

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General 24 April 2013

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Working Group on Water and Health

Sixth meeting Geneva, 3 and 4 July 2013 Item 1 of the provisional agenda Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the sixth meeting

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on Wednesday, 3 July 2013, at 10 a.m.*

I. Provisional agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Progress in the ratification process.
- 3. Setting targets and reporting under the Protocol:
 - (a) Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting;
 - (b) Second reporting exercise.

^{*} Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations are requested to complete the registration form available from the web page for the meeting on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) website (http://www.unece.org/env/water/6th_wgwh_2013.html) and to transmit it to the ECE secretariat no later than two weeks before the meeting (i.e., by 19 June 2013) by e-mail (katri.veldre@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the ECE website: http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at 41 22 917 1911.



- 4. Surveillance and early warning systems, contingency plans and response capacities.
- 5. Small-scale water supplies and sanitation.
- 6. Public awareness, access to information and public participation.
- Equitable access.
- 8. Project Facilitation Mechanism.
- 9. Promotion of the Protocol and advocacy
- 10. Ongoing programme of work for 2011–2013.
- 11. Programme of work for 2014–2016, terms of reference for the bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation.
- 12. Preparations for the third session of the Meeting of the Parties.
- 13. Compliance procedure.
- 14. Strengthening synergies between the different activities under the Protocol.
- 15. Other business.
- 16. Date and venue of the seventh meeting.
- 17. Closure of the meeting.

II. Annotations

- 1. The main objective of the sixth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health under the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) is to prepare the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, to be held in Oslo from 25 to 27 November 2013. In particular, the Working Group will review the implementation of the activities in the Protocol's programme of work for 2011–2013 and agree on a draft programme of work for 2014–2016 to be submitted for adoption by the Meeting of the Parties. Thus, during discussions on each substantive agenda item, the Working Group will be invited to review the progress achieved in the current triennium also in the light of the future activities proposed in the draft workplan for the next triennium under similar substantive themes.
- 2. The meeting will begin on Wednesday, 3 July 2013 at 10 a.m. and will close on Thursday, 4 July 2013 at 5 p.m. It will be held back to back with the ninth meeting of the Protocol's Compliance Committee, which will take place in Geneva on 1 and 2 July 2013.
- 3. The working languages of the meeting will be English, French and Russian.
- 4. All relevant documentation for the meeting of the Working Group will be available online from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) website.²

For more information on the Compliance Committee meeting, please see http://www.unece.org/env/water/9th compliance committee 2013.html.

http://www.unece.org/env/water/6th_wgwh_2013.html.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: 10–10:05 a.m., Wednesday, 3 July

5. Mr. Kjetil Tveitan (Norway), Chair of the Working Group on Water and Health, will open the meeting and welcome participants. The Working Group is expected to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

2. Progress in the ratification process

Tentative timing: 10:05-10:15 a.m., Wednesday, 3 July

- 6. As of 1 April 2013, the following 26 countries have ratified the Protocol on Water and Health: Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland and Ukraine.
- 7. Delegations will be invited to report on any recent or anticipated development with respect to the ratification of the Protocol in their respective countries. In particular, Signatories and other States not yet Party to the Protocol will be invited to indicate whether they expect to become Parties by the third session of the Meeting of the Parties.

3. Setting targets and reporting under the Protocol

Tentative timing: 10:15–11:30 a.m., Wednesday, 3 July

(a) Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting

Official documentation: Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting;³ programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming);⁴ guidelines and template for summary reports in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.2–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/14) (forthcoming);⁵ draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

Information papers: report of the sixth meeting of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting; progress and lessons learned from the work on setting targets and reporting in 2011–2013; report of the subregional workshop for Nordic and Baltic countries

8. The Chair of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting will report on the outcome of the sixth meeting of the Task Force (Geneva, 14 February 2013), in particular with regard to the exchange on the progress in setting targets and implementing them,

³ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.E.12. Available from http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html.

⁴ For the draft text of the programme of work, which was adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its second session without substantial changes, see document ECE/MP.WH/2010/L.1, available from http://www.unece.org/env/water/whmop2 documents.html.

