

European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership

18TH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN ARMENIA

Armenia, 15 October 2019



Venue: "Panoramic Hall", Ani Grand Hotel Yerevan, 65 Hanrapetutyán Street, Yerevan

The objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- to provide and update on recent developments in the area of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and policy development;
- to provide an update on the implementation of the road map of 5 EU Water Directives in Armenia under the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement;
- to discuss progress and next steps in implementing the European Water Initiative Plus (EUWI+) programme in Armenia and to receive feedback from the national stakeholders;
- to provide a platform for coordination of donor activities in the water sector in Armenia and to enhance the international cooperation with partner organizations;
- to discuss remaining challenges in the area of IWRM and next steps

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:30	REGISTRATION
9:30 – 10:00	Opening and welcoming statements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Edgar Pirumyan, Head of the Water Resources Management Agency, Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia, Co-Chairman of the Steering Committee• Mr. Vardan Melkonyan, Chairman of the Water Committee, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures of the Republic of Armenia, Co-Chairman of the Steering Committee• Mr. Gonzalo Serrano De La Rosa, Head of Cooperation Section, EU Delegation to Armenia• Adoption of the Agenda
10:00 – 10:45	STOCK-TAKING OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON IWRM UNDER THE EUROPEAN UNION WATER INITIATIVE IN ARMENIA OVER THE 10 YEARS OF EU EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

	<p>High-level Panel discussion on achievements of the National Policy Dialogue in the past 10 years of EU Eastern Partnership</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Edgar Pirumyan, Head of the Water Resources Management Agency, Ministry of Environment; Mr. Vahagn Tonoyan, EUWI+ National Representative in Armenia</p> <p>Panellists (up to 10 min. each, followed by Q&A and eventual short 2-min interventions from the floor):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gonzalo Serrano De La Rosa, Head of Cooperation Section, EU Delegation to Armenia • Ms. Irina Ghaplanyan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, tbc • Mr. Dmitri Mariasin, Resident Representative of UNDP in Armenia • <i>Q&A followed by discussion</i>
SESSION 1	UPDATE ON RECENT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS ON IWRM AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES IN ARMENIA - RESULTS / CHALLENGES AND NEXT STEPS
10:45 –11:30	<p>In this session recent achievements in the area of water policy development, IWRM and information regarding institutional changes will be presented. Key challenges in the water sector and next steps to achieve efficient, equitable and sustainable development and management of water resources will also be discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievements in development of legislative acts in the field of IWRM in 2019, Mr. Edgar Pirumyan, Head of the Water Resources Management Agency, Ministry of Environment • Remaining challenges and next steps to enhance IWRM in Armenia, Mr. Edgar Pirumyan, Head of the Water Resources Management Agency, Ministry of Environment, • Options to solve wastewater treatment issues in Armenia, possible investments and solutions, Mr. Vardan Melkonyan, Chairman of the Water Committee, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures, • Issues in the drinking water sector – unified operator, self-supplied communities, supply by municipalities and water losses, Mr. Vardan Melkonyan, Chairman of the Water Committee, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures • Strategy of the Republic of Armenia in reservoir construction, Mr. Vardan Melkonyan, Chairman of the Water Committee, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures • <i>Q&A followed by discussion</i>
11:30 –12:00	Coffee break
SESSION 2	PROGRESS UNDER RESULT 1 OF THE EUWI+ PROGRAMME
12:00 –13:15	<p>Introduction by Ms. Christine Kitzler, Environmental Affairs Officer, UNECE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement: Road Map for Implementation – Ms. Haykanush Parsamyan, National Expert, Mr. Tigran Oganezov, National Expert (10 min) • Brief update on latest developments regarding the Protocol on Water and Health, Ms. Emma Anakhasyan, “Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment” NGO (10 min) • Preparation of a Concept Paper on the Development of the Irrigation Sector of Armenia and Institutional Strengthening of WUAs, Tatiana Efimova, OECD, Vahagn Tonoyan, EUWI+ National representative in Armenia (15 min)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of the bilateral meeting between Georgia and Armenia on cooperation in the Khrami-Debed basin, Mr. Zurab Jincharadze, EUWI+ National representative in Georgia (10 min) • Q&A followed by discussion
13:15 –14:15	Lunch break
SESSION 3	PROGRESS UNDER RESULTS 2 AND 3 OF THE EUWI+
14:15 –15:30	<p>Presentations by experts from the EU Member States Consortium and local contractors, followed by feedback from the beneficiary country representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory presentation by Mr. Alexander Zinke, EU Member States Consortium Team Leader (10 min) • Update on EUWI+ Laboratories' development – Ms. Gayane Shahnazaryan, Deputy Director of EMIC (10 min) • Update on surface and ground water monitoring – Mr. Levon Azizyan, Deputy Director of Hydromet Service (5 min), Mr. Harutyun Yeremyan, Head of Division of EMIC (5 min) • Progress in development of RBMPs for Sevan and Hrazdan RBDs – Ms. Liana Margaryan, "Geocom" LLC (10 min), Mr. Seyran Minasyan, Institute of Chemical Physics (10 min) • Data sharing as a base for knowledge development and multidisciplinary integration, and Participation of stakeholders in the basin planning process and awareness raising as key for policy implementation, Ms. Yunona Videnina, IOWater, Ms. Alice Savadyan and Ms. Arevik Hovsepyan, Country Water Partnership (10 min) • Q&A followed by discussion on the different key points
15:30 –16:00	Coffee break
SESSION 4	SYNERGIES WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN ARMENIA
16:00 –17:00	<p>This session will be led by the key beneficiary ministry and will provide a platform for co-ordination and exploring synergies with and between other activities on water, implemented by donors and international organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ENPI SEIS Project – Yuri Poghosyan, National Coordinator in Armenia (15 min) • USAID ASPIRED Program – Magda Avetisyan, COP of the project (15 min) • USAID Pure Water Program – Armen Varosyan, COP of the project (15 min) • Q&A followed by discussion
SESSION 5	OTHER UPDATES, DECISIONS AND WAY FORWARD
17:00 -17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions by the NPD Steering Committee • Closure of the meeting