

Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper

Vice Chair,

Compliance Committee under the

Protocol on Water and Health

Working Group on Water and Health

Geneva & online, 14-15 April 2021

Protocol on Water and Health

#ProtocolWaterHealth



Key highlights of the 4th cycle assessment- reporting cycle 2019

Most targets
relate to safe
and efficient
management
of sanitation
and
equitable
access



Targets
address the
increasing
effects
of
climate
change
as an
emerging
issue



Improvements in the
legal
framework
are often
considered
as a first
step to
implement
targets



Lack of
funding is a
challenge for
implementing
targets,
especially those
on
infrastructure
development

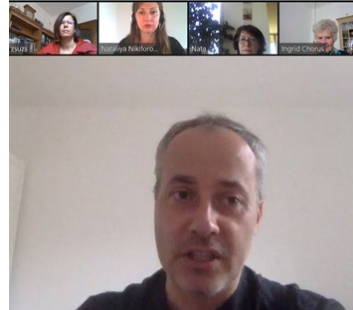
The Committee noted with appreciation that all Parties had submitted their national summary reports within the fourth reporting exercise under the Protocol and that the reports were, overall, of good quality!



Renewed membership of the CC in 2020

New members: (nominating country)

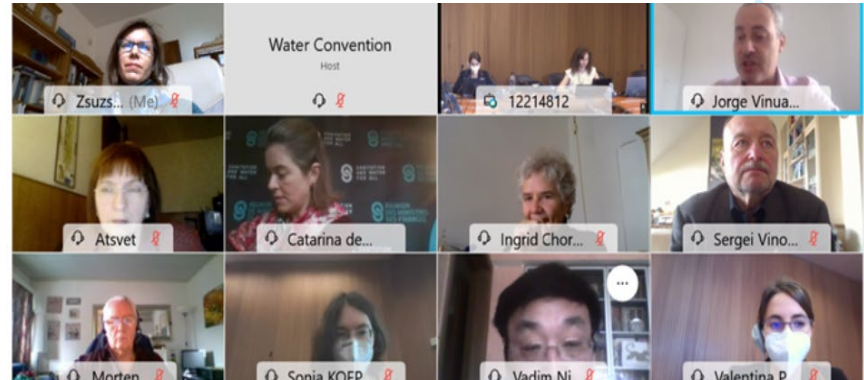
Ms. Catarina de Albuquerque (PT),
Mr. Morten Nicholls (N)
Ms. Anna Tsvietkova (UA)
Mr. Sergei Vinogradov (D)



Due to the pandemic virtual CC meetings were held in 2020

Members:

Mr. Jorge E. Viñuales *Chair* (CH)
Ms Zsuzsanna Kocsis-Kupper *V Chair*(H)
Ms. Ingrid Chorus (D)
Mr. Vadim Ni (CH)
Ms. Natalja Sliachtic (LT)



Main achievements since 2020

1. Interpretive Note and its summary was prepared by the Chair on the provisions of the Protocol on Water and Health and **their relationship with European Union law** governing water and health- Interpretive Note prepared within the framework of the Consultation Process with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

2. **Facilitating compliance** with the obligations under the Protocol

The Committee had decided to work on an **interpretive note** aimed at clarifying the provisions of the Protocol related to **water, environment, sanitation and hygiene** in order **to highlight the public health dimension of the Protocol**, including in connection with the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. Catarina d A. is the rapporteur for the note.

3. Committee's role in **stimulating progress with target setting**

- Bosnia and Herzegovina; Portugal; and Spain communicated targets.
- Belgium submitted a complement to its report related to Brussels Capital Region.
- Montenegro still has time to fulfil the obligation.
- Albania is the only country where information is still missing

4. Committee's role **in consultation**



Compliance committee-consultation process



Compliance Committee consisting of nine independent members serving in their personal capacity

New consultation process as of 2011:

- Assist Parties in developing an accurate analysis of their situation (enabling them to set targets under the Protocol),
- Provide recommendations to the Parties on how to improve their situation
- Assist Parties in seeking support from donors, specialized agencies and other competent bodies

Consultation criteria with Parties:

- (a) The Party had difficulties in implementing the main obligations of the Protocol (e.g., setting targets and reporting under the Protocol);
- (b) No targeted assistance had been received so far by the Party under consideration;
- (c) The Party was eligible for funding with regard to the Consultation Process;
- (d) The country had been a Party for a considerable period of time vis-à-vis new Parties;
- (e) The Party or Parties represented different subregions;
- (f) The implementation problems at issue were faced by a group of Parties

Consultation process

Ongoing Consultation

The Russian Federation accepted the invitation to engage, **the first consultation will be held in June 2021.**

Zsuzsanna KK is the rapporteur of the dedicated Working Group.

Previous steps with Russia



Plans for future work in this area

Awareness raising

The Committee is looking into promoting its functions in the **human rights and public health community.**

A webinar around the topics of the interpretive note is planned to be organized before the end of 2021.



Submission

Communication to the Compliance Committee on the Protocol on Water and Health:

Co-Secretary of the Protocol on Water and Health
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Environment Division
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 917 10 32
email: protocol.water_health@unece.org
Website:
https://www.unece.org/env/water/pwh_text/text_protocol.html

Still no submissions, referrals and communications!
Please see the Guidance!



Format In writing and must clearly identify the Party concerned. Concise



Identification Basic information on the identity of the communicant must be provided



Language preferably English (French, German or Russian)



Content Facts and the explicit links between the facts and the provisions of the Protocol not complied with.

Clear statement that the Party concerned has failed to comply with each provision mentioned.

Any domestic remedies or international procedures that the communicant has resorted to.



Confidentiality could be kept



Supporting documentation Copies (not originals) of all the documentation strictly relevant to the communication



Signed and dated

The Committee will continue working on consultations with Russia, on the interpretive note and eventually the analysis of the reports within the fifth reporting cycle.



Involve the public



The Protocol provides for the possibility of members of the public to make communications to the Compliance Committee on cases of alleged non-compliance with the Protocol.

Communications may be submitted to the Committee

by any member of the public.

To submit a communication:
No need to be a citizen of the State Party concerned or to be based in its territory,

neither need to demonstrate injury or to be specifically affected, and the

communicant does not need to be represented by or seek advice from a lawyer.

Thank you for your attention!

