



## WORKSHOP ON TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN WESTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, 8-10 FEBRUARY 2011

Ministry of Rural Development  
Kossuth ter 11, Budapest

### PROGRAMME

The workshop will be organized by the Ministry of Rural Development of Hungary and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, in cooperation with the International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC), within the framework of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention). It is part of the preparations of the second Assessment of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters, currently being developed under the Convention upon request by the sixth Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” (Belgrade, October 2007) for the Seventh Ministerial Conference that will be held from 21 to 23 September 2011 in Astana, Kazakhstan. Thus, the workshop will provide opportunity for exchanging views on the main messages from the subregion of Western and Central Europe to the Seventh Ministerial Conference.

#### **DAY 1 – Tuesday, 8 February 2011**

Registration 8:30 – 9:15

#### **9:30–10:00 Opening session**

**Chairperson:** Mr. Peter Kovacs, Ministry of Rural Development of Hungary

#### **Welcome address and opening speeches**

*Mr. Istvan Kling, Water State Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Hungary*

*Ms. Francesca Bernardini, Secretary to the Water Convention, UNECE*

*Mr. Boris Minarik, Director, International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC)*

#### **10:00 - 10:45 Setting the scene**

The main findings on the water resources and freshwater quality thematic assessments of the European environment - state and outlook 2010

*Mr. Peter Kristensen, European Environment Agency*

### **10:45 - 12:15 Theme 1: Water quality issues**

Addressing diffuse pollution in the framework of the International Scheldt Commission  
*Mr. Arnould Lefébure, Secretary-General*

11:15– 11:45 Coffee break

Water pollution from point sources and its impact on surface water quality in Hungary  
*Ms. Adrienne Clement, Budapest University of Technology and Economics*

### **12:15 - 12:45 Theme 2: Hydromorphological issues**

Hydromorphology in the Danube River Basin  
*Mr. Raimund Mair, ICPDR secretariat*

12:45 – 14:00 Buffet lunch

### **14:00 - 15:00 Theme 3: Climate change and extreme events**

**Chairperson:** Francesca Bernardini, UNECE

EU activities concerning the impacts of climate change on water resources  
*Mr. Balazs Horvath, European Commission*

Hydrological drought in the Czech Republic: improved knowledge base for defining water scarcity and drought measures  
*Ms. Emílie Nedvedová, Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic*

### **15.00- 16.00 Theme 4: Transboundary groundwater management**

Transboundary groundwater bodies of Danube RBD importance – Methodology for delineation, assessing and presenting the status  
*Mr. Andreas Scheidleder, UBA Austria, ICPDR Groundwater Task Group*

Deep thermal transboundary aquifers –Transenergy project  
*Ms. Annamaria Nador, Geological Institute of Hungary*

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

### **16.30- 17.30 Theme 5: Water and Ecosystems**

Ecosystem management for improving hydrological services  
*Ms. Kati Wenzel, Ramsar Convention secretariat*

Liberty Island - a side-branch restoration project along the Hungarian Danube.  
*Mr. Gabor Figeczky, WWF Hungary*

17:45 Visit of the Parliament of Hungary

19:30 Dinner for all participants of the workshop at Nádor Restaurant, Nádor Street 30 (see map in the practical information notice)

## DAY 2 – Wednesday, 9 February 2011

### 9.00 - 17.30 The second Assessment of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters in Western and Central Europe

*This session will identify developments regarding the status of transboundary water resources since the first UNECE Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwater (2007) in the shared sub-basins and aquifers in Western and Central Europe (see <http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub76.htm>).*

*After an introduction in plenary on the objectives and working arrangements, a short introductory presentation will be made on selected basins illustrating the basin characteristics, the main pressures and problems, the current status and trends including the transboundary impacts and the measures taken or needed. On groundwaters, presentations are similarly made by country representatives on transboundary groundwaters in their country. The basin presentations are complemented by presentations on selected transboundary Ramsar sites or other wetlands of transboundary importance. The presentations are followed by discussion and inputs by representatives of other riparian countries for assessment of these transboundary water bodies.*

*Datasheets pre-filled by UNECE secretariat in cooperation with the International Water Assessment Centre on different basins will provide the background for the discussions (country representatives are invited to take the datasheets concerning their country with them). The information gathered during the discussion will be used for the preparation of the second assessment of transboundary waters under the UNECE Water Convention.*

**Chairpersons:** Mr. Boris Minarik, IWAC, and Ms. Annukka Lipponen, UNECE

Second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwater – Western and Central Europe

