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

Fifth session
Geneva, 10–12 November 2009
Item 14 of the provisional agenda

WORKPLAN FOR 2010-2012 AND RESOURCES NEEDED FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION

DRAFT WORKPLAN FOR 2010–2012 AND BEYOND

Draft workplan prepared by the Chairpersons of the Working Groups
on Integrated Water Resources Management and on Monitoring and Assessment,
with the other members of the Bureau

Summary

The document includes: (a) a proposal for a decision by the Meeting of the Parties regarding the 2010–2012 workplan under the Convention; and (b) the draft workplan for 2010–2012. It summarizes the terms of reference of bodies established to support implementation of the Convention and the proposed activities under the Convention, and gives an estimate of the costs required for the workplan's implementation.

I. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSED ACTION BY THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

1. This document is intended to facilitate discussions and decisions by the Parties regarding the 2010–2012 workplan. The proposed draft workplan is based on the outcomes of the following meetings; (a) the second meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate (Geneva, 24 April 2009); (b) the sixth meeting of the Legal Board (Geneva, 29–30 April 2009); (c) the tenth meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (Bratislava, 10–11 June 2009); (d) the twelfth meeting of the Bureau (Geneva, 6-7 July 2009); and (e) the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (Geneva, 8–9 July 2009). It is based also on proposals by countries made after these meetings, and was informed by workshops and seminars organized under the auspices of the Convention.

2. According to their terms of reference, the two Working Groups are responsible for preparing a draft workplan for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties. The Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment at its tenth meeting and the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its fourth meeting discussed and amended the proposed workplan for 2010-2012 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2009/4 - ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2009/3) and decided to submit it to the Meeting of the Parties for adoption (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2009/2 and ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2009/2).

3. The Meeting of the Parties may wish:

(a) To thank the Parties and non-Parties which provided leadership and support to the activities which provided the basis for the current draft workplan;

(b) To convey its appreciation to the Parties that have already expressed their readiness to take a lead in the workplan's implementation;

(c) To examine the workplan and its budget (annexes I and II) on the basis of the outcomes of discussions under the various items of the provisional agenda, and to amend it as needed, taking into account: (i) the priority and strategic importance of the proposed activities; (ii) the willingness of Parties and non-Parties to provide their leadership for the activities; and (iii) the availability of resources;

(d) To adopt the workplan and its budget as amended at the meeting, and to entrust the Bureau and the secretariat to estimate costs for those activities that need further definition;

(e) To call on Parties, non-Parties and relevant organizations to actively contribute to the activities contained in the workplan, including through financial and in-kind contributions.

Annex I

DRAFT WORKPLAN FOR 2010–2012 AND BEYOND¹

I. BODIES TO IMPLEMENT THE WORKPLAN FOR 2010–2012

A. Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties

1. In accordance with the rules of procedure for the meetings of the Parties (see ECE/MP.WAT/19/Add.1), the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties is composed of not fewer than eight persons including the Chairperson and the two Vice-Chairpersons of the Meeting of the Parties, the Chairpersons of the Working Groups and, if applicable, other officers elected by the Meeting of the Parties.

2. The main responsibilities of the Bureau include: (a) making arrangements to further develop the workplan, adapting it to changing circumstances and avoiding, to the extent possible, duplication of efforts with water-related activities of other United Nations bodies and other international organizations; (b) taking initiatives to strengthen implementation of the Convention; and (c) carrying out other tasks entrusted to it by the Meeting of the Parties.

B. Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment

3. The Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment are the two main subsidiary bodies established by the Meeting of the Parties.

4. The two Working Groups shall be responsible for the implementation of the relevant activities areas of the workplan. They shall examine experience and draw up draft recommendations, codes of practice and other soft-law instruments. They shall also: (a) review policies, strategies and methodologies of relevance to the protection and use of waters as well as human health and safety; and (b) examine the implications of such policies, strategies and methodologies. The Working Groups shall also assist the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health, if applicable, in developing response measures and promote the harmonization of rules and regulations on specific areas.

5. In between sessions of the Meetings of the Parties, the two Working Groups shall provide guidance regarding the implementation of the workplan. The Working Groups may advise the Bureau to make arrangements to further develop the workplan, to adapt it to changing circumstances and to avoid, to the extent possible, duplication of efforts with water-related activities of other United Nations bodies and other international organizations.

¹ The numbering and formatting in this workplan are consistent with that of past Convention workplans.

6. The Working Groups shall take initiatives to strengthen the application of the Convention, including the preparation of draft decisions, proposals and recommendations, and of a draft workplan for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention. They shall also mobilize resources.

