

# The Water Convention and the Working Group on IWRM

## Introduction

# The Water Convention: What is it for?

**Objective:** Protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation

→ Support to transboundary water cooperation (initially in the pan-European region, now globally) for the sustainability of water resources

1992: Signature

1996: Entry into force

2016: Effectively open for accession to all UN Member States

2017: 41 Parties



# The Water Convention: what does it require?

## 3 main pillars

Parties have the obligation to:

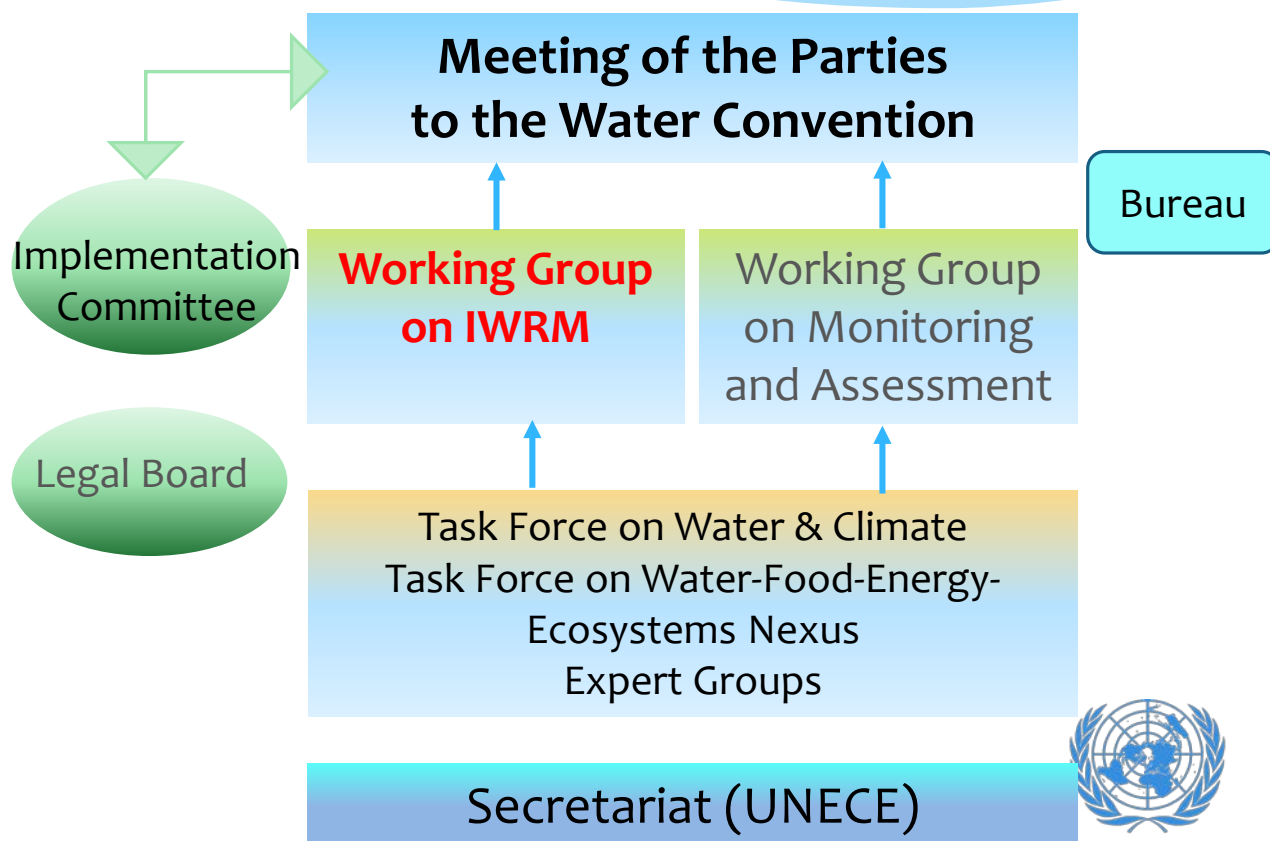


Prevent, control and reduce transboundary impacts

Ensure reasonable and equitable utilization of transboundary waters

Cooperate through establishment of agreements and joint bodies responsible for joint management

# The Water Convention: How does it work?



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**2016-2018  
Programme  
of work**

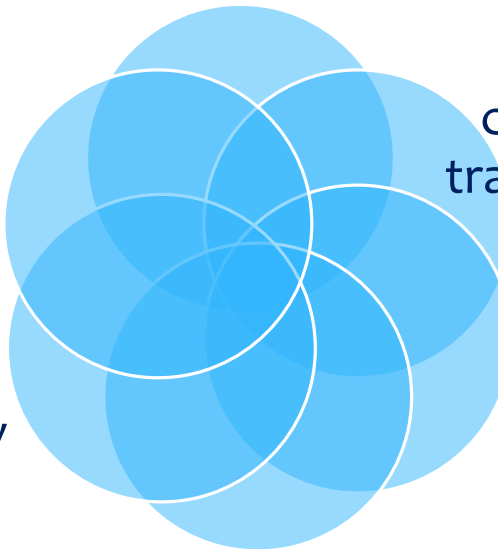
Support to implementation and application

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

# The Working Group on IWRM: role and responsibilities

- \* A subsidiary body established by the Meeting of the Parties of the Water Convention
- \* Open for participation to Parties, non-Parties, Non-Governmental Organizations, International Institutions and other stakeholders
- \* Meets yearly to review progress in implementing the programme of work of the Convention
- \* Provides an open forum for sharing knowledge and successful experiences of support transboundary water cooperation: policy guidance, bilateral and multilateral activities, pilot projects, capacity-building...

Role of countries focal points :

- inform the Working Group on progress in your country / basins
- inform in the capital on activities under the Water Convention

# Where do we stand in the Convention's cycle?

