

SWEDEN

**Mr Chairman, Distinguished Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Sweden would like to inform the Meeting of the Parties, that we are a signatory of the Protocol but have so far not ratified it. Pre-meetings have been held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2010 that has involved 3 Ministries (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture). Coordination has also been made with some national boards and institutions (Swedish Institute of Infectious Disease Control, the Food Administration, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the National Board of Health and Welfare, Swedish Geological Survey and Stockholm International Water Institute).

Sweden is a party of the Water Convention and fully complies with the EU Water Framework Directive, which is guiding principles for the work.

Sweden especially consider (1) the Guidance Document and (2) the test reporting performed during 2010 as important documents for the future national assessment related to potential ratification. The former is seen as an essential and necessary document for the national strategy and priority and for implementation. The later identifies some of the drawbacks in the current harmonization in the assessment and reporting and will function as a background for national priorities.

The conclusions from the national pre-meetings are:

- To build on the already existing EU Framework Directive and the Water Convention
- To build on the already well established surveillance, compliance and reporting procedures in place in Sweden, for water-related disease
- To build on ongoing national activities in relation to climate and health within the areas of human and animal health, and environment
- To specifically consider the needs and implementation in a decentralized organizational structure, representative for the implementation and enforcement on a local level
- To specially consider the impact related to small water and sanitation supplies.

The focal attention will be beneficial for strategic approaches for risk management in the national context. A time line has presently not been set for potential ratification of the protocol.