Possible reporting under the UNECE Water Convention

Considerations and approach

Elements to consider

- Implementation guide on the UNECE Water convention
- Questionnaire results
- EU reporting requirements, mainly under WFD but also others
- Other UN reporting requirements such as RAMSAR (prepared in UNECE docs)

Questionnaire conclusions

- Support for the introduction of reporting strongly depends on the design and efficiency of the mechanism
- Reporting could support implementation
- Reporting must be complementary to other reporting obligations
- Exchange of experiences and support for the Implementation
 Committee are main purposes of reporting
- Web based/electronic reporting templates are the preferred format
- No consensus on reporting frequency

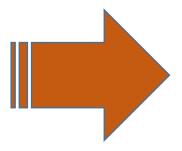
Considerations on overlaps I/IV

- Overlaps with other legislation/agreements and their respective reporting schemes are a major concern
- Other legislation/agreements concern different 'groups' of countries
 - MEAs are ratified by different countries
 - Basins connect different groups of countries
 - With harmonised/similar legislation (e.g. EU MS)
 - With different legislation/tradition
- Other legislation uses different schemes and terminology;
 - no direct comparability/ translation from one to another

- → Complex structure and multiple dimensions and perspectives of 'overlaps'
- → Overlaps are partly ambiguous and need further discussion/definition

Considerations on overlaps II/IV

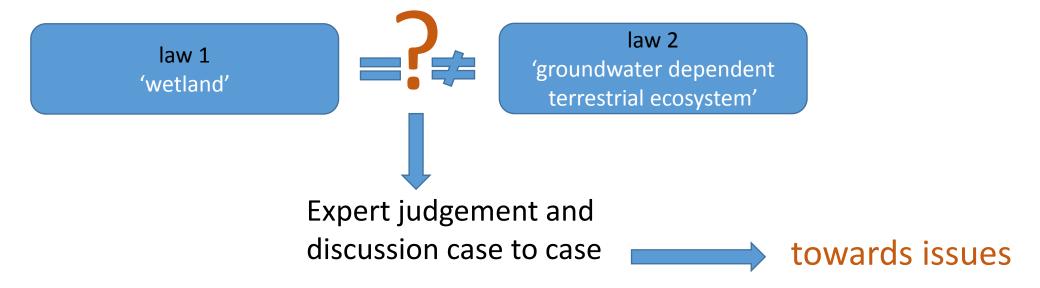
- Formal overlaps may still result in different results at the technical level
 - E.g. Yes we have nutrient monitoring in place but different/incomparable in terms of parameters, frequencies, uncertainty, EQS
- Same legislation does not necessarily entail same status of implementation
 - Interpretation differences
 - Implementation gaps

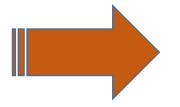


The approach/methodology for reporting should deal with this complexity in a transparent way.

Considerations on overlaps III/IV

From articles, wording and terminology





The approach must provide for translation from articles/wording to issues to be able to identify overlaps.

Considerations on overlaps IV/IV

Thematic overlaps have an additional dimension i.e.

the level of detail and timing

- E.g. the RBMP Danube reports on catchments >4000km² while the WFD national reports have a resolution of >10km²
- International monitoring locations are just a subset of national ones
- WFD information is WB related and might need aggregation other information might need disaggregation
- Synchronising reporting requirements is an issue (even inside the EU).

Approach / methodology

additional considerations

The methodology needs to <u>support the discussion of expert's and parties</u> on overlaps

→ Aggregation and disaggregation (i.e. attribution of articles to issues) must be unambiguous/exact/reproducible

The methodology needs to be able to <u>integrate the results of the</u> <u>consultations</u> so far (questionnaire, MEA reporting assessment etc.)

Different types of overlaps for different Parties require not only one but numerous individually composed reporting schemes

→ Taylor made templates as a result of complex interactions

Proposed methodology - Tabular approach

1st step: <u>List of articles</u> of the UNECE Water convention (each thematic aspect in one line – what are the objects of reporting?)

2nd step: <u>Summary</u> of each item for better overview

3rd step: <u>Attribution of articles to issues</u> (in detail: issues are separated into major aspects and details thereof, e.g. Water quality is subdivided into point sources, diffuse sources, organic, nutrient and hazardous,...)

