



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on  
the Protection and Use of Transboundary  
Watercourses and International Lakes

### Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management

Sixteenth meeting\*

### Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment

Sixteenth meeting\*

Geneva, 26–28 April 2021

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of the agenda**

## Annotated provisional agenda for the third joint meeting

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting on Monday, 26  
April 2021, at 2 p.m.\*\***

### I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Adoption of the reports of the previous meetings.
4. Recent developments related to transboundary water cooperation at the global level and under the Convention.
5. Status of ratification.
6. Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention and application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation:

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\* Third joint meeting of the two working groups.

\*\* In accordance with United Nations accreditation procedures, participants are requested to complete the online registration procedure available on the web page for the third joint meeting (<https://unece.org/environmental-policy/water/events/3rd-Joint-meeting-WGIWRM-and-WGMA>) as soon as possible, but by no later than **12 April 2021**. Registration is available through the following link: [https://indico.un.org/e/3rd\\_Joint\\_meeting\\_WGIWRM\\_WGMA](https://indico.un.org/e/3rd_Joint_meeting_WGIWRM_WGMA). For assistance with registration, please see the instructions on the meeting web page or contact the secretariat by email ([mayola.lidome@un.org](mailto:mayola.lidome@un.org)). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 2596.



- (a) Increasing capacity for implementation of the Convention and supporting national processes towards accession;
  - (b) Promoting and communicating the benefits of transboundary cooperation, and supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies;
  - (c) Implementation Committee;
  - (d) Implementation of the Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level.
7. Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels:
  - (a) Water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins;
  - (b) Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in a transboundary context;
  - (c) Supporting National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management under the European Union Water Initiative.
8. Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins.
9. Reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention.
10. Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation.
11. Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins.
12. Partnerships, communication and knowledge management:
  - (a) Cooperation with UN-Water, global and regional partners and other multilateral environmental agreements;
  - (b) Activities of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents.
13. International Water Assessment Centre.
14. Financing of the Water Convention.
15. Future programme of work for 2022–2024.
16. Preparation of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.
17. Possible hosting of the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties.
18. Dates and venue of the next meetings of the working groups.
19. Other business.
20. Closure of the meeting.

## II. Annotations

1. The sixteenth meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the sixteenth meeting of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) will be held jointly at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 2 p.m. on Monday, 26 April, and ending at noon on Wednesday, 28 April 2021. The meetings are being held jointly to exploit synergies in the work of the two bodies. This is the third joint meeting.
2. The main objectives of the third joint meeting of the two working groups will be to:
  - (a) Review implementation of the Water Convention work programme for 2019–2021 (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.1) and discuss progress in the Convention's global opening;

(b) Discuss the draft programme of work for 2022–2024 under the Convention to be submitted to the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention for adoption at its ninth session (Tallinn, 29 September–1 October 2021);

(c) Discuss documents to be submitted to the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

3. The working languages for the meeting will be English, French, Russian and Spanish. All relevant documentation will be made available on a dedicated page of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Water Convention website.<sup>1</sup>

4. Given the hybrid format of the meeting (mostly virtual participation) and expected large participation at the meeting, participants are kindly requested to limit the length of their interventions to a maximum of two minutes. In addition, invited presentations will be limited to eight minutes. The Co-Chairs will strictly enforce these limits. Full statements or presentations provided to the secretariat can be posted on the meeting web page.

## 1. Opening of the meeting

*Tentative timing: Monday, 26 April, 2–2.10 p.m.*

5. Ms. Heide Jekel (Germany) and Ms. Lea Kauppi (Finland) are Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management. Mr. Niokhor Ndour (Senegal) and Ms. Kauppi are Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment. They will serve as Co-Chairs for the meeting and will open it.

## 2. Adoption of the agenda

*Tentative timing: Monday, 26 April, 2.10–2.15 p.m.*

6. The Co-Chairs will present the main objectives of the meeting (see para. 2 above). They will refer to the programme of work for 2019–2021 adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session (Nur-Sultan, 10–12 October 2018), as the working groups will review the status of its implementation, and the draft programme of work for 2022–2024, as the working groups will discuss it in detail. The working groups are expected to adopt the agenda as set out in the present document.

### Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda for the third joint meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/1-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/1)

Programme of work for 2019–2021 (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.1)

Report on the implementation of activities under the Water Convention in 2020 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/3-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/3)

## 3. Adoption of the reports of the previous meetings

*Tentative timing: Monday, 26 April, 2.15–2.20 p.m.*

7. The Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management will be invited to adopt the report of its fifteenth meeting (Geneva, 30 September–2 October 2020). The Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment will be invited to adopt the report of its fifteenth meeting (Geneva, 6 December 2019).

