



Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses
and International Lakes

Core Group on Reporting
Second meeting
Geneva, 30 and 31 March 2015

Annotated provisional agenda for the second meeting

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 11 a.m.
on Monday, 30 March 2015***

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Possible introduction of a reporting mechanism under the Water Convention
 - a) Background and recent developments
 - b) Detailed discussion of the first draft template for reporting under the Water Convention
 - c) Modalities of the possible reporting mechanism
 - d) Next steps for further development of the mechanism and draft decision for introduction of the mechanism
3. Other business
4. Closing of the meeting

II. Annotations

1. The second meeting of the Core Group on Reporting will be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, in Room VIII. It will start at 11 a.m. on Monday 30 March and end at noon on Tuesday 31 March 2015.
2. The working languages will be English and Russian.
3. All relevant documentation for the meeting of the Core Group on Reporting will be available at www.unece.org/index.php?id=38687.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: 11–11.10 a.m., Monday 30 March 2015

4. The Core Group on Reporting is expected to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

* Delegates attending the meetings are requested to register online on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) website <https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=yWDuZA> by **20 March 2015**. On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the UNECE website, www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6072.

2. Possible introduction of a reporting mechanism under the Water Convention

Tentative timing: 11.10–1p.m. and 3–6 p.m., Monday 30 March 2014 and 9.30–11.15 a.m., Tuesday 31 March 2015

a) Background and recent developments

5. The secretariat will recall the mandate for the Core Group set by the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention through the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and will present the latest developments in the process. At its sixth session (Rome, 28–30 November 2012), the Meeting of the Parties had mandated the Working Group, in consultation with the Implementation Committee, to carry out an analysis on the needs for reporting under the Convention, taking into account the capacity of countries and other relevant reporting mechanisms. Such an analysis was to serve as the basis for the possible elaboration of the scope and modalities of a reporting mechanism to be submitted for consideration and possible adoption by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session.

6. The Working Group decided to establish a Core Group that would develop a proposal for a mechanism for reporting, for consideration at its tenth meeting on 24–25 June 2015 and possible adoption by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session in November 2015. Such a reporting mechanism should be simple, smart and based on and taking into account, to the extent possible, already existing reporting requirements under European Union (EU) directives and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

7. A draft template for reporting under the Water Convention was developed by the secretariat and the Chair, Mr. Seppo Rekolainen (Finland), based on the discussions at the first Core Group meeting (Geneva, 15–16 December 2014). It was sent out to the Core Group members for comments. The Bureau of the Water Convention also discussed the first draft template at its meeting on 12 and 13 February 2015 and Bureau members sent their comments. The secretariat integrated all comments received from the Parties, Bureau and Core Group members and distributed a revised version for comments to all Parties, other States and other interested stakeholders. Based on these comments, a revised version is to be submitted by the Core Group to the Working Group at its tenth meeting.

b) Detailed discussion of the first draft template for reporting under the Water Convention

8. The draft template for reporting under the Water Convention will be presented together with an overview of the comments received. The Core Group will then discuss the first draft template for reporting and how to address the comments received, in particular on crucial and important issues, such as the level of detail, links to other reporting mechanisms, basin agreements vs. bilateral agreements, etc.

9. Links with other reporting mechanisms will also be considered, in particular the EU directives, the regular assessments under the Convention and the possible monitoring of the expected future Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on Water. In this regard, the Core Group may take into consideration the document prepared by consultants for the first meeting of the Core Group “*Comparison of reporting needs emanating from the UNECE Water Convention with reporting requirements under other mechanisms, and proposal for a possible reporting approach*”. This will be complemented by additional presentations, as needed, for example by the secretariat on the latest developments regarding the SDG on water.

c) Modalities of the possible reporting mechanism

10. The Core Group will discuss modalities of the possible reporting mechanism, in particular

- The frequency of reporting
- The format of reporting (on paper, electronic, etc.)
- The need for a pilot reporting exercise
- The main aim of the reporting, the potential uses and analysis of the results.

d) Next steps for development of the mechanism and draft decision for introduction of the mechanism

11. The following morning, the results of the first day will be reviewed and any remaining issues tackled. In addition, the Core Group will discuss possible procedures for introducing reporting and the next steps for the development of the mechanism.

12. The Core Group will also review a possible draft decision for introduction of the possible reporting mechanism, for consideration by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its tenth meeting and subsequent possible adoption by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session.

3. Other business

Tentative timing: 11.15–11.30 a.m., Tuesday 31 March 2015

13. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item.

4. Closing of the meeting

Tentative timing: 11.30 a.m.–noon, Tuesday 31 March 2015

14. The Chair will summarize the major outcomes of the meeting and will formally close the meeting on Tuesday, 31 March 2015 at noon.