7. Each Working Group may formulate recommendations related to the work of the other Working Group.

8. The focus of the work of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management is on intersectoral activities to support the implementation of the Convention with regard to the integrated management of transboundary water resources. Activities under this Working Group aim to prevent, control and reduce transboundary impacts and thereby prevent damage to the environment; promote the ecosystem approach in the framework of integrated water resources management; and ensure conservation and, where necessary, restoration of water-related ecosystems. Further goals are to promote the concept of payments for ecosystem services; to prevent accidental water pollution; and to further adaptation to climate change in the transboundary context, including floods and droughts management. The Working Group also seeks to build and/or to strengthen the institutions responsible for the management of transboundary waters; to facilitate the work of joint bodies; and to promote access to information and public participation in decision-making.

9. The focus of the work of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment is to assist Parties bordering the same transboundary waters in establishing and implementing joint programmes for monitoring the conditions of transboundary waters, including floods and ice drifts, as well as transboundary impacts. Furthermore, the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment will have a leading role in the preparation of periodic assessments of the status of transboundary waters and international lakes in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region, which will allow for measuring progress in the implementation of the Convention. The Working Group also seeks to promote the exchange of data on environmental conditions of transboundary waters; to encourage Parties to inform each other about any critical situation that may have a transboundary impact and to make available to the public the results of water and effluent sampling, together with the results of the verification of compliance with water-quality objectives and permit conditions.

10. Unless otherwise decided by the Meeting of the Parties, the Bureau or the Working Groups themselves, the Working Groups hold one ordinary meeting per year. Annual meetings of the Working Groups constitute an efficient mechanism for governing, coordination and fostering implementation of the Convention. These meetings provide a forum for sharing knowledge and successful experiences among Parties, non-Parties and stakeholders, with a view to supporting and carrying out, inter alia, bilateral and multilateral activities, pilot projects and capacity-building activities.

11. The need to consider monitoring and assessment in the broader context of integrated water resources management calls for close collaboration between the two Working Groups through cooperation on a number of joint activities. To apply this in practice: (a) the Working Groups should preferably hold back-to-back meetings to allow for the joint discussion of shared

agenda items; and (b) the workplan for 2010–2012 will contain activities for which the two Working Group will have joint responsibility.

12. The Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management will be led by [Germany] and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment will be led by [Finland].

Resource requirements²:

Organization of annual meetings of the Bureau (three meetings), the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (three meetings) and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (three meeting), including participation of eligible experts: US\$ 186,000

C. Other bodies

13. The implementation of the Convention's workplan will be supported by a number of other open-ended bodies with specific terms of reference.³

Legal Board

14. The Legal Board, with [Italy] as a lead Party, deals with legal questions related to the work under the Convention, upon the request of other Convention bodies.

Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents

15. The Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents was established under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention), with [Germany and Hungary] as the lead countries to support work in the area of accidental water pollution, to respond to the needs identified by Parties.

16. The Draft Strategy for the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents is contained in document ECE/MP.WAT/2009/L.3.

Task Force on Water and Climate

17. The Task Force on Water and Climate, with [Germany and the Netherlands] as lead countries, is responsible for activities related to adaptation to climate change, including flood and

² The estimated costs shown here are limited to those intended to be covered by voluntary contributions, either through the Convention's trust fund or in kind. They do not include costs that are expected to be covered by the United Nations regular budget or other sources. The estimate is mostly based on the experience with previous workplans and may vary according to the further definition of the activities by the Meeting of the Parties as well as according to United Nations administrative regulations. The resources requirements are not mentioned for activities for which the lead Party has already agreed to cover all related costs. Figures are rounded and include 13 per cent of the programme support costs.

³ For cost estimates of the activities under these bodies, see chapter II.

drought management. The Task Force will work in close cooperation with the Task Force on Extreme Weather Events established under the Protocol on Water and Health.⁴

International Water Assessment Centre

18. The International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC) is the Convention's collaborative centre on monitoring and assessment and integrated resources management and a support tool for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. IWAC is hosted at the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute. The IWAC draft strategy is contained in document ECE/MP.WAT/2009/L.4. IWAC will focus on supporting the development and implementation of projects on transboundary waters in countries with economies in transition regarding monitoring and assessment, adaptation to climate change and development of innovative financing tools such as payments for ecosystem services. IWAC's work will also aim at strengthening the knowledge base for transboundary water cooperation by contributing to the second Assessment of Transboundary Waters in the UNECE region.

II. PROGRAMME AREAS AND ACTIVITIES

19. The draft workplan contains eight programme areas:

- I. Support to implementation and compliance;
- II. Assessment of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters;
- III. Projects on the ground;
- IV. Sharing of experiences and capacity-building;
- V. European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues;
- VI. Water and industrial accidents;
- VII. Cooperation with the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health;
- VIII. Promotion of the Convention.

PROGRAMME AREA I: SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE

Responsible body: the Legal Board, reporting to the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management

⁴ Pending a decision to be made at the second meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health, tentatively scheduled for October 2010, on the continuation of the Task Force on Extreme Weather Events.

