

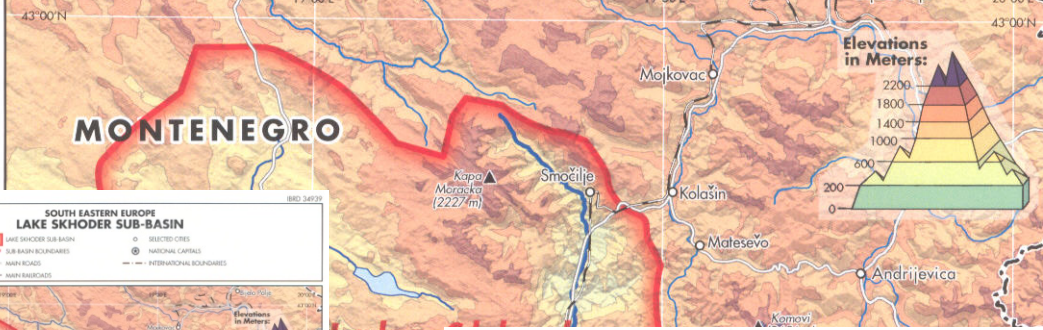
The role of the Water Convention supporting the development of basin agreements and setting up institutions in the Drin Basin

Geneva, 20 October 2016

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Head South East Europe*



**Global Water
Partnership
Mediterranean**



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***Towards the
enhancement of
transboundary
cooperation among
the Drin Riparians for
the sustainable
management of the
extended Drin River
Basin***

Initiation of the
efforts to establish
cooperation at the
Drin Basin level
(2006)

Initiation of the
**Drin Dialogue
process** (2009 –
ended in 2011)

Signing of the
**Memorandum of
Understanding** for
the management
of the Drin Basin
(Tirana, 25
November 2011)

“Up / Top” –
“Driven” by the governments

“Bottom / Down” –
“Driven” by the stakeholders

Time

“Drin Dialogue Process”

“Drin Coordinated Action”

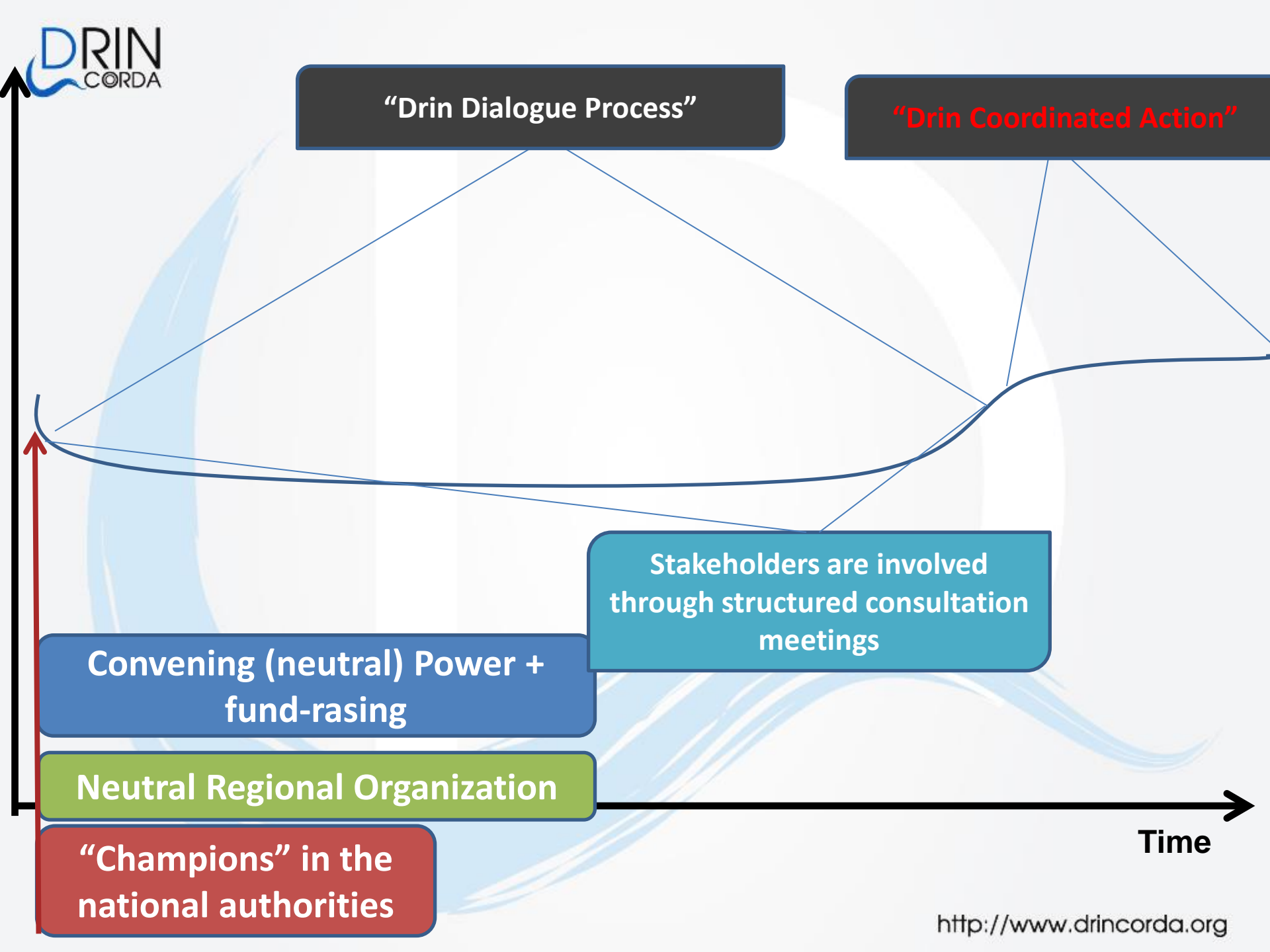
Stakeholders are involved
through structured consultation
meetings