For the draft text of the reporting guidelines and template, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its second session without substantial changes, see document ECE/MP.WH/2010/L.5, available from http://www.unece.org/env/water/whmop2_documents.html.

reporting under the Protocol, specific challenges encountered by Parties and existing solutions and lessons learned, as well as synergies with other areas of work under the Protocol.

- 9. The Working Group will be invited to provide comments as needed and to report on the advancement of the target-setting process in their countries, if there have been any significant developments.
- 10. A representative of Norway will present the outcomes of the subregional workshop for Nordic and Baltic countries held in Oslo on 7 and 8 November 2012.
- 11. The ECE secretariat will brief delegations on the outcome of the subregional workshop focused on countries in the Caucasus, to be held in Tbilisi on 27 and 28 May 2013, and share the plans for the organization of the last subregional workshop in the current programme of work for Central Asia.
- 12. The Working Group will also be updated about developments in the framework of the World Health Organization (WHO)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, in particular the progress report for 2013 and the process to identify possible future targets and indicators for drinking water, sanitation and hygiene linked to the post-2015 sustainable development goals.

(b) Second reporting exercise

Official documentation: Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting; programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming); guidelines and template for summary reports in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.2–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/14) (forthcoming)

Information paper: report of the workshop on reporting under the Protocol

- 13. The Chair of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting will present the main conclusions from the second workshop on reporting under the Protocol, which was held in Geneva on 12 and 13 February 2013.
- 14. The secretariat will report on the status of submission of national summary reports due by 29 April 2013 under the second reporting exercise in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol, inter alia, with respect to the timeliness and completeness of reports and their consistency with the guidelines and template for summary reports.
- 15. The Working Group is expected to review the preliminary findings from the analysis of the summary reports to be prepared by the secretariat with the assistance of consultants, which will serve as the basis for the regional report on the implementation of the Protocol to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties at its third session. The Working Group will comment on the information provided and advise the secretariat regarding the completion of the document.
- 16. On the basis of information presented by the Chair of the Task Force, as well as the preliminary findings stemming from the analysis of the summary reports, the Working Group will be invited to discuss future activities with regard to implementation of articles 6 and 7 of the Protocol (see agenda item 11).

4. Surveillance and early warning systems, contingency plans and response capacities

Tentative timing: 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: Policy Guidance on Water-related Disease Surveillance;⁶ Technical guidance on water-related disease surveillance;⁷ programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming); draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

Information papers: introduction paper on updated Atlas on Water and Health; preliminary report of the meeting on strengthening monitoring of water supply and sanitation (Bonn, Germany, 12–13 June 2013)

- 17. The Working Group will be informed about the status of preparations for the upcoming meeting of the Task Force on Water-related Disease Surveillance, scheduled to be held in Bonn on 5 and 6 September 2013, and discuss challenges and future activities in this area of work. The Working Group will consider whether the Task Force should be maintained or if a different, more action/project-oriented and cost-effective approach should be proposed in the new programme of work.
- 18. The WHO Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe) will inform the Working Group about the outcomes of a meeting on strengthening monitoring of water supply and sanitation to be held in Bonn, Germany, on 12 and 13 June 2013 and future activities in this area.
- 19. The representative from the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promoting Water Management and Risk Communication at the University of Bonn will present the scope and design of the updated Atlas. The Working Group will be invited to provide input to further develop the Atlas on Water and Health, and to discuss possible ways of sharing information on water quality and water-related diseases and linking the Atlas with national reporting under the Protocol.
- 20. The Working Group will be informed about WHO/Europe activities for the reduction of helminth infections, in particular developments regarding country assessments of soil-transmitted helminths and the preparation of a forthcoming workshop on control and prevention of soil-transmitted helminths to be held on 16 and 17 September 2013 in Bonn.
- 21. Finally, the Working Group will be invited to discuss proposed future activities in this area of work for 2014–2016 (see agenda item 11).

WHO Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), Copenhagen, 2011. Available from http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html.

⁷ E. Funari et al. (eds.), WHO/Europe, Copenhagen, 2011. Available from http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html.