Objectives: To provide advice to Parties and non-Parties concerning means to prevent or manage existing or potential conflicts on transboundary waters as well as cases of problems in implementing the Convention, by (a) assisting Parties and non-Parties, upon request, on legal issues related to the implementation of the Convention; and (b) providing the Convention with an institutional and procedural mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance on a multilateral and cooperative basis.

1.1 Mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance

Work to be undertaken: The Legal Board will:

(a) Study the possible options for assisting Parties in solving implementation problems and in preventing or settling differences on the interpretation and application of the Convention, taking into account countries' needs and the distinctive cooperative spirit of the Convention, as well as the draft Guide to Implementing the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2009/L.2);

(b) On the basis of such study, prepare a proposal on the objectives, structure, tasks, functions, measures and procedures of a mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance, for possible adoption at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2012. The mechanism should be simple, facilitative, non-adversarial and cooperative in nature, with its operation guided by the principles of transparency, fairness, expediency and predictability (see also ECE/MP.WAT/2009/3).

Resource requirements:

Participation of eligible experts to the meetings of the Legal Board and its drafting group:

US\$78,000

Consultancy fee for the preparation of background documentation, including translation: \$40,000

1.2 Advice and assistance

Work to be undertaken: The Legal Board will:

(a) Provide legal assistance to Parties and non-Parties, at their request, in drawing up new agreements or adapting existing ones on transboundary waters in line with article 9, paragraph 1, as well as other relevant articles of the Convention;

(b) Provide legal assistance to non-Parties, at their request, helping to facilitate ratification through country-specific activities;

(c) Provide support to Parties' ratification of the amendments to articles 25 and 26 opening the Convention for accession to countries outside the UNECE region;

(d) Consider the need to revise the Guide to Implementing the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2009/L.2), in the light of the experience gained.

Resource requirements: to be defined depending on requests.
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PROGRAMME AREA II: ASSESSMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY RIVERS, LAKES AND GROUNDWATERS

Responsible body: the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment, in cooperation with the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management, and assisted by IWAC.

Lead Party: Finland.

Objectives: To keep the state of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters under scrutiny with the goals of (a) assessing how the Convention's provisions have been implemented, (b) evaluating progress achieved in improving the status of transboundary waters and (c) bringing positive changes to their management. Activities under this area will promote informed decision-making, provide the basis for continuous bilateral and multilateral cooperation under the Convention, and support actors involved at the national, transboundary and regional levels. The assessments should serve as a tool to identify trends and needs related to the protection and sustainable management of transboundary waters. Their findings should lay the foundations for strategic directions for work under the Convention and should be taken into consideration by the Meetings of the Parties and various political forums, including the "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conferences. They should also be useful source of information for investment by prospective donors.

Work to be undertaken:

(a) Prepare the second Assessment of transboundary waters as a basis for the future work of the Convention, and as a reference document for the Seventh Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe";⁵

(b) Ensure that the second Assessment and its findings inform the discussions and decisions at the Seventh Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe";

(c) Promote the Assessment and its findings at the Conference and in other global, regional and national events;

(d) Prepare an analysis on the need to prepare a third assessment of transboundary waters and, if applicable, a strategy for its preparation, for consideration at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

Main partners: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the European Environment Agency (EEA), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands⁶, the Inter-State Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia

⁵ For more information on the second Assessment, see ECE/MP.WAT/2009/7.

⁶ Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat.

(ICWC), the Global Water Partnership (GWP), including GWP-Mediterranean (GWP-Med) and GWP for Central and Eastern Europe (GWP-CEE), the Regional Environmental Centres (RECs), and others.

Resource requirements

Personnel costs: one extrabudgetary staff member for the period July 2010–December 2011 (salary until June 2010 is covered) \$312,000

Organization of four subregional meetings, including travel of staff and participants: \$160,000

Consultancy fees: experts, editing, translation, design and layout; production of maps and of interactive web and CD-ROM version: \$300,000

PROGRAMME AREA III: PROJECTS ON THE GROUND**3.1 Programme of pilot projects on transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters⁷**

Responsible bodies: The Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment and the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management, assisted by IWAC. The Task Force on Water and Climate will facilitate the pilot projects on adaptation to climate change.

Objectives: To support UNECE countries, and specifically countries with economies in transition (in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) as well as in South-Eastern Europe (SEE)), in their efforts to improve integrated water resources management (IWRM) in a transboundary context.

In particular, the programme will focus on three main areas:

- (a) Water and adaptation to climate change in the transboundary context, including management of floods and droughts;
- (b) Joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters, including data management and information exchange;
- (c) Implementation of payments for ecosystem services to support integrated water resources management.

