



Draft Meeting report n. 10

Tenth meeting of the IBC on Environment and Climate Change

21 June 2022 (10:00–11:30, Geneva/Venice/UTC+2 time)

The meeting was opened by the IBC co-chair Ana Luiza M. Thompson-Flores, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe. 14 IBC members were represented: ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UN Habitat, UN Women, UNDP, UNDRR, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNOPS, WHO and WMO.

Michael Kunz, RCP Secretariat, shared with the IBC members some takeaways from the recently held **meeting of the Regional Collaborative Platform (RCP) for Europe and Central Asia**. The RCP website is ready and can be accessed at the test link <https://rcp.testengineonline.com/>.

Atila Uras, UNEP, gave some reflections on the UN system response to the situation in Ukraine and the possible role of the IBC. He noted the need for effective coordination for the UN system response and that there was a need to highlight where environmental considerations can be emphasized.

Bruno Pozzi, UNEP, underlined that IBC was available to assist in this regard, and would respond to the request of RCs from Ukraine and the region.

Ana Luiza M. Thompson-Flores, UNESCO, moderated the session on the implementation of the IBC work plan 2022 including the **four IBC main strategic priorities**.

- Jonathan Baker, UNESCO, gave an update on the **green transition** training programme under development including the first meeting of the green transitions task team. The presentation is available in Annex 2.
- Marika Palosaari, UNEP, reported on the IBC activities on **biodiversity**, notably the IBC's involvement in the peer learning session organised during the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development 2022. The RFSD event is available on the UN Web TV: <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1a/k1aaw5124z>
- Nicholas Bonvoisin, UNECE, presented the ongoing work on the development of key policy messages on **climate action** in support of UNCT engagement with Governments. This is in response to an action point that emerged from the Annual Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia meeting and Resident Coordinators and RCP Member Meeting on 5 April 2022.
 - The IBC co-chairs will ask for another round of comments, notably link, resources and flagship publications. A further request for comment will be submitted to UNFCCC and to the advisory groups (UNWOMEN, UNICEF, IOM).



The Statement of climate state in Europe will be highlighted at the start of the climate change messages.

- Milan Dacic and Natalia Berghi, WMO, updated the IBC members on the the status of the **Regional annual assessment report of climate state in Europe**.
- UNDRR mentioned a possible regional webinar about risk analysis and consequences to covid19; further information will be shared with IBC members in upcoming weeks.
- The last part of the meeting was dedicated to the Support to individual UNCTs and was moderated by Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa, UNECE.

Sezin Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan, articulated her request to the IBC which emanated from a Regional Monthly Reviews meeting, for a regional analysis on water resources, notably at the transboundary level, in Central Asian countries. She noted that the region was experiencing water-related conflicts exacerbated by climate limiting water availability. She noted that during the Dushanbe water conference it became clear to her that we are missing the full picture on what is happening on water in Central Asia in terms of roles, advocacy messages and the UN position. She emphasized that the IBC provides the correct platform to face this need

Many IBC members commented on their possible contribution to the request:

- WMO described two initiatives implemented in Central Asia on hazard observing systems for decision making and a multi-hazard warning systems;
- UNECE recalled that its water convention works closely in Central Asia and would be happy to work with RCs to respond to the requests UNECE suggested that an interactive discussion be held to narrow down what can be done and is needed;
- UNESCO recalled that the water task team of the IBC, chaired by UNESCO and UNECE, could take up this request. UNESCO through its IHP programme, WWAP and UN Water considers water conflict prevention elements at both global and regional level;
- UNEP will reach out to the technical water experts in its Headquarters in Nairobi to set up further consultations.

Ms. Sinanoglu confirmed that the 5 RCs from the region are aware and informed of this request.

Bruno Pozzi, UNEP, concluded by thanking Ms. Sinanoglu and IBC member agencies for their continued engagement, notably as regards the four IBC workplan focus areas for 2022. IBC members were invited to: 1) comment on the IBC messages on climate action; 2) contact WMO if willing to contribute to the Regional annual assessment report of climate state in Europe; 3) attend a separate meeting of the water task team that will discuss in more detail the request from UN Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan, which might lead to a further meeting with the 5 RCs in Central Asia.



List of Annexes:

Annex 1: Meeting agenda

Annex 2: Presentation by Jonathan Baker on Green Transition

Annex 3: Presentation by UNESCO on the Green transition (training programme)

Annex 4: IBC member list updated