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/water/events/3rd-Joint-meeting-WGIWRM-and-WGMA>.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management on its fifteenth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2020/2)

Report of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment on its fifteenth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2019/2)

## **4. Recent developments related to transboundary water cooperation at the global level and under the Convention**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 26 April, 2.20–2.40 p.m.*

8. Before starting the detailed discussion on current and future activities of the Convention, the working groups will be briefed on major global developments related to water and transboundary water cooperation that need to be taken into account in the work of the Water Convention, namely the:

- 2023 United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028 (New York, 22–24 March 2023) and its preparatory process.
- Sustainable Development Goal 6 Global Acceleration Framework aiming to deliver fast results at an increased scale, as part of the Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.
- Ninth World Water Forum (Dakar, 21–26 March 2022) and its preparatory process.

9. The Working Group will be invited to ask questions.

10. Subsequently, the working groups will be informed about the process of preparing the future programme of work of the Water Convention for 2022–2024. The process consisted of a consultation carried out for that purpose, including discussions in the different intergovernmental bodies and an online survey, and considered preliminary outcomes of the analysis of national reports submitted under the Water Convention and on Sustainable Development Goals indicator 6.5.2. On this basis, a draft programme of work for 2022–2024 has been prepared by the Bureau, also considering the above-mentioned developments related to water and transboundary water cooperation. The working groups will be invited to consider these elements when discussing future planned activities in subsequent items of the agenda.

### **Documentation**

Draft programme of work for 2022–2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/4-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/4)

#### *Informal documents*

Main outcomes of the online survey for the development of the programme of work for 2022–2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.1-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.1)

## **5. Status of ratification**

*Tentative timing: Monday, 26 April, 2.40–3 p.m*

11. The secretariat will inform participants about the status of ratification of the Water Convention, its Protocol on Water and Health and the Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses.

12. Countries in the process of acceding to the Water Convention will be invited to report on their progress.

## Documentation

### *Informal documents*

Ratification status of the Water Convention, its amendments and Protocols (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.2-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.2)

## 6. Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention and application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation

*Tentative timing: Monday, 26 April, 3–4 p.m and Tuesday, 27 April, 10–10.25 a.m*

### (a) Increasing capacity for implementation of the Convention and supporting national processes towards accession

13. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes activities to raise awareness and knowledge of and support accession to the Convention (programme area 1, activities 1.1.1 and 1.1.2). The working groups will be informed about activities carried out by the secretariat, Parties and partners to build capacity and raise awareness of the Convention at the global and regional levels, such as:

- The launch event of the publication *Frequently asked questions on the 1992 Water Convention, with the Road map to facilitate accession processes* (17 November 2020).
- Initiatives of regional organizations and river basin organizations to increase capacity for accession to and implementation of the Convention.
- Contributions to online training sessions and courses focusing on transboundary water cooperation and international water law.

14. The secretariat will introduce the UN-Water policy brief on “the United Nations global water conventions: Fostering sustainable development and peace” published in December 2020.

15. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

## Documentation

*Frequently asked questions on the 1992 Water Convention, with the Road map to facilitate accession processes* (ECE.MP/WAT.59)

UN-Water policy brief “The United Nations global water conventions: Fostering sustainable development and peace”<sup>2</sup>

### (b) Promoting and communicating the benefits of transboundary cooperation, and supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies

16. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes activities to promote and communicate the benefits of transboundary cooperation (programme area 1, activity 1.2) and to support countries in developing and revising agreements and arrangements in transboundary basins (programme area 1, activity 1.3). The working groups will be provided with an update on the progress achieved in different projects supporting the identification of the benefits of cooperation, the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies in various regions, carried out together with partners, such as in the Senegalese-Mauritanian Aquifer basin.

17. The working groups will be briefed on progress in the elaboration of a checklist on the development of legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation, including through

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<sup>2</sup> UN-Water, policy brief (2020). Available at [www.unwater.org/publications/the-united-nations-global-water-conventions-fostering-sustainable-development-and-peace/](http://www.unwater.org/publications/the-united-nations-global-water-conventions-fostering-sustainable-development-and-peace/).

the work of a dedicated drafting group. The working groups will be invited to ask questions and provide comments.

18. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

#### **Documentation**

##### *Informal documents*

Draft checklist on the development of legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.3-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.3)

#### **(c) Implementation Committee**

19. The Implementation Committee will share with the working groups the outcomes of its twelfth meeting (Geneva, 4 and 5 February 2021), including information on progress in advisory procedure WAT/IC/AP/1 (Montenegro and Albania). The working groups will also be briefed on the Committee's efforts to raise awareness of its role and mandate, as well as the future plans of the Committee.

#### **Documentation**

Report of the Implementation Committee on its eleventh meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/IC/2020/2)

#### **(d) Implementation of the Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level**

20. The Bureau will report on progress made in the implementation of the Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2), adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session, which aims to strengthen cooperation and partnerships for the management of transboundary waters worldwide in order to promote sustainable development and peace. Partners will report on actions taken contributing to the implementation of the Convention globally.

#### **Documentation**

Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2)

## **7. Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 27 April, 10.25 a.m.–noon*

#### **(a) Water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins**

21. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes support for intersectoral dialogues and assessments through the application of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus approach (programme area 3, activity 3.2) to foster transboundary cooperation, reduce negative intersectoral impacts and strengthen beneficial synergies. The working groups will be informed about the outcomes of the sixth meeting of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus (Geneva, 22 and 23 October 2020).

22. The working groups will be updated on progress in the elaboration of a publication synthesizing experiences in transboundary basins on solutions and investments in the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus. The working groups will be invited to provide comments on the draft synthesis report and, in particular, on its draft main messages.

23. The working groups will be briefed on the progress achieved in activities in transboundary basins, applying the Methodology for assessing the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins, namely the following:

- The Drin River basin Phase II Nexus Assessment.
- The Drina River basin Phase II Nexus Assessment.

24. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond, including how intersectoral solutions can address issues and provide opportunities in transboundary basins.

#### **Documentation**

*Methodology for assessing the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins and experiences from its application: synthesis* (ECE/MP.WAT/55)

Solutions and investments in the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus: preliminary findings from a synthesis of experiences in transboundary basins (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/6-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/6)

#### *Informal documents*

Solutions and investments in the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus: a synthesis of experiences in transboundary basins (draft report) (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.4-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.4)

### **(b) Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in a transboundary context**

25. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes support to equitable and sustainable water allocation in a transboundary context and the development of a handbook on water allocation in a transboundary context (programme area 3, activity 3.3). The working groups will be informed about the progress in the development of the handbook and its content, which was informed by a collection of case studies prepared by an expert group and from various regional discussions on water allocation. The working groups will provide comments, as needed, on the draft, and will be informed about the planned steps to finalize it.

26. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

#### **Documentation**

Main messages of the draft handbook on water allocation in a transboundary context (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/7-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/7)

#### *Informal documents*

Draft handbook on water allocation in a transboundary context (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.5-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.5)

### **(c) Supporting National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management under the European Union Water Initiative**

27. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes support to the European Union Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management (programme area 3, activity 3.4). Participants will be updated on recent developments in Eastern Partnership countries under the National Policy Dialogues funded by the European Union within the European Union Water Initiative Plus programme and implemented jointly by ECE, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Environment Agency Austria and the International Office for Water of France. They will also be informed about progress under a project in Central Asia funded by the European Union within the regional European Union-Central Asia Cooperation on Water, Environment and Climate Change project<sup>3</sup> and implemented by ECE in cooperation with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

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<sup>3</sup> Detailed information about the project is available at <https://wecoop.eu>.

28. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

## **8. Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 27 April, 2–2.20 p.m*

29. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes support to countries in initiating or further developing joint and coordinated monitoring and assessment of transboundary waters and ensuring exchange of information (programme area 2). The working groups will be informed about the outcomes of the expert meeting on monitoring and assessment (Geneva, 1 April 2021), including on needs agreed for updating existing guidance documents<sup>4</sup> on monitoring and assessment (policy and technical tools) developed under the Convention.

30. Based on the information provided, the working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment on its fifteenth meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2019/2)

## **9. Reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 27 April, 2.20–2.55 p.m*

31. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes support for reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Water Convention (programme area 6). The working groups will be updated on developments regarding measurement of progress relating to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 6 (water and sanitation for all). The working groups will be informed about activities carried out in the framework of the UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for Sustainable Development Goal 6 and in particular the “Summary Progress Update 2021 – SDG 6 – water and sanitation for all”.

