF), may be resubmitted for discussion and consideration to the GEF Council of November 2012. The resubmission of the PIF is in accordance with previous discussions in the DCG and the beneficiary countries.

The DCG thanked UNECE and GWP-Med in this regard and requested to take the necessary action in cooperation with the UNDP for the timely submission of the PIF for discussion and consideration to the GEF Council of November 2012. The PIF should be ready by August 2012. In this regard the Secretariat asked the beneficiary countries to review its content.

Agenda Item 10. Wrap up- Any other business

Ms. Vlachogianni, informed the DCG that MIO will prepare in cooperation with NGOs a publication about species and biotopes in the Drin Basin.

Mr. Dejan Panovski thanked the representatives of the Parties to the DCG, the members of the DCG and the other participants for their contribution to the fruitful discussions.

The participants thanked the hosts from FYR Macedonia and the Secretariat for a very well arranged meeting.

List of Annexes

- I. Agenda of the 6th Drin Core Group Meeting
- II. List of Participants
- III. Presentation - Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Drin Basin (MoU) – The Drin Core Group
- IV. Draft Action Plan for the implementation of the MoU
- V. Draft Terms of Reference – Expert Working Group on Water Framework Directive Implementation
- VI. Draft Terms of Reference – Expert Working Group on Monitoring and Information Exchange
- VII. Draft Terms of Reference – Expert Working Group on Biodiversity and Ecosystems