4th step: <u>Analysis of redundancies</u> within Part I of the Convention

5th step: Analysis of the <u>relation between Part I and II</u>

6th step: <u>Analysis of potential overlaps (in reporting)</u> between relevant laws/directives/MEAs/regular assessments

7th step: Attribution of <u>issues to reporting questions and related options for measures</u>

Proposed methodology - Tabular approach

• The tabular approach is meant as a <u>container for the essence of the work</u> done so far and a <u>tool to support the further work</u> of the core group on reporting and other involved entities! It is open for additions and amendments.

Input, discussion or review is possible and required primarily for

3rd step: Attribution of articles to issues

4th step: Analysis of redundancies

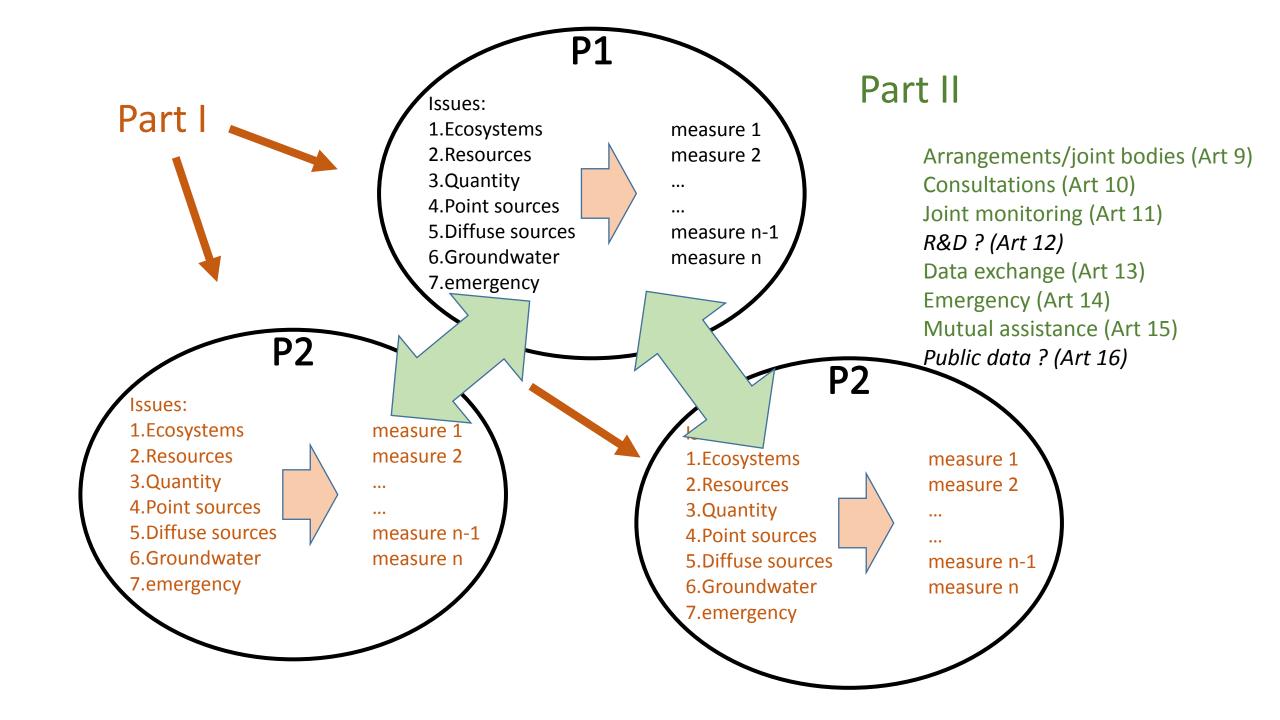
6th step: Analysis of potential overlaps (in reporting) between relevant laws/directives/MEAs

7th step: Attribution of <u>issues to reporting questions and related options for measures</u>