Convening (neutral) Power +
fund-raising

Neutral Regional Organization

“Champions” in the
national authorities

Time



1. The Riparian Parties shall on the basis of equality and reciprocity enter into bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements, where these do not yet exist, or adapt existing ones, where necessary to eliminate the contradictions with the basic principles of this Convention, in order to define their mutual relations and conduct regarding the prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact. The Riparian Parties shall specify the catchment area, or part(s) thereof, subject to cooperation. These agreements or arrangements shall embrace relevant issues covered by this Convention, as well as any other issues on which the Riparian Parties may deem it necessary to cooperate.

“Drin Dialogue Process”

Process to establish cooperation

Not automatically initiated due to Article 9, para 1

Responded to a need

Initiated because of/Enabled by Part III of the Water Convention, **Article 17 and Article 19**

Not automatically initiated due to Article 9, para 1

“Drin D

Proces

COO

Article 19

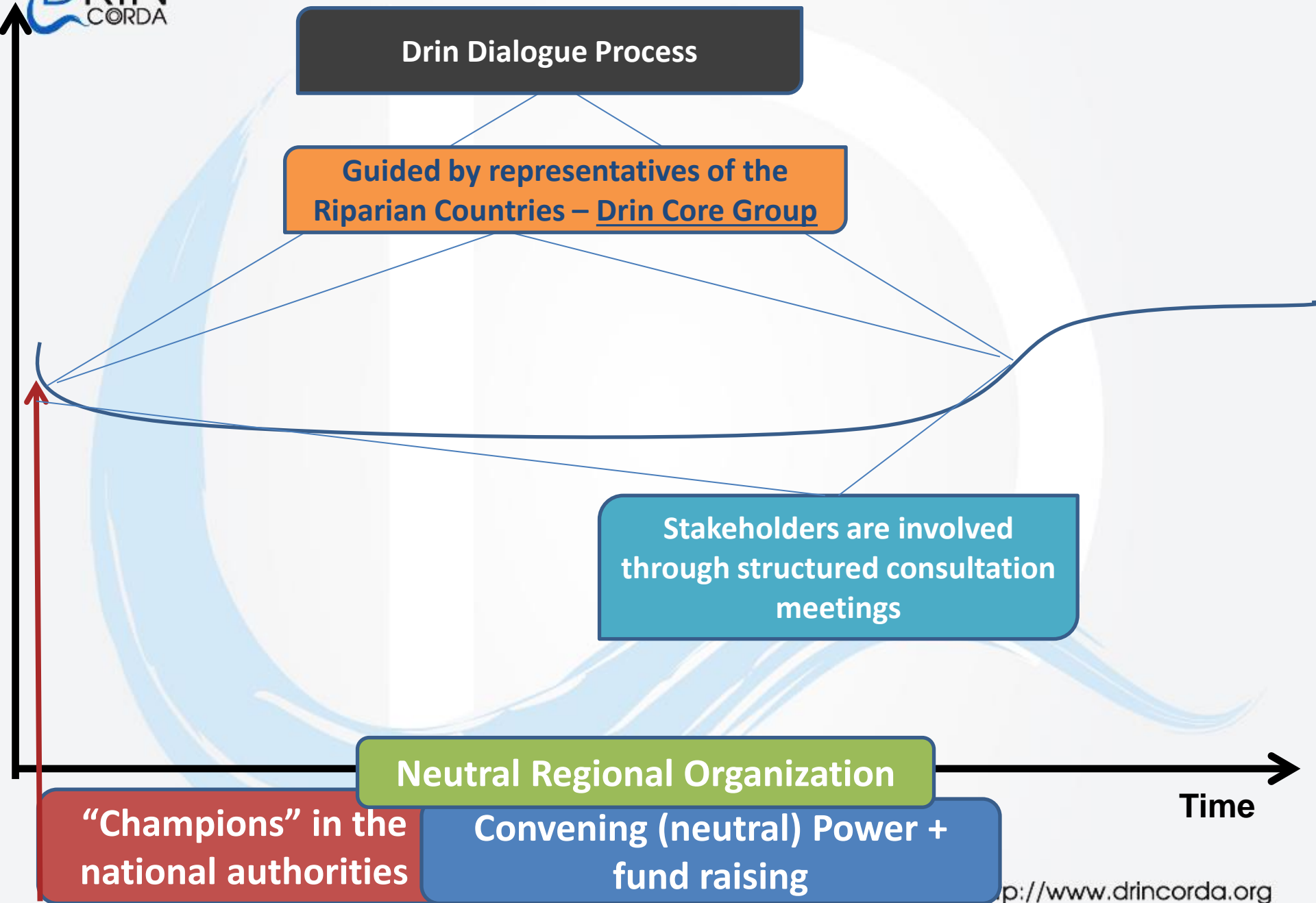
SECRETARIAT

The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe shall carry out the following secretariat functions:

- (a) The convening and preparing of meetings of the Parties;
- (b) The transmission to the Parties of reports and other information received in accordance with the provisions of this Convention;
- (c) The performance of such other functions as may be determined by the Parties.

Drin Dialogue process

Main objective: The development of a **Strategic Shared Vision** among the competent national authorities and stakeholders for the sustainable management of the Drin basin.



Drin Dialogue Process

- Focus on benefits

- Approach high level officials / approach medium level officials
- Explain the stakes/benefits.
- **Ownership**

- Map the stakeholders
- **Explain** the stakes/benefits.
- Secure buy in
- **Ownership**

- Reach out to the political level
- Explain the stakes/benefits.
- **Ownership**

Neutral Regional Organization

Convening (neutral) Power + fund raising

“Champions” in the national authorities

Time

Drin Dialogue Process

**Guided by representatives
of the Riparian Countries**

**Initial Joint fact
finding exercise**

**Stakeholders are involved
through structured consultation
meetings**

**- Focus on
benefits**

**- Facilitate trust
among parties**

Neutral Regional Organization

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Time

Situation Analysis

Identification and brief analysis of the key issues linked with water resources management of the Drin Basin