In these three areas, the programme will aim:

- (a) To assist UNECE countries in implementing the Convention, thereby also supporting implementation of the European Union Water Framework Directive (EU WFD);
- (b) To create positive examples demonstrating the benefits of and possible mechanisms for transboundary cooperation regarding water and adaptation to climate change,

⁷ For more information on the programme of pilot projects, see ECE/MP.WAT/2009/5.

monitoring and assessment, data management and information exchange, as well as payments for ecosystem services;

(c) To provide a forum for exchanging experience, good practices and lessons learned in different parts of the UNECE region;

(d) To support the implementation of the guidance documents developed under the Convention, in particular: (i) the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change; (ii) the Model Provisions on Transboundary Flood Risk Management, adopted at the fourth meeting of the Parties; (iii) the Guidelines and Strategies for Monitoring and Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters, adopted at the second and fourth meetings of the Parties; (iv) the Recommendations on Payment for Ecosystem Services, adopted at the fourth meeting of the Parties.

The pilot projects should as much as possible be developed and implemented in the transboundary context. As far as possible, surface and groundwaters should be integrated.

3.1.1 Pilot projects on water and adaptation to climate change

Lead Parties/organizations: [the Netherlands and Germany, for coordination of activities; the secretariat and IWAC for pilot projects implementation]

Work to be undertaken:

The Task Force on Water and Climate will provide a platform for the exchange of experience good practices and lessons learned related to water and adaptation to climate change in the UNECE region, in particular in the transboundary context.

The specific focus and objectives of each pilot project will be defined jointly by the riparian countries in the basin concerned. Depending on the level of advancement and previous relevant activities in the basin, the pilot projects will focus on different steps of the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change and in the development of an adaptation strategy. Depending on the level of awareness, progress and cooperation in the basin, as well as on data availability and previous work done regarding climate change, the projects might address, inter alia: (a) the creation of an enabling environment; and (b) the development of the knowledge base, e.g. joint development of scenarios and vulnerability assessments, up to the joint planning of a package of adaptation measures.

In most cases, pilot projects will focus on developing strategies that lay the groundwork for further action. Therefore, in the first stage, pilot projects will focus on the planning of adaptation strategies and not on the funding and implementation of relevant measures.

Although the main focus of the pilot projects programme will be on EECCA and SEE, it is expected that pilot projects will also be set up in EU countries or in basins shared by EU and non-EU countries. Exchange of experience between EU and non-EU countries will be promoted. Special focus will be on cooperation with the EU and the European Commission as well as on

the work carried out regarding the implementation of the EU WFD and the EU guidance document on water and climate change. The goal is to combine future efforts and to design future pilot projects so that they can simultaneously support implementation of both UNECE and EU strategic papers and promote exchange of experience and cross-fertilization between EU and non-EU countries. This would create the much-requested framework for continuous dialogue in the pan-European region on adaptation to climate change, in line with the EU Neighbourhood Policy.

The pilot projects on water and adaptation to climate change will also be projects of the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative.

Possible partners:

The Task Force on Water and Climate will continue cooperating with the Task Force on Extreme Weather Events under the Protocol on Water and Health as well as with EU activities and bodies, in particular the European Commission.

UNDP and the other ENVSEC partners – UNEP, OSCE and the RECs – will actively cooperate in the design and implementation of pilot projects. Other partners may include the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), GWP, the EECCA RECs, the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Cooperative Programme on Water and Climate and the World Water Council.

Resource requirements

Coordination, exchange of experiences and support to projects implementation (Task Force meetings, consultancy fees, personnel costs for 2011–1012⁸): \$400,000;
Tentative costs per pilot project: \$200,000.

3.1.2 Pilot projects on joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters, including data management and information exchange⁹

Lead Parties: [France and IWAC].

Work to be undertaken: The pilot projects on joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters, including data management and information exchange are expected to be funded by the French Global Environment Fund (pending positive decision on the funding) and implemented by IWAC in cooperation with the International Office for Water and the UNECE secretariat.

In two transboundary basins, the pilot projects will strengthen the capacity of data management and information exchange through the development and establishment of tools for information management (e.g. a metadata database), the improved interoperability of information management systems and the definition and adoption of rules for information-sharing (see ECE/MP.WAT/2009/12).

Resource requirements: costs are expected to be covered by France.

⁸ Personnel costs for 2010 are covered by Germany.

⁹ Pending confirmation on funding of the pilot projects by the French Global Environment Fund.

3.1.3 Pilot projects on payments for ecosystem services

Lead Party: Switzerland.

Work to be undertaken: Pilot projects will support the implementation of the *Recommendations on Payments for Ecosystem Services in Integrated Water Resources* in (transboundary) basins. Depending on the specific situation in the pilot basin, the projects will focus on different steps identified by the Recommendations. Experience gained in implementing payments for ecosystem services (PES) under projects carried out by Parties, non-Parties and other actors will be exchanged and promoted.