Part A	rticle P		Item Sub		original ==	summary wording, essence	topic	issue	Redundancy within ECE convention	covered in Part I&II	Corresponding EU legal act	Comments	Reporting requirement (mandatory)	Reporting requirment (voluntary)- WFD Reporting Guidance 2016 - refernce is made to the chapter	PWH	Espoo	PRTRs	Question No.
1	2	1		I.2.1.	The Parties shall take all appropriate measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact.	prevent, control and reduce transboundary quality impact	Water_Quality	quality_objectives	1.3.3 1.4	у	WFD (Preambel, Art 3)	The term "transboundary" is only used in the preamble, but the RB approach per se requires transboundary action in international basins	RBMP			Question naire I/2, 1.		0
1	2	1	:	1.2.1. :		prevent, control and reduce transboundary quantity impact	Water_Quantity	equitable_usage	1.2.2.c	Υ								n
1	2	2		1.2.2.	The Parties shall, in particular, take all appropriate measures to:	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,												n
I	2	2	a	1.2.2.a	prevent, control and reduce pollution of waters causing or likely to cause transboundary impact	prevent, control and reduce pollution	Water_Quality	quality_objectives	1.3.3 1.4	Y	WFD (Art4, Art 11), GWD (Art 6), IPPC (Art 1 and all subsequent articles as a follow up to Art 1), N- Directive (Art 5, Annex III)		RBMP					n
1	2	2	b	1.2.2.b	ensure that transboundary waters are used with the aim of ecologically sound and rational water management, conservation of water resources and environmental protection	ensure ecologically sound and rational water management	Sustainability	integrated_management	I.3.1.i	N	WFD (Art 3, Art 4, Art 12)		RBMP	10.1. Key Types of Measures to tackle significant pressures, 10.2.				n
	2	2	b :	1.2.2.b:		ensure conservation of water resources	Sustainability		I.3.1.i	N			RBMP	Targeted questions on basic measures and other aspect, 10.4. Co	o-			n
1	2	2	b ::	1.2.2.b ::		ensure environmental protection	Sustainability	ecosystems_protection	1.2.2.d	N			RBMP	ordination of measures in				n
ı	2	2	С	1.2.2.c		influence transboundary waters' quality in an equitable way	Water_Quality	quality_objectives	1.3.3	Y	WFD (Art 3, Art 4, Art 12)		RBMP	international RBDs				n
I	2	2	с :	1.2.2.c :		influence transboundary waters' quantity in an equitable way	Water_Quantity	equitable_usage		Y			RBMP		templa e II/V	Question t naire I/4; 13.,17.		3
1	2	2	d	1.2.2.d	lensure conservation and, where necessary, restoration of ecosystems	ensure conservation and restoration of ecosystems	Sustainability	ecosystems_protection		N	WFD (Art 4, Art 11), Habitat Directive (Art 1)		RBMP		Report templa e III/XIX	t		1
ı	2	3		1.2.3.	Measures for the prevention, control and reduction of water pollution shall be taken, where possible, at source	control pollution at source	Water_Quality	quality_principles	I.3.1.a	N	WFD (Art 4, Art 11)		RBMP		,			n
1	2	4		1.2.4.	These measures shall not directly or indirectly result in a transfer of	prevent pollution transfer to other parts of the environment	Water_Quality	quality_principles		N		Those 2 Directives aim at this issue. The SEA is valid for policies and programms, the EIA for specific projects. In addition national rules exists in many MS for issues that are not covered by those 2 Directives.	SEA, EIA					n
ı	2	5		1.2.5.	In taking the measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article,							,						n
	2	5	a	1.2.5.a	Isnail not be postponed on the ground that scientific research has not	avoid the release of suspected hazardous substances	Water_Quality	quality_principles	I.3.1.c, d, g I.3.2	N	Article 174 of the EC Treaty, WFD (preamble), GWD (not explicitly mentioned, but refers to the WFD as underlying act)		RBMP	2. REPORTING AT SURFACE WATER BODY LEVEL (SCHEMA SWB), 3. REPORTING AT GROUNDWATER BODY LEVEL (SCHEMA GWB)				n
1	2	5	b	I.2.5.b	The polluter-pays principle, by virtue of which costs of pollution prevention, control and reduction measures shall be borne by the polluter	apply polluter-pays principle	Water_Quality	quality_principles		N	WFD (Preamble, Art 9), GWD (not explicitly mentioned, but refers to the WFD as underlying act)		RBMP	11. REPORTING AT RBD/SUB-UNIT LEVEL FOR ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND COST RECOVERY (SCHEMA RBMP_POM)				4
ı	2	5	С	1.2.5.c	Water resources shall be managed so that the needs of the present generation are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs	respect rights of future generations	Sustainability	integrated_management	I.3.1.i	N	WFD (Art 4, Art 7), GWD (preample+ refers to the	The main mechanism in the WFD is the non deterioration clause in Art 4 .The WFD set an explecit focus on drinking water in Art 7.		2. REPORTING AT SURFACE WATER BODY LEVEL (SCHEMA SWB), 3. REPORTING AT GROUNDWATER BODY LEVEL (SCHEMA GWB)				n
1	2	6		1.2.6.	The Riparian Parties shall cooperate on the basis of equality and reciprocity, in particular through bilateral and multilateral agreements, in order to develop harmonized policies, programmes and strategies covering the relevant catchment areas, or parts thereof, aimed at the prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact and aimed at the protection of the environment of transboundary waters or the environment influenced by such waters, including the marine environment	manage catchments based on bilateral and multilateral agreements to minimize transboundary impact	International	International		II.9.1	WFD (Art 3), MSFD (Art 4, Art 6)	This is covered in the RB and Sea Basin Approach under the MSFD. for RB there is no format of cooperation defined. In practice several river basin commissions have been establed in addition to bilateral agreements between MS. For the Sea Basins, also commissions and bilateral agreements exist, but it is stated that MS should use existing regional institutional cooperation structures, including those under Regional Sea Conventions, covering that marine region or subregion.		6. REPORTING AT MS LEVEL: COMPETENT AUTHORITIES, RBDS AND SUB-UNITS (SCHEMA RBDSUC/	A)	Question naire I/2, 1.		8
ı	2	7		1.2.7.	The application of this Convention shall not lead to the deterioration of	prevent degradation	Principles	Principles		N	WED (Art 3 Art 4)	This is covered by the RB approach but also						n
		•			environmental conditions nor lead to increased transboundary impact The provisions of this Convention shall not affect the right of Parties individually or ignitive to adopt and implement more stripment massures.	reflect potential for more stringent	D	2			all EU environmental	in particular by Art 4 which requires The EU always sets the minimum						
1	2	8		1.2.8.	individually or jointly to adopt and implement more stringent measures than those set down in this Convention	measures	Principles	Principles		N	legislation	standards. MS are always allowed to set more stringent targets, measures, rules.						n