Drin Dialogue

Drin Core Group Meetings

Meeting 1

Meeting 2

Meeting 3

Meeting 4

National Consultation Meetings

FYR Macedonia Consultation Meeting

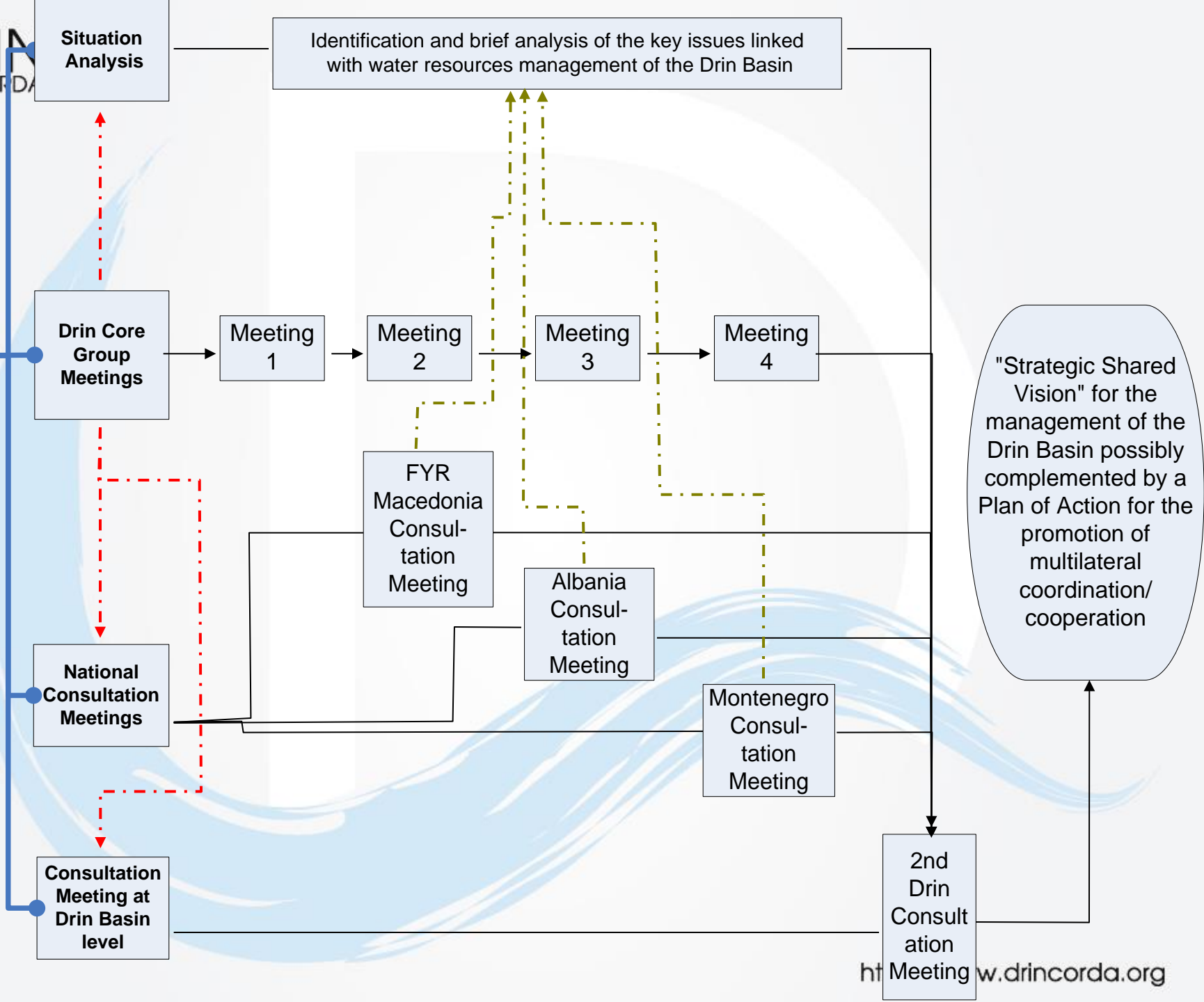
Albania Consultation Meeting

Montenegro Consultation Meeting

Consultation Meeting at Drin Basin level

2nd Drin Consultation Meeting

"Strategic Shared Vision" for the management of the Drin Basin possibly complemented by a Plan of Action for the promotion of multilateral coordination/ cooperation



“Drin Dialogue Process”

**Process to establish
cooperation**

**Resulted to Drin Memorandum
of Understanding**

**Resulted to actions for the
implementation of **Article 2,**
para 6**

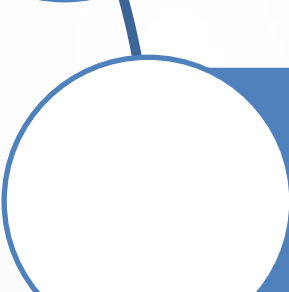
A white circular callout bubble with a blue outline and a blue line pointing towards the top-left. It is positioned over a dark blue horizontal bar.