The ongoing pilot project on the Lake Issyk-Kul basin, implemented by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC), will be continued. The project aims to (a) enhance sustainable use of natural resources and preserve biodiversity by using PES and (b) review applicability of PES in a pilot area.

Possible partners: Partners to be involved in the programme of pilot projects will vary depending on the focus of the specific pilot projects. They may include UNDP, the Ramsar Convention secretariat, the UNECE Timber Committee, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UNEP, the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE), WWF, OSCE, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), GWP and the RECs.

Resource requirements: to be defined depending on activities foreseen under the pilot projects.
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3.2 Other projects supporting implementation of the Convention

Activities in this area will be carried out by the UNECE Regional Advisor, supported by the Legal Board, as appropriate. They are reported to the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management.

Objectives: Assist Parties and non-Parties, at their request, in improving cooperation on their transboundary waters in general and, in particular, in ratifying and implementing the Convention. Assistance will include legal and technical assistance (e.g. to draw up, revise and/or adapt agreements on transboundary waters, to strengthen national and transboundary water institutions, and to strengthen the capacity of joint bodies in integrated river basin management and water protection). Work will build on the guidance documents developed under the Convention (see also Programme area 1.2).

Activities in this area will focus on three subregions.

3.2.1 Transboundary water management in Central Asia

Donors: Germany for the Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia programme; Finland for dam safety activities and the Chu Talas project; Switzerland for the Central Asia Regional Water Information Base (CAREWIB) project; and the secretariat for additional activities on water quality. The new Wider Europe Initiative¹⁰ of Finland, designed to promote stability and well-being in former Soviet Republics, will also support work in Central Asia.

Work to be undertaken: Activities in Central Asia will include follow-up to ongoing projects, in particular activities promoting dam safety (in cooperation with the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea), those promoting cooperation in the Chu Talas basin (in cooperation with OSCE), those supporting cooperation and policy related to water quality - measurement, exchange of information and joint assessment (in cooperation with CAREC) - and those supporting knowledge and information exchange on water and environmental issues through CAREWIB (in cooperation with the Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination).

An important new activity in this subregion will be linked to the Programme “Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia” launched in 2008 at the “Water Unites” Conference in Berlin as part of the Berlin Water Process. A programme component on “Regional dialogue and cooperation on water resources management” will be implemented by UNECE. The component will focus on: (a) building capacity of regional institutions with regard to water cooperation; (b) strengthening capacity in Central Asian countries regarding international water legislation and regional guidelines/principles for water management; (c) promoting reform of regional and bilateral agreements regarding water resources; and (d) supporting joint monitoring of water quality and data exchange.

Some of the above activities are part of the environmental and water pillar of the EU Strategy for Central Asia, coordinated by Italy. Coordination with the EU Strategy will be pursued for all activities.

Resource requirements: covered by the projects’ donors.
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3.2.2 Transboundary water management in South-Eastern Europe

Donor: Sweden

Work to be undertaken: Activities in South-Eastern Europe (SEE) will be pursued in close cooperation with the Petersberg Phase II/Athens Declaration Process jointly coordinated by Germany, Greece and the World Bank. The main objective is to build capacity and share experience with respect to IWRM and to develop IWRM plans for shared water bodies as a response to the targets of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002.

¹⁰ Wider Europe Initiative, Framework Programme for Finland’s Development Policy Implementation Plan for 2009–2013; Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, June 2009.

Activities will include support to: (a) countries sharing the Drin Basin to develop a sustainable framework for transboundary water cooperation; (b) the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, for accession and implementation of the Convention; and (c) Bulgaria and Serbia, for transboundary cooperation.

Resource requirements: covered by the projects' donors.

3.2.3 Transboundary water management in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Donors: Sweden and Finland

Work to be undertaken: Activities in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus will include follow-up to ongoing projects, in particular:

(a) Support transboundary water cooperation in the Dniester basin, mainly through: (i) promoting the adoption of the new Dniester River Basin Agreement; (ii) facilitating cooperation between sanitary-epidemiological services of the two States; (iii) supporting activities on biodiversity conservation (with focus on fisheries); (iv) facilitating information exchange at the national and basin-wide levels; and (v) raising public awareness and media coverage of the Dniester River basin environmental issues;

(b) Support transboundary water cooperation between Azerbaijan and Georgia to develop a bilateral agreement between the two countries on the management of the shared transboundary waters, including the establishment of a joint body;

(c) Support for Georgia's accession to the Water Convention.

Both projects will be implemented in cooperation with OSCE.

Resource requirements: covered by the projects' donors.

PROGRAMME AREA IV: SHARING OF EXPERIENCES AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

Responsible bodies: the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment, as appropriate, supported by the Legal Board, the Task Force on Water and Climate, and IWAC.

