



15th MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE IN WATER SECTOR OF ARMENIA

Date: April 26, 2016

Location: “Regance” Hotel Complex, D. Anhaght Str. 10/1, Yerevan, 0014

Background: The meeting will be chaired by the State Committee on Water Systems of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia. The objective of the meeting is to discuss the status of NPD activities and recent developments in water sector of Armenia, as well as the progress in implementation of WFD principles in Armenia. The meeting will also serve as platform for establishing synergies with other international water projects implemented in Armenia.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

09:00-09:30 **Registration of participants**

09:30-09:45 **Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**

Purpose of the meeting and adoption of the agenda - *Mr. Volodya Narimanyan, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Water Systems, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia*

Opening statements

- *Mr. John Barker, International Aid/Cooperation Offices in the sphere of agricultural, rural development, forestry, water environment and climate change, EU Delegation to Armenia*
- *Ms. Tatiana Efimova, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)*
- *Mr. Peep Mardiste, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)*

09:45-10:00 **Status of NPD Activities in Armenia**

Status of NPD activities, progress in implementation of WFD principles in Armenia, update on the recent development in water sector of Armenia - *Mr. Volodya Narimanyan*

Reflections by members of the Steering Committee representing different agencies

10:00-11:30 **Session 1 – Economic and Financial Aspects of Water Sector Reforms in Armenia**

1. Presentations

- Work on economic aspects of water management reform in Armenia – *Ms. Tatiana Efimova*



- Assessing the environmental and economic value of water: Review of existing approaches and application to the Armenian context – *Ms. Gloria de Paoli, "ACTeon", France and Vahagn Tonoyan, Water management expert, Armenia*

2. Policy discussion

3. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee

11:30-12:00 **Coffee Break**

12:00-13:30 **Session 2 – Future plans of the EUWI National Policy Dialogues**

1. Presentations

- Update on EUWI+ project for 2016-2020 – *Mr. Peep Mardiste, UNECE*
- Planned activities in context of the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health – *Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia*
- "Next steps in self-assessment on equitable access to water in Armenia" – *Emma Anakhasyan, "Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment" NGO*

2. Policy Discussion

3. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee

13:30-14:30 **Lunch**

14:30-16:00 **Session 3 – Update of water sector recent developments, and synergies with other international projects implemented in Armenia**

1. Presentations

- Update on recent developments in management of hydro-technical structures, *State Committee on Water Systes of the Ministry of Agriculture;*
- Update on recent developments in water resources management, *Water Resources Management Agency of the Ministry of Nature Protection;*
- Update on recent developments in water service fees and tariffs, *Public Services Regulatory Commission*
- Synerfies with other international projects in water sector
 - EU funded project "Environmental Protection of International River Basins" progress up to date, activities in the extension period and cooperation with the EUWI;
 - Projects on reconstruction of Yeghvard Reservoir, construction of Kaps Reservoir and Gravity System, and construction of Vedi Reservoir
 - USAID funded "Advanced Science and Partnership for Integrated Resource Development" project

2. Policy Discussion

3. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee



16:00-16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30-17:30 **Session 4: Identification and discussion of national and transboundary water issues**

1. Policy discussion

- Transboundary cooperation, including potential cooperation in water sector between Armenia and Georgia: legislation, basin management, transboundary cooperation
- Sectoral and inter-sectoral issues and priority (energy, environment, agriculture, water economy, science and education, other)

2. Decision(s) by the Steering Committee

17:30-17:45 **Session 5 - Closure of the Meeting**

Reflections by members of the Steering Committee representing different agencies.

Mr. Narimanyan moderated the session and recalled decisions taken under previous agenda items.