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**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

Tenth meeting

Geneva, 15 and 16 November 2017

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Improving governance for water and health:
support for setting targets and implementing measures**

INFORMAL DOCUMENT

**Draft outline of the guidance document on how to translate the 2030 Agenda into national targets set
under the Protocol**

Prepared by the joint secretariat

At its fourth session (Geneva, 14-16 November 2016), the 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 (Water Convention) highlighted the role of the Protocol as a powerful tool to promote and operationalize the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and its Sustainable Development Goals (see ECE/MP.WH/13-EUPCR/1611921/2.1/2016/MOP-4/06, forthcoming).

At its ninth meeting (Geneva, 5 May 2017) and following the workshop on setting targets under the Protocol to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (Geneva, 4-5 May 2017), the Task Force confirmed the need to prepare a comprehensive and practical guide for joint implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health and the 2030 Agenda and agreed on the general considerations regarding its content, target audience and format.

The present document further elaborates on the suggestions of the Task Force and describes the proposed approach, draft outline and timeline for preparing the guide.

The Working Group is invited to discuss the draft outline of the document and agree on the next steps for its preparation and publication.

Draft concept and outline of the guidance document

Possible title

Protocol on Water and Health and the 2030 Agenda: a practical guide for joint implementation

Format

- Step-by-step guidance on how to establish and operationalize links between the Protocol and the water, sanitation and health related targets of the 2030 Agenda to support effective implementation at country level
- Concrete solutions for different target audiences on how to jointly implement the Protocol and the water, sanitation and health related targets of the 2030 Agenda
- Brief practical examples/case studies
- Attractive design and reader-friendly
- Concise (maximum 20-30 pages)

Target audience

- Government officials: coordination mechanisms for 2030 Agenda; SDG focal points in relevant ministries and statistics offices; intersectoral working groups under the Protocol and coordination mechanisms under the National Policy Dialogues
- Other stakeholders: UN and other international agencies supporting SDG implementation; water and sanitation service providers; NGOs; private sector; donor community

Structure

- Background and objectives: basic information on the Protocol; water, sanitation and health related targets of 2030 Agenda and follow up and review process (UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, Voluntary National Review); graph on linkages between Protocol and SDG targets

Main message: added value of joint streamlined planning and implementation - addressing and mitigating risks and challenges (avoiding duplications, making intersectoral cooperation more effective, facilitating data collection and use, maximizing financing and ensuring policy integration) to achieve objectives and goals of the Protocol and of the 2030 Agenda

- How to bring together the SDGs and the Protocol implementation at country level
 - Establishing national coordination and implementation platform: establishing a platform to serve both SDG 6 and other water related SDGs and the Protocol or using existing institutional mechanisms for Protocol implementation, ensuring involvement of all concerned national authorities (not only water, environment and health but also finance, education, rural development, infrastructure, etc.), water operators, private sector, civil society, academia, etc.

Main message: importance of building on the Protocol platforms when they exist for SDGs implementation, or, when they do not, establish only one to coordinate both the Protocol and the water, sanitation and health related SDGs implementation
 - Assessing the situation for informed planning: conducting systematic baseline study with a gap analysis with respect to achieving the water, sanitation and health related SDGs, identifying priority areas, exploring interlinkages between the Protocol and the 2030 Agenda, allocating responsibilities

for implementation between different concerned sectors and actors, and analyzing financial needs

Main message: SDGs 6, 3 and others are broad and universal, to be meaningful countries need to look closely at their national water and health situation. The Protocol and its process of target setting offer a framework for such an in-depth analysis as prerequisite for establishing targets in fulfilling the Protocol objectives and related SDGs.

- Setting targets: adapting policy frameworks (e.g. sustainable development strategies), aligning objectives with the existing national obligations and other commitments (e.g. Ostrava Declaration), setting national targets and indicators (table on links between Protocol areas and SDGs)

Main messages: if targets have been set under the Protocol, countries should rely on them when setting their national targets for SDG 6, 3 and others. At the same time, the 2030 agenda offers the opportunity to review Protocol targets to check their relevance, comprehensiveness and appropriateness and to update priorities in the context of SDGs and other relevant global and regional commitments. SDGs stimulate countries to look beyond sectoral approaches which also supports Protocol implementation (e.g. education, climate resilience).

- Implementing: developing integrated action plans with adequate resources allocation, using Protocol tools for implementation (e.g. score card, WSPs and SSPs), examples of concrete measures/actions taken in the context of the Protocol that support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
Main messages: using good practices developed under the Protocol for elaboration of an action plan with resource needs (useful to guide state fund allocation and donors support), highlighting Protocol tools that support SDGs implementation

- Monitoring, follow up and review: obligations under the Protocol reporting system and under the SDGs, description of existing global and regional monitoring frameworks, including highlighting overlaps, links and possibilities to avoid duplication

Main message: Assessment and reporting under the Protocol supports monitoring of water and health related targets of the 2030 Agenda. The added value of the Protocol is to go beyond the global indicators and allow tracking more in depth and in a tailored manner progress at national level

** For each of the above steps, specific ideas on the role of different stakeholders such as NGOs, water and sanitation service providers, government authorities and the private sector will be included, as appropriate*

- Communication, advocacy and promotion: communicating progress, achievements and remaining challenges to the public and other stakeholders

Main messages: using the 2030 Agenda momentum for awareness raising of water, sanitation and health issues, positioning water, sanitation and health as central to achieving many other development goals, opportunity for joint promotion, possibility of bringing the Protocol to the attention of high level decision-makers

- Annexes

- Tools already available under the Protocol to support SDGs implementation
- Other tools to support implementation developed by partners (e.g. UN-Water)

Questions for discussion at the meeting:

The Working Group will be invited to discuss the following questions:

- Is the concept of the Guide suitable? Does it reflect the countries' needs?
- What should be the main messages to be conveyed by the document?
- Is the proposed structure clear and comprehensive?
- What could be the proposed case studies under each section?
- Composition of the drafting group
- Role of the drafting group: providing additional ideas, examples, case studies

Proposed timeline and approach to the development of the document

Indicative time frame	Activity
November 2017	Identifying and hiring consultant
15-16 November 2017	Presentation of the draft concept note to the Working Group, establishing a drafting group
By 15 January 2018	Requesting Working Group comments on the concept
January / February 2018	Drafting group meeting
By 1 March 2018	Post-meeting inputs by drafting group
1-15 March 2018	Producing advance draft by the consultant
30 March 2018	Finalizing and sharing the advance draft with the Task Force
25 April 2018	Endorsement by the Task Force
by 30 May 2018	Additional case studies by the Task Force
August 2018	Finalization and submission of the final draft to the Working Group
November 2018	Discussion of the final text at the Working Group meeting
First half of 2019	Review, finalization, design, online version, printing