Objectives: To strengthen understanding of critical issues for transboundary water management, including emerging issues; to build capacity for cooperation on transboundary waters, in particular in countries with economies in transition; and to promote exchange of experience and good practices. Activities of different formats, such as conferences, workshops, training sessions and exercises, will be organized around different thematic issues.

4.1 Strategic conferences and seminars

Lead Party(ies): to be defined. The secretariat will provide substantial support to these activities

Work to be undertaken: a maximum of two events at the UNECE level addressing strategic and emerging issues. Possible topics of these events may include:

- (a) Agriculture, land use, food production, agrofuels and water interlinkages;
- (b) Dispute settlement and sharing benefits in transboundary water cooperation: taking stock of the experience under the Convention¹¹;
- (c) Water and adaptation to climate change, including extreme events;
- (d) Pending decision by the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy that one of the themes of the Seventh Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” (Astana, 2011) is related to water, the topic of one event could support the preparatory process of the Ministerial Conference.

Resource requirements (per event)
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Participation of eligible experts: \$50,000;
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Consultancy fee for event preparation, including background material: \$20,000.

4.2 Capacity-building and exchange of experience on technical issues

Lead Party(ies): to be defined. It is expected that the secretariat will not provide extended support to these activities.

Work to be undertaken: Activities at the regional, subregional and national levels will aim at strengthening the capacity of Parties and non-Parties to implement the Convention and the different guidance documents developed under its auspices. They will mostly address countries with economies in transition and focus on technical issues.

Possible themes of such activities include:

- (a) Joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters, under the auspices of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment and with the assistance of IWAC;
- (b) Implementation of the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change and promotion of transboundary cooperation in extreme events, under the auspices of the Task on Water and Climate;
- (c) Forests and water at the regional level with MCPFE and FAO, in particular focusing on the problems of countries with low-forest cover, and at the global level possibly in

¹¹ Finland expressed interest in co-organizing an event on this theme.

cooperation with the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) through a UNFF Country-Led Initiative with global participation.¹²

Resource requirements (per event):

Participation of eligible experts: \$50,000

4.3 Capacity for Water Cooperation project

Lead Party(ies): The secretariat is implementing the project.

Objectives: To create a framework enabling cross-fertilization and exchange of experience between river basins and countries regarding regulatory, institutional, methodological and other aspects of integrated management of transboundary waters in EECCA countries and at the same time bringing in valuable experience from other parts of the UNECE region. CWC also aims at establishing a network of EECCA experts involved in transboundary water management who are used to cooperating and sharing knowledge.

Work to be undertaken: In the period 2010–2012, two CWC workshops will be organized on specific aspects of transboundary water management, and will serve different purposes, e.g. preparation of the second Assessment or implementation of guidelines and strategies developed under the Convention.

Possible partners: Partners to be involved in the organization of activities in this area will vary depending on the focus of the specific activity. Cooperation will be sought with UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, OSCE, REC-Central and Eastern Europe, the EECCA RECs and others.

Resource requirements (per event):

Participation of eligible experts (2–4 per country, grant for local organization and other consultancy fees): \$70,000

PROGRAMME AREA V: EUROPEAN UNION WATER INITIATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUES

Responsible body: Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management.

Lead Parties: the UNECE secretariat, in cooperation with the European Commission, Romania and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Objectives: To strengthen integrated water resources management in EECCA countries in line with the principles of the Convention, the Protocol on Water and Health, the EU WFD and other UNECE and EU instruments.

Work to be undertaken: Within the framework of the EECCA component of the EU Water Initiative, the Meeting of the Parties will support the development and implementation of IWRM

¹² Switzerland expressed interested in organizing these two events.

in EECCA countries at the local, national and transboundary levels. Work under this programme element will strengthen IWRM and improve its legal, regulatory, administrative, technical and economic frameworks. It will also set priorities for financing water management activities, identify international assistance projects and develop capacity in EECCA through a dialogue process involving public authorities and civil society representatives. It will develop road maps to achieve the water-related Millennium Development Goals as well as targets and target dates on sustainable water management, safe drinking water and adequate sanitation. Steering Committees that include stakeholders of key importance to IWRM will lead the country-specific dialogue processes. Since 2006, the UNECE secretariat has been the key strategic partner of the EECCA countries in conducting these National Policy Dialogues on IWRM, whereas OECD is the key strategic partner for water supply and sanitation issues. The outputs of the Dialogues will include policy packages as new legislative acts, ministerial orders, and development strategies and plans. Based on funding from the European Commission (secured for the period 2009–2012) and contributions to be sought from other donors, activities may involve up to 8 of the 12 EECCA countries. In particular, in the period 2010–2012 activities will focus on follow-up to the National Policy Dialogues in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine, and on initiating and implementing new activities in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

Possible partners: UNDP, the RECs in EECCA, GWP, the Mediterranean component of the EU Water Initiative and others to be defined.