		For each applied <u>measure</u> , please provide								
	If available, please provide data (or indicate respective sources) documenting developments for each of the	 National formal background (law, regula International formal background (EU dia 								
	questions for indicating impact.	- Practical examples								
		- sources for further respective informati	on							
		Marana Marana								
		Measures								
	Questions	legal	administrative	economic	financial	technical				
						-i				
1	Which specific measures does your country apply to ensure the conservation and, where necessary, restoration of	 restriction of activities in protected eco systems 	- pro-active involvement of units responsible for protection of the environment		- payments for ecosystem services	- river regulations reflecting ecosystem needs				
	ecosystems?		- regulation of quantitative impacts on eco-systems							
2	Which measures does your country apply for ensuring the integrated, sustainable management and conservation of its (transboundary) water resources?		 environmental impact assessments definition & monitoring of WQ objectives others 							
3	Which measures does your country apply for ensuring that transboundary waters' quantities are influenced reflecting the principle of equitable usage?	- restrictions for the usage of (transboundary) aquifers - restrictions for the usage of	- operation manuals for dams - reflection of natural conditions in spatial planning (e.g. runoff)	- pricing of surface water & groundwater		- automatic gauging stations - preservation and restauration of flooding areas				
	Which measures does your country implement to control and	waters - technological requirements for	- regular monitoring of direct & indirect emitters - Coordination of units responsible for industrial permits & (TB)WM	- pricing of discharged loads - customs duty on imported hazardous substances - taxing of products causing	- subsidizing of cleaner production technologies - credit schemes for technological improvements	- construction of two-stage municipal WWTPs - nutrient removal in WWTP - WQ monitoring programme				
4	reduce the impact of point sources on (transboundary) water quality?	industrial activities ("low/no waste") - permits for indirect emitters - list of substances banned from usage, production and import - requirements for the prevention of accidental pollution	- maintenance of lists of "best available technologies" - definition of sector-specific emission limits for hazardous substances	problematic emissions						
5	Which measures does your country implement to control and reduce the impact of diffuse sources on (transboundary) water quality?	- restrictions for the application of fertilizers (time, quantity) - restrictions for the application of pesticides - list of substances banned from usage, production and import - restrictions for activities in flood prone areas	services - monitoring of agricultural practices (usage, storage)	- taxing of problematic substances - price guarantees for sustainable produced products	- subsidizing of organic farming - subsidizing of other ecofriendly practices	- flood protection of agricultural areas - preservation and restauration of flooding areas - reduction of wash-off and enhacement of infiltration - WQ monitoring programme				
6	Which additional, specific measures does your country implement to control and reduce the pollution of (transboundary) groundwater?	- operational requirements for industries producing, handling or using problematic substances - requirements for the household storage of fuel oil - restrictions for the infiltration of treated or untreated waste waters				- GW quality monitoring programme				
	Questions 8-12 require a officerent structure. Whigh measures does your country implement to minimize the	- requirement of internal contingency plans for critical activities	-installation of a body coordinating planning of relevant administration units - installation of a body responsible			- equipment for minimizing impact of accidents				
7	impact of emergency situations on water quality, water regime and water-related aquatic ecosystem?		for coordinating actual emergency response - harmonizing of contingency plans with riparians							
,										
8	Please provide a list of all transboundary catchments (surface & ground water) and indicate which are managed based on bilateral or multilateral agreements to minimize transboundary	Name of catchment	For each agreement: - Agreement type (e.g. MoU, contract, bilateral, multilateral, joint institution) - starting date	If relevant: - Name of joint institution - contact						
9	impact. Please indicate if and how in your country research on transboundary impact is conducted and where it is	Name of reserach project	- covered issues Topic	Partners	Name of international					
	internationally coordinated. Please indicate how your country provides for the exchange of		Туре		programme Content					
10	information relevant for transboundary water management, both routine and in cases of emergencies. Please indicate how your country supports international efforts	Identification	(agreement, policy, publication, website)	Target group	Covered topics					
	in the fields of responsibility and liability with respect to TBWM.	Identification	Topic	Role						
	Please indicate under which circumstances regulations for the									

