

**5(d) Supporting the development of agreements
and the establishment of joint bodies:
The global workshop on the development of transboundary water
cooperation agreements and arrangements**

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14th meeting of the Working Group on
IWRM (Geneva, 22-24 October 2019)



Context

- The programme of work for 2019–2021 foresees activities to support countries in developing and revising agreements and arrangements in transboundary basins
- The 1992 Water Convention and the 1997 Watercourses Convention encourage countries to enter into agreements or other arrangements. The Conventions have served as models for various basin level, bilateral or regional agreements.
- Legal frameworks are also decisive to implement SDG 6 on water and in particular target 6.5. Only 17 countries have all their transboundary basins covered by operational arrangements (Progress on Transboundary Water Cooperation, 2018)

Scope of the global workshop (1-2 April, Geneva)



to support countries and basin organizations in advancing step-by-step their cooperation on transboundary surface and ground waters, especially with regard to the development and revision of agreements

More specifically, the workshop will aim at illustrating experiences and lessons learned, in particular:

- ✓ In the starting off of cooperation and step-by-step developing new agreements
- ✓ In the progressive development of cooperation and mechanisms and tools to revise existing agreements and arrangements to address emerging issues

Developing agreement

Revising agreement

a. Getting cooperation started: From what kind of issues a need to formalize cooperation emerges and what does it imply? How to create the political will which lead to the development of an agreement? Which actors, tools and circumstances can help to initiate cooperation?

b. Design the content of new agreements: which are the basic features of an agreement? What are the water management issues that the agreement should help to address? Which scope need to be considered to have an operational agreement? Which are the minimum requirements to comply with international water law?

Revising existing agreements: What are the practices, tools and methods for revising agreements and arrangement? Which actors have to be considered for the revision of existing agreements? Which role for RBOs in revising existing agreements? What are the possible alternatives to revising agreement?

Possible Partners

- Countries, river basin organizations such as Sava Commission, IFIs (World Bank, AfDB, GEF...); regional economic communities such as ECCAS, ECOWAS; Geneva Water Hub, GWP, IUCN, INBO, Oregon State University, Northumbria University, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, University of Geneva etc.

Main expected outcomes of the workshop and plans for the checklist



Main outcome	Plan for the development of the Checklist
Inputs for preparing a checklist for developing and revising agreements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1166 791 2486 943">1. Carry out a desk study about the common elements of agreements and motivations/circumstances of their initiation or revision<li data-bbox="1166 1019 2448 1119">2. Develop an outline of the draft checklist and the process of its finalization for the Global workshop<li data-bbox="1166 1195 1977 1229">3. Submit the checklist to the WG IWRM

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Thanks for your attention!!

For any suggestions, please contact:

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