*Ms. Annukka Lipponen, UNECE*

Assessment of transboundary groundwaters in the second Assessment: methodology and particularities of the Western and Central Europe sub-region

*Mr. Neno Kukuric, IGRAC & UNESCO - ISARM*

The assessment of Ramsar sites within the second Assessment of transboundary waters: cases from Western and Central Europe

*Ms. Kati Wenzel, Ramsar Convention secretariat*

Oder Basin

*Mr. Piotr Baranski, International Commission for the Protection of the Odra River*

Rhine

*Mr. Joachim Bley, Environment ministry of the German Federal State of Baden-Württemberg*

Rhin supérieur/Oberrhein

*Ms. Edith Wenger, NGO Alsace Nature*

Morava Basin

*Mr. Pavel Hucko, Water Research Institute, Slovakia*

11:00 – 11:20 Coffee break

Floodplains of the Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence  
*Mr. Milan Janak, DAPHNE Institute of Applied Ecology*

Transboundary groundwaters shared by the Czech Republic  
*Ms. Emílie Nedvědová, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic*

Transboundary groundwaters shared by Slovakia  
*Mr. Eugen Kullman, Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, Slovakia*

Transboundary groundwater bodies in Hungary  
*Ms. Teodora Szocs and Mr. Gyorgy Toth, Geological Institute of Hungary*

Mino and Lima basins  
*Mr. José Álvarez Díaz, Miño-Sil River Basin District's Planning Office, Spain*

The Tagus Basin; Groundwater and Transboundary Aquifers  
*Ms. María Casado Saenz, Ministry of Environment and Rural Affairs, Spain*

13.00 – 14.00 Buffet lunch

Po Basin  
*Mr. Francesco Puma, Secretary General of the Po Basin Authority*

Isonzo Basin  
*Mr. Alberto Cisotto, North Adriatic Sea Basin Authority*

Lake Neusiedl  
*Mr. Miklos Pannonhalmi, Hungary*

Lake Fertő/Neusiedl transboundary Ramsar site  
*Mr. András Ambrus, Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate*

Raab/Raba Basin  
*Mr. Peter Somogy, Hungary*

Transboundary Ramsar site in the Foyle Basin  
*Ms. Karin Dubskey, Coastwatch, Ireland*

Torne Basin  
*Mr. Ari Mäkelä, Finnish Environment Institute, Finland*

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee break

<b>16.00 - 17.30 Interactive session</b>
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Group discussions: Participants divide into groups in order to discuss main issues for the sub-regional summary of Western and Central Europe of the second Assessment of transboundary waters. The groups will report back to the plenary in the closing session on 10 February (discussion on the main messages)

## DAY 3 – Thursday, 10 February 2011

### 9.30- 10.30 Theme 6: Implementation of the EU WFD

Lessons-learned from the first preparation of River Basin Management plans

*Mr. Joachim Bley, Environment ministry of the German Federal State of Baden-Württemberg*

Comparability of water status assessment

*Mr. Przemysław Gruszecki and Mr. Mateusz Zakrzewski, Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection, Poland*

### 10:30-13:00 Future perspectives and conclusions: main messages for the second Assessment and recommendations on the way forward

**Chairpersons:** Mr. Peter Kovacs, Hungary and Ms. Francesca Bernardini, UNECE

Water scenarios from the SCENES project: how should policies adapt for sufficient water in the future?

*Mr. Ari Mäkelä, Finnish Environment Institute*

Reports from group discussion

11:00 – 11:20 Coffee break

*Discussion in plenary on the main messages for the sub-region to be brought to the attention of the Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” (21-23 September 2011), through the second Assessment: Participants will exchange views on the recommendations on the way forward. What are the key issues to improve the management of transboundary basins in the Western and Central Europe region?*

Participants will also be invited to discuss, from the sub-regional perspective, some questions that will be discussed by Ministers at the Astana Ministerial Conference “Environment for Europe” namely:

1. Which policies/measures proved to be effective to value and protect water-related ecosystems, including the payment for ecosystem services? What are the main obstacles and gaps?
2. What policies/measures proved to be effective in addressing human health issues related to water quality and quantity? What are the main obstacles and gaps?
3. What are the priorities/challenges in adapting management of water and water-related ecosystems to extreme weather events and to climate change?
4. What are the experiences and lessons learned from the cooperation in transboundary basins to improve water quality, manage water quantity and protect ecosystems?

Finally the necessary steps for finalizing the assessments of transboundary basins and aquifers will be agreed upon.

13:00 Closing of the workshop

13:00 – 14:00 Buffet lunch