5. Small-scale water supplies and sanitation⁸

Tentative timing: 12:15–1 p.m., Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming); draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

Information paper: Progress report on the work on small-scale water supplies and sanitation, including draft of the policy guidance document

- 22. The Working Group will be informed about the work carried out and the future plans with regard to small-scale water supplies and sanitation, in particular the analysis of the results of a questionnaire and progress in the development of a policy guidance document on this programme area.
- 23. The Working Group will be updated on plans for convening a meeting for countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia under the joint auspices of the WHO International Small Community Water Supply Network and the Protocol on Water and Health.
- 24. WHO/Europe will inform the Working Group about the steps taken to further explore possible cooperation with UN-Habitat in the area of small-scale water supplies and sanitation in the framework of the programme of work for the Protocol for 2014–2016.

6. Public awareness, access to information and public participation

Tentative timing: 3–3:45 p.m., Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming); draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

Information paper: Draft of the guidelines on public participation under the Protocol on Water and Health

- 25. Representatives of Romania and of the non-governmental organization Women in Europe for a Common Future, leaders of this activity, will inform the Working Group of the progress in the areas of public awareness, access to information and public participation under the Protocol's programme of work for 2011–2013. They will in particular present the draft guidelines on public participation in the framework of the Protocol on Water and Health.
- 26. The Working Group will be invited to comment on the draft guidelines and agree on the next steps for their finalization, with a view to submitting them to the Meeting of the Parties at its third session for consideration and adoption.

Due to the lack of a lead Party and devoted funding, there has been no progress in implementing activities concerning water supply and sanitation under extreme weather events and the impact of climate change in the programme of work. Thus this other cross-cutting issue from programme area 3 will not be discussed by the Working Group.

7. Equitable access

Tentative timing: 3:45-4:45 p.m., Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: No one left behind: Good practices to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region; programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming); draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

Information paper: Assessing progress in ensuring equitable access to water and sanitation: the score card and its use; summary of the findings of the quintile analysis for three countries in the European region

- 27. A representative of France, the lead Party for this activity, will inform the Working Group about the outcomes of the second expert group on monitoring progress in achieving equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region under the Protocol on Water and Health, held in Paris on 15 and 16 May 2013. In particular, the Working Group will be informed about the elaboration of the scorecard to assess progress in ensuring equitable access to water and sanitation and the report on self-evaluation of equitable access to water and sanitation to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties at its third session for adoption.
- 28. The Working Group will also be informed about the results of pilot projects in France, Portugal and Ukraine to apply and test the scorecard and the main findings of national multi-stakeholder meetings held in the first quarter of 2013.
- 29. WHO/Europe will brief the Working Group on the progress in the development of the quintile analysis report and the main findings of the analysis.

8. Project Facilitation Mechanism

Tentative timing: 4:45-5 p.m., Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming)

- 30. The Chair of the Project Facilitation Mechanism will inform the Working Group about the developments since the fifth Working Group meeting. The Working Group will be invited to comment on the information provided and to discuss the achievements of the Project Facilitation Mechanism under the current programme of work.
- 31. Based on the deliberations at its fifth meeting, and in the light of the discussions on the next programme of work under the Protocol for 2014–2016 (see agenda item 11), the Working Group will discuss possible ways and means to provide assistance to Parties and other countries in implementation of the Protocol at the national level. These discussions will include, inter alia, consideration of potential partners for this activity, including the possible role of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

⁹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.12.II.E.5. Available from http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html.

9. Promotion of the Protocol and advocacy

Tentative timing: 5-5:15 p.m., Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: How to better promote the Convention and its Protocol on Water and Health: a guide for focal points (ECE/MP.WAT/2009/13)

32. The joint secretariat will inform the Working Group of the efforts made to promote the Protocol and its products. Participants will be invited to report and exchange ideas and experiences on activities to promote the Protocol at the international, national and local levels in accordance with the guide for focal points and beyond. In particular, the Working Group will discuss the promotional opportunities linked to the 2013 International Year of Water Cooperation.

