



BELÜGYMINISZTERIUM

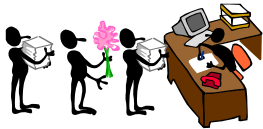
**Institutional cooperation under the Convention,
assistance to Parties
and other benefits of accession**

Péter Kovács

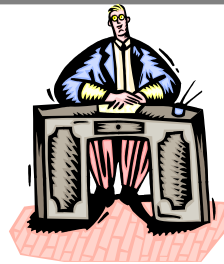
Ministry of Interior of Hungary



Meeting of the Parties



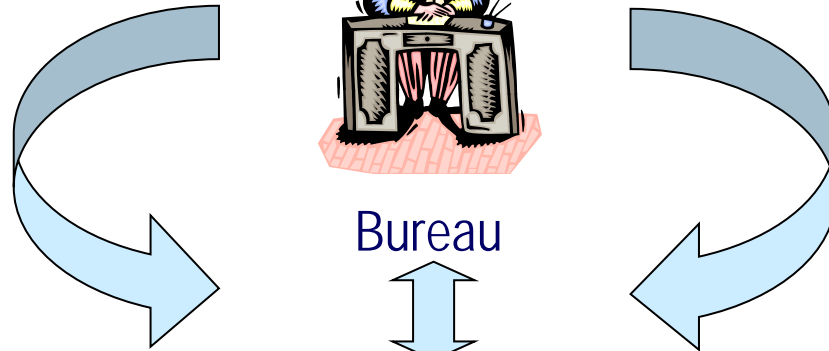
Implementation Committee



Bureau



- Task Force on Water and Climate and global network of basins
- Task Force on the Water – Food – Energy - Ecosystems Nexus
- Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents



Working Group on IWRM



Secretariat

UNECE for the Water Convention and Protocol on Civil Liability
UNECE jointly with WHO/Europe for Protocol on Water and Health



Programme of work for 2016-2018

Support to implementation and application

Opening, promotion and partnerships

Identifying, assessing and communicating the benefits of transboundary water cooperation

European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins

Water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins



UNECE Water Convention

The Water Convention has supported the development of transboundary agreements, the establishment of joint institutions and the strengthening of cooperation at both political and technical levels. Parties have to cooperate by entering into specific agreements and establishing joint bodies. As a framework agreement, the Convention does not replace bilateral and multilateral agreements for specific basins or aquifers; instead, it fosters their establishment and implementation, as well as further development.



Number of bi-and multilateral transboundary agreements were and being formulated (e.g. Danube, Rhin, Dnester, etc.) Provisions were taken into account in the formulation of EU Water Framework Directive.



Transboundary River Commissions

HU – has TRC with all 7 neighbouring country – historical form of cooperation – different structures – identical objectives

AT, SK, UA, RO, RS, CR, SL

- **Flood management, river engineering**
- **Hydrological forecast, data exchange**
- **Water quality protection**
- **Water management, protection of water resources (quality & quantity)**
- **Integrated River Basin Management**



Danube River Protection Convention

**Legal frame for cooperation to assure protection
of water and ecological resources and
their sustainable use in the Danube River Basin.**

Signed: 29 June 1994, Sofia

The main objectives of the Convention:

- sustainable and equitable water management
- conservation and rational use of surface and groundwater
- control of hazardous substances originating from accidents
- control of floods and ice-hazards
- reduction of pollution loads of Black sea



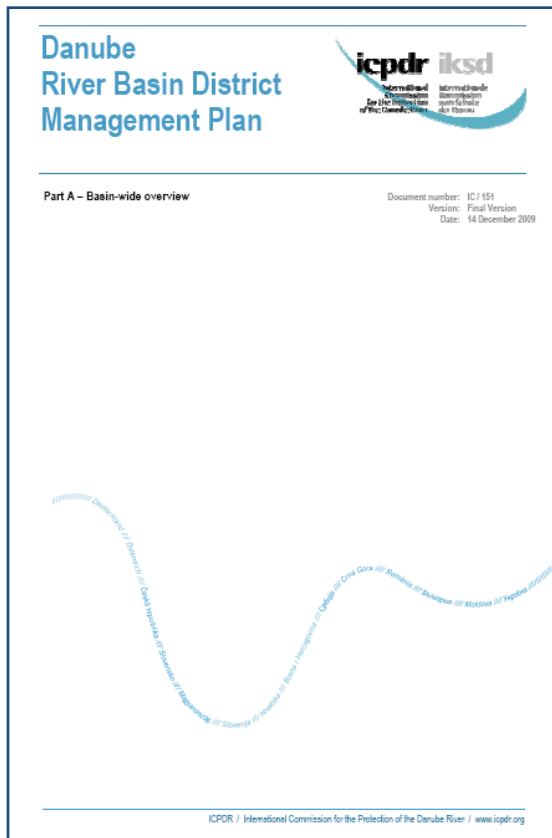
BELÜGYMINISZTÉRIUM

From Black Forest to Black Sea





Danube River Basin Management Plan



Reflects

- Water status of the DRB waters
- Significant Water Management Issues

Includes

- Joint Programme of Measures
- Evaluation on measure implementation

Enables

- Conclusions on investment & funding
- Potential link to Danube Strategy



Assistance to the Parties

The Convention

- provides support to its Parties in establishing agreements and bodies or in strengthening existing ones;
- helps the implementation of obligations aimed at prevention, control and reduction of significant transboundary impact, improves water resources management at the national level;
- offers the use of the Convention's trust fund, which supports the effective implementation;
- supports and organizes seminars and other training activities, studies and pilot projects, as well as for support to participation of experts from eligible countries in workshops, seminars, symposia and other meetings;
- Implementation Committee can help Parties in all questions regarding implementation of the Convention and facilitate the settlement of the various differences and disputes.



Other benefits of accession

The Parties

- has a solid international legal framework
- can openly discuss and resolve challenges and address new, more advanced issues in cooperation in specific basins through the exchange of experiences and good practices.
- gives access to financial assistance and donor cooperation
- contributes to international peace and security
- gives a country can participate in the Water Convention's institutional structure and decision making, so fostering the implementation of the Convention and its further development.
- provides advice and sharing of experience
- can have all kind of support from the community of Parties



Other institutional cooperation

The Convention's partners

- International intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other actors

(United Nations regional commissions, UNESCO, GEF, UNFCCC, UNEP, UNDP, WMO, FAO, the World Bank, INBO, IUNC, GWP, ENVSEC, RECs, Conservation International, Dundee University, WWF, Green Cross International, SIWI, AMCOW, ANBO, European Commission, EEA, OECD, OSCE, SADC, UN-Water activities)

- The Water Convention actively cooperates with the secretariats and governing bodies of other multilateral agreements, (UNFCCC, Ramsar Convention, UNCCD, the Alpine Convention and all UNECE multilateral environmental agreements)



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Thank you for your kind attention !