

# Second Meeting of the Expert Group on the Transboundary Water Allocation Handbook

30-31 March 2020  
VIDEO CONFERENCE



## **Eighth Meeting of the Parties in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan 10-12 October 2018**

- Agreed on the Water Convention's Programme for 2019-2021 (ECE\_MP.WAT\_54\_Add.1\_ENG)

*Programme area 3:*

*Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels*

### **3.3 Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in the transboundary context (Lead Party: Hungary)**

#### **3.3.1 Development of a handbook on water allocation in the transboundary context**

*A handbook based on existing practices will be developed covering the key aspects of equitable and sustainable allocation of water in the transboundary context, addressing both surface waters and groundwaters, and also environmental flows.*

## **3.3.2 Organization of regional workshops on water allocation**

Two regional workshops on water allocation plan to be organized (dates still to be confirmed).

A third one is potentially planned to be held (to be confirmed).

## **Final publication to be launched at the next Meeting of the Parties**

The manual will be translated into French, Russian and Spanish then published and launched.

Plan is to have the Handbook adopted at the ninth Meeting of the Parties at end of September 2021 in Tallinn, Estonia.

## Mandate

- Programme of Work designated a *Drafting Group* would guide the Handbook development
- For practical purposes, was renamed *Expert Group* to reflect its function as an advisory group

## Role

- To provide general technical oversight, advice & inputs on the Handbook structure & content
- Propose case studies for inclusion that are illustrative of specific elements of water allocation

## Expectations & responsibilities

- Participation in Expert Group meetings
- Review and feedback on documents submitted to the Expert Group (can be specific sections)
- Provide inputs & assist with resources on topics / case studies based on your expertise/region
- Assist with recommending and/or contacting relevant experts to join the regional workshops
- Promote the publication with stakeholders and in forums relevant to water allocation issues

## Selection & Invitations

- Secretariat & Hungary consulted together to create a set of minimum criteria & list of experts
- Draft list of approximately 35 experts invited to join based on meeting criteria & for balanced representation

## Addressing gaps

- Last Expert Group meeting & via written feedback: gaps & areas to strengthen were identified
- Secretariat researched, reviewed & invited a few experts in these specific fields/regions to join

## Members & Guests

- Given interest in the topic since the start, several countries/experts have requested to join
- **Members:** invited to join and meet minimum criteria, may be financially supported if it applies
- **Guests:** requested to join and meet minimum criteria, not able to be financially supported
- *Participation* – no difference: participate in meetings, email distribution list, provide feedback
- *Distinction* was done to reflect the strategically targeted balance of representation within the Expert Group sought via invitations. As distinct from further additions in certain fields/regions via guests.

# 'Tour de table' to introduce each expert

Please introduce yourself one by one to the call.

## **20 seconds maximum:**

- Name
- Position
- Country/Institution
- \*If you did not attend the first meeting: outline your area(s) of expertise / region

Please everyone turn off your videos & microphones afterwards.

**During sessions:** Primary way to indicate that you would like to remark is to put an exclamation mark in Chat box. Chair or moderator will then ask you to speak.

# Agenda Summary – DAY 1: Part 1

## **Session 1: 9.00 – 9.15 CET**

- Introduction

## **Session 2: 9.15 – 11.15 CET**

- Discussion on four main content chapters
- 10.30 - [COFFEE / TOILET / STRETCH BREAK - 15 MINS]

## **Session 3: 11.15 – 12.15 CET**

- Explanation of Flow Chart on “Operationalising Transboundary Water Allocation” and Feedback

**EXTENDED BREAK: 12.15 – 13.50 CET**

# Agenda Summary – DAY 1: Part 2

## **Session 4: 14.00 – 16.30 CET**

- Discussion on key thematic elements (1st round)
- 15.30 - [COFFEE / TOILET / STRETCH BREAK - 15 MINS]

## **Session 5: 16.30 – 17.30 CET**

- Explanation of use of case studies, feedback on 1-page template & matrix

## **End of Day 1**

-----

## **Looking ahead to DAY 2: Part 3....**

- **Session 6: 9.00 – 9.15 CET:** Introduction and Agenda Day 2
- **Session 7: 9.15 – 10.00 CET:** Recap on Day 1, specifically case studies
- **Session 8: 10.00 – 12.15 CET:** Discussion on key thematic elements (2nd Round)



# Announcements regarding logistics



## Interventions

- **Presentations:** maximum 5 minutes.
- **Discussion remarks:** maximum 2 minutes. Please be considerate of the tight schedule & limit your remarks.

## To ask Chair / Moderator to make a remark

- Primary method - put Exclamation Mark “!” in chat box.
- If still not asked to remark, you can turn video on (mic muted – until asked to speak). Turn off video after.

## Flexibility and consideration

- There will be some background noise and interruptions during the call, please be patient & understanding.
- If you have any problems or issues to deal with and need to step away for a time, please feel free to do so.

## Technical difficulties & ZOOM as an alternative

- Message Remy directly who will try to resolve the issues urgently.
- If Webex crashes for everyone, a ZOOM link will be sent via email for you to click on.