

Second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters

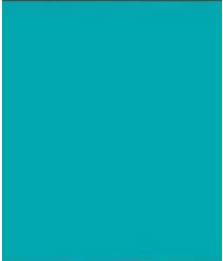
Third Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated
Water Resources Management
Rome, 22-24 October



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

Objectives

- Shed light on effectiveness of measures => implementation of the Convention
- Highlight achievements in IWRM at transboundary level
- Develop knowledge and understanding for further action
- Identify situations of water crisis
- Provide guidance for strategic investments
- Serve as point of reference for Governments, IGOs, NGOs
- Long term effort for benchmarking progress





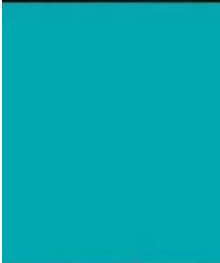
Strengths of the first assessment

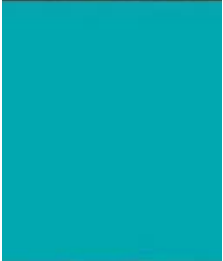
- Unique work for the region
- “Reasonably” complete, goes beyond well-known cases
- Presentation of new material especially for the EECCA part and for the groundwater part
- Broad participation => ownership + importance of the process
- Courage to admit difficulties => good message
- Well-designed layout
- “One” Convention product



Weaknesses of the first assessment

- Assessment of groundwaters and surface waters not integrated
- More focus on quality than on quantity and hydromorphological alterations
- Gaps in ecological assessment
- Varying quality, not always assessment





Lessons learned

- Better integrate it in the Ministerial Conference agenda
- Cooperation with EEA
- Streamline with other activities under the Convention
- Involvement of EU countries, joint bodies, other experts
- Not only questionnaires
- Time, resources, resources and time!



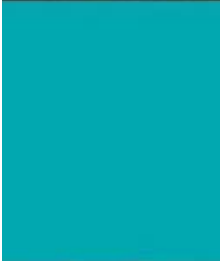


What's next, what are the options?

Second assessment cannot be just the same as the 1st

- Need to address gaps of first assessment, in particular IWRM approach
=> involvement of the WG IWRM
- Need to investigate other areas





Decisions of WGMA: Scope

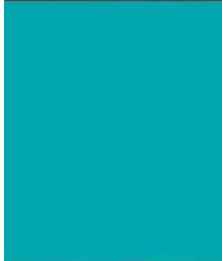
- Asian and European part of ECE
- GW in the whole region
- Non-ECE countries sharing waters with ECE
- More sub-regional focus (not only EU-non EU)
- Special focus on Central Asia





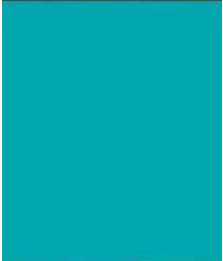
Decisions of WGMA: Content

- Progress in implementing IWRM
- Legal and institutional aspects
- GW and surface water together
- Quality and quantity
- Thematic issues: climate change, health aspects, etc
- Ecosystems: assessment of Ramsar sites in some pilot basins



Outline

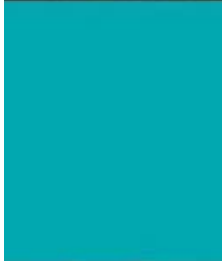
- Maps (if possible also thematic maps)
- Overview-summary
- Objectives and scope
- Major findings
 - Legal and institutional
 - Monitoring
 - Pressures
 - Status and impact
 - Responses
 - The way forward
- Facts and figures on rivers, lakes and groundwaters
- Annexes





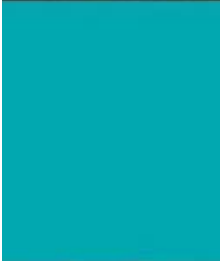
Outline for river basin - aquifer

- Description and map
- Legal and institutional framework
- Hydrology and hydrogeology
- Pressure factors
- Status and transboundary impacts
- Responses
- Future trends



Timeline

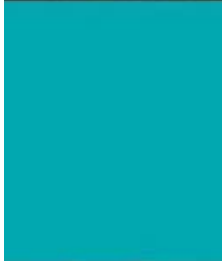
- By end of 2008: Outline and questionnaire
- Jan-Apr 2009: data collection (1 sub-regional meeting), preparation of drafts
- June-July 2009: meetings of WGMA and of WGIWRM
- Jul-Nov 2009: data collection, preparation drafts
- Autumn 2009: data collection (1 sub-regional meeting), preparation of drafts
- Nov 2009: MOP5
- Nov 2009-Sept 2010: data collection (2-3 sub-regional meetings), preparation of drafts
- Sept 2010: 11th meeting WGMA endorse documents
- Sept 2010- Feb 2011: Finalization text, editing, publishing, recommendations for Ministerial Conference
- June 2011? Ministerial Conference



Working arrangements

- Lead countries and partners organizations
=> steering group
- Sub-regional workshops
- One devoted person, possibly in the secretariat, working on the assessment





Budget estimate

- Overall 710,000 USD
 - Personnel
 - Sub-regional meetings
 - Meetings WGMA
 - Consultancy (experts, editing, translation, design and layout)
 - Maps





Questions for the WG IWRM

- Comments on the content and outline?
- Suggestions for the process of production?
- Suggestions for raising needed funds?