Resource requirements:

The majority of the funding to implement activities in this area, up to \$970,000 until 2012 will be provided by the European Commission (through OECD). However, an additional \$360,000 is needed to implement National Policy Dialogues in the eight countries that requested them.

PROGRAMME AREA VI: WATER AND INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Responsible bodies: the Bureau, the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Ad Hoc Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents, in cooperation with the Conference of the Parties to the Industrial Accidents Convention.

6.1 Protocol on Civil Liability

Lead Party: [Hungary]

Objectives: Activities in this area will aim to promote ratification and implementation of the Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters.

Work to be undertaken: Activities will focus on:

- (a) Addressing issues of concern for the Protocol's implementation, and promoting the understanding of its obligations and their consequences, including through the development of pilot activities¹³;
- (b) Continuing communication with the European Commission on compatibility of the Protocol and the EU *acquis communautaire*;
- (c) Supporting ratifications by non-EU countries.

Resource requirements: to be defined, depending on activities.

6.2 Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents

Lead Parties: [Germany and Hungary].

Objectives: The mission of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents is to assist Parties to both Conventions in drawing up and implementing measures aimed at strengthening the prevention of and preparedness to accidental water pollution in transboundary context. The draft Strategy for the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents is contained in the document ECE/MP.WAT/2009/L.3.

Work to be undertaken: As a first step, a simple questionnaire will be sent to the focal points of both Conventions to identify an activity truly responsive to the needs of countries. The two Bureaux thereafter will decide on the next steps in accordance with the Strategy.

Resource requirements: to be defined depending on activities.

PROGRAMME AREA VII: COOPERATION WITH THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

Responsible bodies: the Bureau, the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment.

Objectives: To promote joint implementation of the Convention and the Protocol on Water and Health, in particular of the workplans under the two instruments.

Work to be undertaken: Cooperation will in particular focus on setting targets in accordance with article 6, paragraph 2, of the Protocol in the areas of water management, as well as the review of progress achieved vis-à-vis such targets, and on adaptation to climate change.

Resource requirements: covered through activities under other programme areas.

¹³ The Republic of Moldova and Ukraine expressed interest in implementing an activity in this area, Hungary and Romania might possibly support it.

PROGRAMME AREA VIII: PROMOTION OF THE CONVENTION

Responsible body: The Bureau, with the assistance of all Parties, the secretariat and the Legal Board.

Objectives: To promote the Convention and its products and achievements, to encourage non-Parties to ratify the Convention and Parties to ratify the amendments to articles 25 and 26 opening the Convention to countries outside the UNECE region. Activities in this programme area also aim to develop new partnerships and synergies.

Work to be undertaken: The Meeting of the Parties will disseminate information on activities carried out under the Convention or related to it, will raise the profile of the Convention and its Protocols, and will provide Parties and non-Parties with information to help them implement the Convention. Efforts will be devoted to promoting the Convention and its success in all possible contexts, including meetings and workshops organized under the workplan. Activities will also support compliance with decision III/1 of the Meeting of the Parties on the amendments to the Convention, and will promote the Convention's achievements outside the UNECE region. Activities will include:

- (a) Activities carried out by focal points in accordance with the guide to promote the Convention and the Protocol on Water and Health (ECE/MP.WAT/2009/13). Focal points will regularly report on their promotion efforts;
- (b) Presentations of the Convention and its achievements at high-level meetings in UNECE countries and at international meetings, in particular at the Seventh Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (Astana, 2011), the annual World Water Week in Stockholm and the sixth World Water Forum in 2012;
- (c) Development of relevant tools to raise the profile of the Convention (e.g. informative leaflets, the Convention website);
- (d) Development of an interactive online electronic version of the Guide to implementing the Convention and of promotional material on it;
- (e) Promotion of the Convention, its Protocols and its soft-law tools outside the UNECE region through: (i) inviting experts from non-UNECE countries to meetings under the Convention with priority given to non-UNECE countries sharing waters with UNECE member States; and (ii) participating in relevant global events or events organized outside the region;
- (f) Promotion of the Convention through coordination and synergies with activities of United Nations agencies and other organizations, in particular through UN-Water and its Task Force on Transboundary Waters.

Main partners: Cooperation will be sought with the other United Nations regional commissions, the UNESCO, UN-Water, ICWC, the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the

International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW: LEARN), GWP, the World Water Council and the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI).

Resource requirements:

Participation of the secretariat and experts in events to promote the Convention (including travel and accommodation, preparation of the events and background materials): \$50,000;

Promotion of the Convention in global conferences (side-events, stands, etc.): \$40,000

Production of communication material for the Convention's promotion: \$35, 000;

Production of a CD-ROM and an interactive online electronic version of the Guide to

Implementing the Convention and promotional material: \$30,000;

Participation of experts from countries outside the UNECE region, in particular countries sharing waters with UNECE countries, in selected meetings under the Convention: \$60,000.