10. Ongoing programme of work for 2011–2013

Tentative timing: 5:15-6 p.m., Wednesday, 3 July

Official documentation: programme of work for 2011–2013 (ECE/MP.WH/4/Add.1–EUR/DHP1003944/4.2/2010/13) (forthcoming)

Information paper: Overview of contributions and expenditures related to the Protocol and resources required up to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties compared with funds raised

- 33. On the basis of the discussion under previous agenda items, the Working Group will review progress made with regard to the implementation of the Protocol's programme of work for 2011–2013 and will entrust its Chair, the chairs of the task forces and the lead countries for different activities, with the assistance of the joint secretariat, to report on progress achieved to Meeting of the Parties at its third session.
- 34. The Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol entrusted the Working Group to oversee the management of the funds of the Protocol under the ECE Technical Cooperation Trust Fund and the WHO/Europe Voluntary Fund. On the basis of an information document prepared by the joint secretariat, the Working Group will be informed about the financial status of the two funds, the contributions received, the funds used and the resources that will be required until the third session of the Meeting of the Parties.

11. Programme of work for 2014–2016, terms of reference for the bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation

Tentative timing: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 2:30-3 p.m., Thursday, 4 July

Official documentation: Draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

35. The Working Group will discuss and agree on future activities under the Protocol, including potential lead countries for activities, on the basis of a draft programme of work for 2014–2016 prepared by the Bureau and building on the outcomes of the strategic workshop, "Future work on water and health in the pan-European region: Building on results achieved and identifying priorities for the Protocol on Water and Health for 2014–2016" (Geneva, 13 and 14 March 2013) and on the findings of a survey on priority needs of Parties, non-Parties and partners to the Protocol, as well as the discussions under previous

agenda items. When discussing the programme of work, the Working Group will also consider resources needed for its implementation.

- 36. The Working Group will also discuss and agree on the future institutional structure under the Protocol and the mandate of the different subsidiary bodies to guide the implementation of the future programme of work.
- 37. The Chair of the Working Group will brief participants on the efforts undertaken by the Bureau towards fundraising and on developing a strategy to raise the resources needed for the implementation of the future programme of work. The Working Group will be invited to comment on the information provided and to discuss ways and means to attain the level of financial support needed to implement the Protocol's future work programmes.
- 38. Representatives of Parties, non-Parties, relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners will be invited to inform the meeting of their intention to contribute to the activities contained in the programme of work, inter alia, through financial and in-kind contributions.
- 39. The Working Group will agree on ways and means to finalize the draft programme of work with a view to its submission to the Meeting of the Parties at its third session for adoption.

12. Preparations for the third session of the Meeting of the Parties

Tentative timing: 3-3:45 p.m., Thursday, 4 July

Information document: Draft agenda and list of documents for the third session of the Meeting of the Parties

- 40. A representative of Norway, host country of the third session of the Meeting of the Parties, and the joint secretariat will report on the organizational preparations for the meeting and the overall programme of events.
- 41. The Working Group will discuss the draft provisional agenda prepared by the joint secretariat in consultation with the Bureau, in particular, the high-level segment and possible side events, and advise the joint secretariat and the host country on further preparations, including on speakers for the high-level segment and other participants.

13. Compliance procedure

Tentative timing: 3.45-4:15 p.m., Thursday, 4 July

Official documentation: report of the eighth meeting of the Compliance Committee (ECE/MP.WH/C.1/2012/2–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2012/3)

42. The Chair of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol will inform the Working Group about the outcome of the Committee's ninth meeting (Geneva, 1–2 July 2013) and the status of preparation of the Committee's report to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties.

14. Strengthening synergies between the different activities under the Protocol

Tentative timing: 4:15-4:50 p.m., Thursday, 4 July

Official documentation: draft programme of work for 2014–2016 (ECE/MP.WH/WG.1/2013/L.1–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/WGWH/04)

- 43. The Chair will inform the Working Group about the discussions in the Bureau on the ways and means to strengthen synergies between different areas of work under the Protocol, especially in the course of the preparation of the draft programme of work under the Protocol for 2014–2016.
- 44. The Chair will brief the Working Group on the outcomes of the third informal meeting of chairs of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements, convened upon the initiative of the Chair of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, to discuss possible synergies.
- 45. The Working Group will be invited to comment on the information provided and discuss how to further ensure synergies between different activities under the Protocol.

15. Other business

Tentative timing: 4:50-4:55 p.m., Thursday, 4 July

46. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the joint secretariat as soon as possible.

16. Date and venue of the seventh meeting

Tentative timing: 4:55-5 p.m., Thursday, 4 July

47. The Working Group will set a tentative date and venue for its seventh meeting.

17. Closure of the meeting

48. The Chair will close the meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 4 July 2013.

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