

Concluding remarks by the Chair

The Task Force:

- **Welcomed the significant progress** by a number of Parties and other States in **setting, implementing and revising their national targets** under the Protocol (namely, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Germany, Portugal, Russia and Spain that intervened today). Encouraged the use of the Consultation Process under the Compliance Committee for the Protocol for Parties requiring assistance in setting, revising or implementing their targets
- Encouraged Protocol Parties and other States to **make use of the document Protocol on Water and Health and the COVID-19 pandemic: relevance, lessons learned and future perspectives in order to set and implement COVID-19 sensitive targets** on water, sanitation and hygiene and health
- **Took note of the launch of the 5th reporting cycle under the Protocol** and encouraged all Protocol Parties but also other States to submit their national summary reports to the joint secretariat **by the deadline of 20 April 2022**
- Welcomed the update on the development of a new **electronic reporting system** under the Protocol and asked the secretariat to proceed with the establishment of the system
- Encouraged countries to **consider outcomes of the progress reporting of SDG 6 monitoring** and to capitalize on the synergies with the global instruments for monitoring water-related SDGs (such as JMP and GLAAS) when preparing national summary reports under the Protocol
- Took note of the **proposals made by the participants in relation to the development of the future programme of work of the Protocol** for 2023-2025 and the future work of the Task Force and encouraged all Protocol Parties and other States to contribute to its further development

