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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY
WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES**

Working Group on Water Management

Third meeting,
The Hague (Netherlands), 17 and 19 September 2001
Item 3 (e) of the provisional agenda

**SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS IN EUROPE**

(Miedzyzdroje, Poland, 21-24 April 2002)

Submitted by the delegations of Finland, Germany, Netherlands and Poland,
and prepared with the assistance of the secretariat

Introduction

1. Under the leadership of Poland, and supported by Finland, Germany and the Netherlands, arrangements have been made to hold the second International Conference on Sustainable Management of Transboundary Waters in Europe in Miedzyzdroje (Poland) on 21-24 April 2002 to mark the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention.

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2. The tentative programme of the Conference and further information, such as the preliminary registration forms, are available on the Convention's home page at www.unece.org/env/water and can be downloaded by clicking on "Meetings" and "Meeting documents". The tentative programme was also distributed under separate cover to the focal points under the Convention, national authorities, joint bodies and international governmental and non-governmental organizations whose work is related to transboundary water management.

I. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

A. Host country and conference organizers

3. The Conference will take place at the invitation of the Government of Poland. It is convened and financed by Finland's Ministry of the Environment, Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, the Netherlands Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, Poland's Ministry of Environment.

4. The Conference is organized jointly with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Regional Office for Europe of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/ROE), the Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization (WHO/EURO), and the International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC) established under the Convention at the Netherlands Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Lelystad, Netherlands.

B. Languages

5. The working languages of the Conference will be English, Polish and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be available at plenary meetings. Papers and other working documents shall be submitted in English only.

II. CONFERENCE THEMES

6. The following three themes are intended to define the Conference's scope of topics but are not prescriptive nor necessarily exhaustive:

- (a) Integrated approach to transboundary water management;
- (b) Information and communication: bridging the gap between actors;
- (c) Challenges to water management and framework for its modernization.

7. The Conference's tentative programme on the Convention's home page gives more information on these themes and other issues.

III. CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTIONS

8. Proposals for oral and poster presentations are invited in the form of extended abstracts, which should not exceed 700 words. These should be submitted electronically (preferably as Word files) **by 31 October 2001 at the latest** to the Conference Secretariat at:

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