Proposed structure of a possible reporting mechanism



Disaggregated view on the structure of the template(s)

- Party 1
 - Measure 1 (related to questions/issues; multiple choice, closed/restricted answers & free text) origin Part I
 - Basin A origin Part II
 - Arrangement(s)? Y? (N gap!)
 - Data exchange mechanism Y? (N gap!)
 - Basin B
 - •
 - General topics origin Part II
 - Basin A
 - Consultations (Art 10)
 - Joint monitoring? Y? (N gap)
 - Emergency (Art 14) and Mutual assistance (Art 15)
 - Basin B ..
 - ...

```
    joint body? Y → entity/contact
    joint body? N → partners/content/scope
    joint body? Y → contact
    joint body? N → partners/content/scope partners
```

```
    joint body? Y → entity/contact
    joint body? N → partners/content/scope
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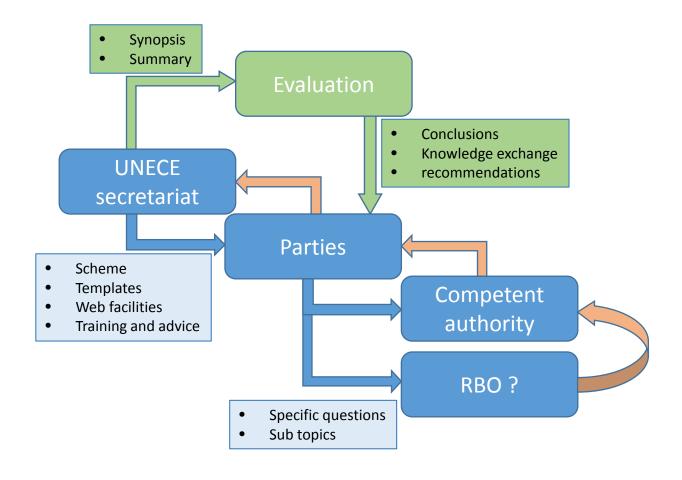
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    joint body? Y → entity/contact
    joint body? N → partners/content/scope
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    joint body? Y → entity/contact
    joint body? N → partners/content/scope
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Detailed structure of the template(s)

- Remaining aspects of Part II the specific transboundary aspect appears to be weak
 - R&D ? (Art 12)
 - Public data ? (Art 16)

Information flow and utilisation



Summary