32. The working groups will be informed by representatives of ECE and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), co-custodian agencies for indicator 6.5.2, about the process and initial outcomes of the second reporting exercise on indicator 6.5.2 in 2020–2021, including the submission of data to the United Nations Statistics Division. The working groups will also be updated on the preparation by ECE and UNESCO of a global report on progress on transboundary water cooperation based on the outcomes of the second reporting exercise on indicator 6.5.2. The working groups will be invited to provide feedback and ask questions.

33. The secretariat will then provide an overview of initial outcomes of the second reporting exercise under the Water Convention, including on the development of the second report on progress on transboundary water cooperation under the Convention.

34. The working groups will be informed about options and considerations for the development of an online reporting system. The working groups will be invited to make comments and discuss next steps.

35. Lastly, the working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

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<sup>4</sup> For more information, see <https://unece.org/environment-policy/water/monitoring-assessment-and-information-sharing-transboundary-basins>.



## Documentation

Decision VIII/I on reporting under the Convention (see ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2)

Sustainable Development Goal 6 brief “Summary Progress Update 2021 – SDG 6 – water and sanitation for all” (forthcoming)

### *Informal documents*

Draft second report on progress on transboundary water cooperation under the Water Convention: basic content and key messages (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.6-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.6)

Options and considerations for the development of an online reporting system (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.7-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.7)

## 10. Facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 27 April, 2.55–3.15 p.m*

36. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes activities to support countries in facilitating financing of transboundary water cooperation (programme area 5). The working groups will be informed about the outcomes of the Global workshop on financing transboundary water cooperation and basin development (Geneva (online), 16 and 17 December 2020) and the increased cooperation with partners.

37. The working groups will also be briefed on progress in developing a publication on funding and financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development, on the basis of the background study that was prepared for the Global workshop. Representatives of institutions involved in these activities, including from international financial institutions, as well as working group members, will be invited to make comments.

38. Lastly, the working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

## Documentation

Background study on funding and financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development<sup>5</sup>

## 11. Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 27 April, 3.15–3.40 p.m*

39. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes activities to support countries in adapting to climate change and in financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins (programme area 4). The working groups will be briefed on the progress of activities, in particular on the:

- Outcomes of the eleventh and twelfth meetings of the Task Force on Water and Climate (respectively, Geneva, 2 October 2020 and Geneva, 31 March 2021).
- Outcomes of the Global workshop on building resilient water management and sanitation through integrating climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (Geneva, 29–31 March 2021).
- Progress under pilot projects on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins and other activities within the framework of the Global Network of Basins Working on Climate Change, including the outcomes of the fifth meeting of the Network (Geneva, 26 February 2021).

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<sup>5</sup> Study available at <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/water/events/virtual-workshop-financing-transboundary-water-cooperation-and-basin>.

40. The working groups will be informed about inputs to global processes on water, climate change and disasters, in particular to the Climate Adaptation Summit (Netherlands (online), 25 and 26 January 2021), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change/Paris Agreement, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Global Commission on Adaptation and UN-Water. The working groups will be invited to provide comments.

41. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

## **12. Partnerships, communication and knowledge management**

*Tentative timing: Tuesday, 27 April, 3.40–4 p.m and Wednesday, 28 April, 10–10.15 a.m.*

42. The programme of work for 2019–2021 includes the strengthening of cooperation with different partners and with other multilateral agreements at the global and regional levels, communication and knowledge management in order to improve the implementation of the Convention and enhance the impact of activities (programme area 7). Increasing partnerships and synergies with other actors is also one of the objectives of the Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level (see ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2).

### **(a) Cooperation with UN-Water, global and regional partners and other multilateral environmental agreements**

43. The working groups will be presented with an update of ongoing cooperation with different global and regional partners, such as the European Union, the Global Environment Facility International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network, the Global Water Partnership, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, UN-Water and other environmental conventions. Partners will be invited to report on their activities with regard to transboundary water cooperation, including how they support the implementation of activities of the programme of work of the Water Convention at the global and regional levels. The working groups will also be informed about cooperation with the Protocol on Water and Health.

44. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

#### **Documentation**

Programme of work for 2020–2022 under the Protocol on Water and Health (ECE/MP.WH/19/Add.1-EUPCR/1814149/1.2/2019/MOP-5/06/Add.1)

### **(b) Activities of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents**

45. The working groups will be informed of the activities of the Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents, including its draft workplan for 2021–2022.

46. The working groups will discuss future activities in this area to be carried out in 2021 and beyond.

## **13. International Water Assessment Centre**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 10.15–10.25 a.m.*

47. The International Water Assessment Centre, hosted by Kazakhstan, will brief the working groups on the progress of activities implemented by the Centre and on planned activities.