Annex II

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS UNTIL THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES ¹

I. HUMAN RESOURCES IN THE SECRETARIAT

The current composition of the Convention's secretariat is presented in the table below. These human resources need to be sustained and strengthened, if required, as it is a prerequisite for implementation of the workplan.

Posts financed through the United Nations regular budget²
1 Secretary to the Convention (P4; 60 per cent)
1 Environmental Affairs Officer (P3; 80 per cent)
1 Administrative assistant (G5; 75 per cent)
Extrabudgetary posts
1 Associate Expert in Environmental Affairs (P2): funds required to maintain the post until November 2012 – \$300,000 – need to be secured³
1 Environmental Affairs Officer (P3) to support preparation of the second Assessment: funds required to maintain the post until December 2011 – \$312,000 – need to be secured⁴
1 Environmental Affairs Officer (P4) to support NPD programme: funds mostly available until 2012 (see below)
1 Administrative assistant (G4; 50 per cent): financed through 13 per cent the Programme support costs; post granted until end of 2009. Extension of the contract is subject to availability of the required amount from the Programme support costs in the Convention's trust fund

It should be noted that the new United Nations administrative rules that entered into force on 1 July 2009 require contracts to be issued at least on an annual basis, terminating the previous practice of short-term contracts of a few months. Thus for the continuation of posts, it will be crucial to ensure since the onset funding on a long-term basis.

II. OVERVIEW OF RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS (in United States dollars)

Programme area/element/activity	Expected financial needs
Annual Meetings of the Bureau (3 x 2,000), the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (3 x 30,000) and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment (3 x 30,000)	186,000

¹ The level of definition of the activities and the information available from possible donors do not allow the secretariat to prepare a more detailed summary of the resources required for 2010–2012.

² In addition, programme area 3.1 is supported by the UNECE Regional Advisor.

³ The post is funded by Germany until mid-December 2010 through the Associate Experts or Junior Professional Officer Programme.

⁴ The post is funded by multiple donors until June 2010.

Programme area/element/activity	Expected financial needs
I. Support to implementation and compliance	
Participation of eligible experts in the meetings of the Legal Board (3 x 20,000) and other relevant meetings (DG 3 x 10,000)	90,000
Consultancy fee for the preparation of background documentation related to the work of the Legal Board, including translation	40,000
Advice and assistance activities	To be defined
II. Assessment of the status of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters	
Personnel costs: 1 extrabudgetary staff member for the period July 2010–December 2011 (salary until June 2010 already covered)	312,000
Organization of 4 subregional meetings, including travel of staff and participants	160,000
Consultancy fees: experts, editing, translation, design and layout; production of maps and of interactive web and CD-ROM versions	300,000
III. Projects on the ground	
Coordination, exchange of experiences and support to projects implementation: Meetings of the Task Force on Water and Climate (3 x 30,000 = 90, 000) Consultancy fees (communication, studies and analyses, translations = 10,000) Personnel costs: 1 extrabudgetary staff member for the period January 2011–November 2012 (salary until December 2010 already covered) = 300, 000	400,000
Pilot projects on water and adaptation to climate change (tentative cost per individual pilot project)	200,000
Pilot projects on joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters, including data management and information exchange	Covered by France ⁵
Pilot projects on payments for ecosystem services	To be defined
Other projects supporting the Convention	Covered by the projects' donors
IV. Sharing of experiences and capacity-building	
Events on strategic issues (costs per event) Participation of eligible experts(\$50,000) Consultancy fee for event preparation, including background material (\$20,000)	70,000 (per event)
Events on technical issues (costs per event) Participation of eligible experts(\$50,000)	50,000 (per event)
Capacity for Water Cooperation project (costs per workshop) Participation of eligible experts(\$70,000)	70,000 (per event)
V. The European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues Missing funds to implement NPDs in 8 countries	360,000
VI. Water and industrial accidents	To be defined
VII. Cooperation with the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health;	Covered through activities under other programme areas.

⁵ Pending positive decision by the French Global Environment Fund.

Programme area/element/activity	Expected financial needs
VIII. Promotion of the Convention.	
Participation of the secretariat and experts in events to promote the Convention (including travel and accommodation, preparation of the events and background materials)	50,000
Promotion of the Convention in global conferences (side-events, stands, etc.)	40,000
Production of communication material for the Convention's promotion	35,000
Production of CD-ROM and an interactive online electronic version of the Guide to Implementing the Convention and promotional materials	30,000
Participation of experts from countries outside the UNECE region, in particular countries sharing waters with UNECE countries, in selected meetings under the Convention	60,000
