



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

## **Expert Meeting on Monitoring, Assessment and Data Exchange**

**Geneva, Switzerland/virtual**

**agenda**

**1 April 2021**

Initiating information exchange is fundamental for developing transboundary water cooperation. Comparable information across a transboundary basin or aquifer is necessary to form a common basis for management and related decision-making. In practice, this requires harmonized and comparable methods for monitoring and assessment. Joint monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters and information exchange are therefore among the key obligations of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention).

In Spring 2021, the future programme of work of the Water Convention for 2022-2024 is being developed taking into account the outcome of the survey for the next Programme of Work 2022-2024 of the Water Convention and the outcome of the discussion at relevant intergovernmental bodies under the Convention, namely the Fifteenth meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment and Global workshop on Data Exchange and information (4-6 December 2019). This expert group meeting on Monitoring and Assessment will discuss in detail the proposed activities on monitoring, assessment and data for 2022-24, notably the proposed update of existing guidelines on monitoring and assessment, developed in the framework of the Water Convention- It will review and discuss different options, hear about relevant experiences and needs to consider, orient the work and agree about the next steps.

Languages of work: English, French, Russian and Spanish

**Morning: (10 a.m. – 12 p.m. CEST)**

**Afternoon: (2 p.m. – 4 p.m. CEST)**

| Time   | Agenda Item  |
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| 10:00 – 10.15 a.m.   | Opening of the meeting   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction of the meeting, <i>Ms. Lea Kauppi, Co-Chair of the Programme Area n.2 Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention.</i></li> <br/> <li>- Opening Remarks, <i>Ms. Sonja Koeppel, Secretary of the Water Convention.</i></li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>Session 1: Introduction</b>   |  |
| 10:15 – 10:35 a.m.   | Work on monitoring and assessment under the Water Convention   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation on activities carried out by the current Programme of Work of the Water Convention on Monitoring, Assessment and data Exchange, <i>Ms. Lea Kauppi, Co-Chair of the Programme Area n.2 Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention.</i></li> <br/> <li>- Questions and Answers.</li> </ul> |  |
| 10:35 – 10:50 a.m.   | Outcome of the survey of the Programme of Work 2022-2024 for Programme Area 2  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Outcome of the survey of the Programme of Work 2022-2024 and the proposed activities for Programme Area 2, <i>Ms. Sara Datturi, Associate Environmental Officer, Water Convention Secretariat.</i></li> <br/> <li>- Questions and answers.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>Session 2: Overview of the existing guidelines on monitoring and assessment of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters</b>   |  |
| 10:50 – 11:20 a.m.   | Overview of the existing guidelines developed under the Water Convention and different options for updating the guidelines |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of the existing guidelines developed under the Water Convention and different options for update the guidelines and to complement them, <i>Mr. Jos Timmerman, Waterframes.</i></li> <br/> <li>- Questions and answers.</li> </ul>  |  |
| Interventions from countries and partners  | 11:20 – 11:50 a.m.   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interventions from countries and partners on existing guidelines and other documents or planned work that might be relevant for future work.</li> <li>- Situation in the Mekong River Basin regarding monitoring cooperation and data exchange, <i>Mr. Winai Wangpimool, Director of Technical Support Division Mekong River Commission Secretariat (MRCS).</i></li> <li>- Potential synergies between the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) activities and the 2022-2024 draft programme of work, <i>Mr. Paul Haener, International Office for Water/INBO.</i></li> <li>- Statement, <i>Mr. Edoardo Borgomeo, Water Global Practice World Bank.</i></li> <li>- Synergies with UNEP and GEMS activities, <i>Mr. Melchior Elser, Associate Expert, Global Environment Monitoring System for Freshwater (GEMS/Water) Programme.</i></li> <li>- <i>Synergies with WMO activities, Mr. Tommaso Abrate, Scientific Officer, World Meteorological Organization.</i></li> <li>- Questions and answers.</li> <li>- Possible oral interventions.</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>11:50 – 12:00 a.m.</b>   | <b>Recapitulation of the Morning Session</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recap of the morning sessions, <i>Ms. Annukka Lipponen, Environmental Affairs Officer, Water Convention Secretariat.</i></li> </ul>  |   |
| <b>Session 3: Needs and interest, potential for application of guidelines and good practice</b>   |   |
| <b>2:00 – 2:15 p.m.</b>   | <b>Presentation: Introduction by recalling the regional strategic discussions at the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment held in December 2019</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Outcome of the regional strategic discussion at the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment held in December 2019, <i>Ms. Annukka Lipponen, Environmental Affairs Officer, Water Convention Secretariat.</i></li> <li>- Questions and Answers.</li> </ul>   |   |
| <b>2:15 – 2:30 p.m.</b>   | <b>Presentation: The greater Drin Basin and data exchange and monitoring</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The greater Drin Basin and data exchange and monitoring (current situation and the Strategic Action Programme), <i>Albania/Global Water Partnership Mediterranean (TBC).</i></li> </ul>  |   |

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| - Questions and answers.  |  |
| <b>2:30 – 2 :45 p.m.</b>  | <b>Presentation: Monitoring and Assessment in the Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer</b>                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring and Assessment as well as interest to exchange data and information in the Senegal-Mauritanian Aquifer (overview of the status and the joint action plan developed), <i>Mr. Hilario Sanha, Senior Technician of the General Directorate of Water Resources and International Water Resources Management Focal Point, Ministry of Energy, Industry and Natural Resources of Guinea Bissau.</i></li> <li>- Questions and Answers.</li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>2:45 – 3:15 p.m.</b>   | <b>Brief interventions about situations with monitoring cooperation and data exchange and discussion</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Brief intervention about situations with monitoring cooperation and data exchange that try to answer this question: How international guidance and good practice add value?</li> <li>- <i>Ms. Zhanar Mautanova, International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC).</i></li> <li>- <i>Ms. Sandra Poikane, European Commission’s Joint Research Centre.</i></li> <li>- <i>Mr. Alberto Manganeli, Regional Centre for Groundwater Management in Latin America and the Caribbean</i></li> <li>- Plenary discussion moderated by <i>Ms. Lea Kauppi.</i></li> </ul> |  |
| <b>Session 4: Conclusions for the programme of work 2022-24 under the Water Convention</b>  |  |
| <b>3:15 – 3:55 p.m.</b>   | <b>Presentation of conclusions for the programme of work 2022-24 and discussion</b>                      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conclusions for the programme of work 2022-2024, <i>Ms. Annukka Lipponen, Environmental Affair Officer, Water Convention Secretariat.</i></li> <li>- Plenary discussion moderated by <i>Mr. Niokhor Ndour, Co-Chair of the Programme Area n.2 of the Water Convention.</i></li> </ul>  |  |
| <b>3:55 - 4:00 p.m.</b>   | <b>Closure</b>   |