

## The “Environment for Europe” mid-term review of the Astana Conference main outcomes: Astana Water Action



### Template for reporting on the implementation of the Astana Water Action

**1. Country/Organization:**

*Rui Rodrigues, Portuguese Environment Agency, PORTUGAL*

**2. Title of the action committed to in 2011 (see the annex)**

Project on Environmental Quality of International Water Courses Natural Reserves Common Integrated Water Resources Management Document between Portugal and Spain

**3. Overview of progress made**

(a) *Has the action been implemented?*

Yes /  In progress /  No

*Both Portugal and Spain have been delayed in finishing the first generation of Hydrographic Regions plans according to the Water Framework Directive, making it difficult to fully integrate Water Resources Management on Environmental Quality.*

(b) *What challenges were encountered during the implementation of the action? What lessons were learned?*

(c) *What future steps, if any, are planned in relation to the action implementation/follow up?*

*During the new Planning process according to the European Water Framework Directive (2013 - 2015) is expected to be developed this action*

**4. Usefulness of the Astana Water Action**

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements and provide an explanation, as appropriate.

(a) *The Astana Water Action was useful to strengthen political support related to sustainable water management issues:*

strongly agree /  somewhat agree /  somewhat disagree /  strongly disagree

*Although Portugal and Spain share EU directives and a joint Convention on Water Preservation, every new initiative on this subject is warmly welcomed.*

(b) *The Astana Water Action has helped my country to comply with its international obligations:*

strongly agree /  somewhat agree /  somewhat disagree /  strongly disagree

*Through the compliance with the European Union Directives, UNECE Convention and the Joint Convention between Portugal and Spain most of the work on this subject is done, but the Astana Water Action is a good remainder.*

(c) *Would your country be interested in continuing to submit and monitor new actions within the AWA framework in the future?*

Yes /  No

*The economic crisis common to Portugal and Spain makes it difficult to open new work fronts on these subjects.*