Resulted to Drin Memorandum
of Understanding

“Drin Dialogue Process”

Process to establish

cooperation

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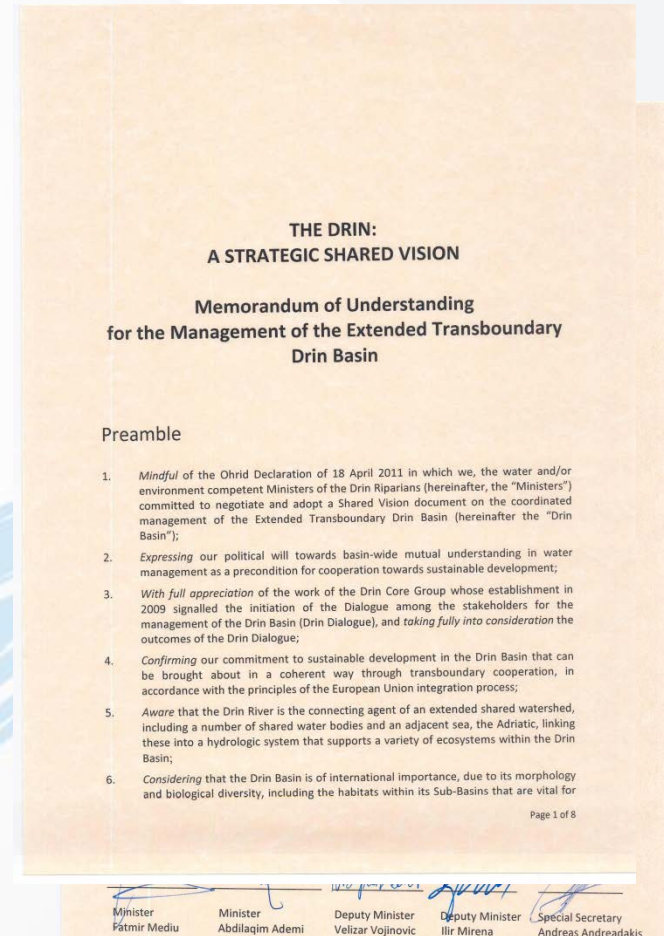
6. The Riparian Parties shall cooperate on the basis of equality and reciprocity, in particular through bilateral and multilateral agreements, in order to develop harmonized policies, programmes and strategies covering the relevant catchment areas, or parts thereof, aimed at the prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact and aimed at the protection of the environment of transboundary waters or the environment influenced by such waters, including the marine environment.

Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)



Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

- **Objective / Shared Vision:** *“The Parties commit to promote joint action for the coordinated integrated management of the shared water resources in the Drin Basin, as a means to safeguard and restore to the extent possible the ecosystems and the services they provide, and to promote sustainable development across the Drin Basin”*



Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

- *Provides the political framework for cooperation*
- *Defines the context of cooperation*

Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Drin Basin (Tirana, 25 November 2011)

- ***Uses inspiration from Articles 9 (para 2), 11, 13 (para 1) etc.***

**MoU
Governing Body**

Meeting of Parties

Ministers responsible for water and environmental management

Coordinating Body

Drin Core Group

- Ministries from Riparians responsible for water and environmental management
- Prespa Park Management Committee
- Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee
- Lake Skadar-Shkoder Commission
- UNECE
- Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean
- Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development

*Drin Core Group
Secretariat*

Expert
Working
Group on
WFDI

Expert
Working
Group on
MIE

Expert
Working
Group
on
BE

Actions for the implementation of the Drin MoU

- 1. Enhancement of coordination mechanisms among the Parties**
- 2. Enhancement of the knowledge basis about the Drin Basin**
- 3. Improvement of information exchange through the establishment of a system for regular exchange of relevant information among the competent authorities of each Party**
- 4. Enhancement of cooperation in the field of flood risk preparedness, management and mutual support**
- 5. Institutional strengthening in the field of integrated water resources management**
- 6. Promotion of public participation and stakeholders engagement**

GEF project “Enabling Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Extended Drin River Basin”

- 5,5 million USD
- Timeframe: 4 years starting in 2015
- UNDP is the implementing agency and GWP-Med (GWP) and UNECE the executing partners.
- GEF project:
 - will serve the implementation of the MoU
 - is tightly linked to the existing institutional setting
 - activities are directly linked with the activities in the Action Plan.

Implementation of the Drin MoU

GEF Drin Project

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

Drin MoU (Tirana, 25/11/11)

Initiation of the Drin Dialogue