#### **Documentation**

Programme of work of the International Water Assessment Centre for 2019–2021 (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2)

## 14. Financing of the Water Convention

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 10.25–10.50 a.m.*

48. The working groups will be informed about the status of the financial resources for implementing the programme of work for 2019–2021, in particular the status of the different trust funds related to the Convention, including financial contributions and expenditures in 2020 and 2021, and financial needs.

49. Parties and other interested States and organizations will be invited to inform the working groups of their intention to contribute financially to the programme of work's implementation. Unearmarked contributions are especially welcome. Donors are encouraged to use the overall aggregated financial report (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/5-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/5), prepared annually, instead of individual reports for each contribution.

50. The Meeting of the Parties, at its eighth session, requested the secretariat, in cooperation with the Bureau, to prepare options for a more sustainable and predictable funding of the work under the Convention for discussion at the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/54, para. 103 (h)). The Bureau decided to propose a system of targets aiming to increase the financial sustainability of the Convention. A proposal in this regard was discussed by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its fifteenth meeting (30 September–2 October 2020). The working groups will be presented with the updated draft targets for a more sustainable and predictable funding of the work under the Convention and will be invited to provide comments. The working groups will then be invited to submit a draft decision on targets for a more sustainable and predictable funding of the work under the Convention to the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

### **Documentation:**

Report on contributions and expenditures from January until December 2020 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/5-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/5)

Draft decision on targets for a more sustainable and predictable funding of the work under the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/8-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/8)

## 15. Future programme of work for 2022–2024

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 10.50–11.20 a.m.*

51. The working groups will review overall progress made in the implementation of the Convention's programme of work for 2019–2021 and lessons learned.

52. The secretariat will provide the working groups with a summary of planned activities for 2022–2024. Considering the discussions under previous agenda items, the working groups will discuss the draft future programme of work for 2022–2024, including:

- Potential lead Parties for the various work areas.
- Cooperation with partner organizations under the various work areas.
- Resources needed for the implementation of proposed activities and how to raise such funds.

53. The working groups will discuss how to mainstream gender into the future programme of work, based on lessons learned on including gender consideration in the implementation of the current programme of work and experiences of other actors.

54. The working groups will also discuss and agree upon the future institutional structure under the Convention and the mandate of the different subsidiary bodies to guide the implementation of the 2022–2024 programme of work.

55. The working groups will agree on how to finalize the draft programme of work for 2022–2024. The working groups are expected to entrust their Co-Chairs, in cooperation with

the Bureau, with finalizing the programme of work for submission to the Meeting of the Parties for adoption at its ninth session.

#### **Documentation**

Draft programme of work for 2022–2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/4-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/4)

### **16. Preparation of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 11.20–11.40 a.m.*

56. A representative of Estonia, host country of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties, and the secretariat will inform the working groups about the plans and status of preparation for the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties, scheduled to be held in Tallinn, from 29 September to 1 October 2021, including the organizational preparations and the foreseen overall programme of events for the ninth session, in particular the high-level segment. The working groups will be invited to ask questions and make comments.

#### **Documentation**

*Informal documents*

Draft programme of the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/INF.8-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/INF.8)

### **17. Possible hosting of the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 11.40–11.50 a.m.*

57. The Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session requested the secretariat, in cooperation with the Bureau, to formalize and disseminate the procedure for proposing to host future sessions of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/54, para. 105 (c)). The secretariat will remind the working groups about the proposal for this procedure discussed by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its previous meeting (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2020/4). The working groups will be invited to submit the draft decision on the procedure for proposing to host future sessions to the ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

58. The secretariat will also remind participants of the call for proposals to host the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2020/INF.9), disseminated to all focal points of Parties on 11 June 2020. Potentially interested Parties may express their preliminary interest in hosting the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

#### **Documentation**

Possible procedure for proposing to host future sessions of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2020/4)

*Informal documents*

Call for proposals to host the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention in 2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2020/INF.9)

### **18. Dates and venue of the next meetings of the working groups**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 11.50–11.55 a.m.*

59. The working groups will determine the preliminary date and venue for their next meetings. They will also be informed of the schedule of other meetings under the Convention and its Protocol on Water and Health.

**19. Other business**

*Tentative timing: Wednesday, 28 April, 11.55 a.m.–noon*

60. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

**20. Closure of the meeting**

61. The Co-Chairs will close the meeting at noon on Wednesday, 28 April 2021.

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