

**AGENDA**  
**WATER CONVENTION OUTREACH WORKSHOP**  
**PANAMA - DECEMBER 6 AND 7, 2022**

**Hotel Sortis, Salón Corotu 2, Panama City**

**Objective of the workshop:**

To present the importance of the United Nations Water Convention in the Panamanian context for the development of a roadmap for next steps in Panama's accession process and for future implementation of the Convention.

**DAY 1**

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 6**

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88486133151?pwd=Q2lZMjZQWVNkNldVWUNYL3pVOCtxUT09>

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
8:30-9:00 am	Participant Registration	Ministerio de Ambiente
<b>Session 1. Inauguration</b>		
9:00-9:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcoming Remarks <b>H.E. Janaina Tewaney Mencomo</b> Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama.</li> <li><b>Harry Liiv</b>, Chairman of the Water Convention, Special Envoy for Transboundary Waters, Ministry of Environment of Estonia.</li> <li><b>H.E. Diana Laguna</b> Vice Minister of Environment of Panama.</li> </ul>	
<b>Session 2. Process for the creation and approval of a Republic Act</b>		
9:30-10:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Process of creation, discussion and ratification of a law of the Republic.</li> </ul>	Honorable Congressman <b>Eric Broce</b> , Chairman of the Environment Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Panama.
<b>Session 3. The National Context</b>		
10:00-11:00 am	<p><b>The importance of management and cooperation in transboundary river basins.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panama's legal framework in relation to watersheds (Law 44 of August 5, 2002) / Project: Towards the Integrated Management of Transboundary Water Resources (IWRM) in the Sixaola River Basin shared by Costa Rica and Panama.</li> </ul>	<b>Yarid Guevara</b> Head of the Integrated Watershed Management Department Water Security Directorate of the Ministry of Environment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panama and the fulfillment of the SDGs: progress in achieving target 6.5. of SDG 6.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Emet Herrera</b> Head of the Department of Water Resources. Water Security Directorate of the Ministry of Environment.</p>
11:00-11:15 am	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:15–11:45 am	<p><b>Panama and its transboundary basins</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sixaola River Transboundary Basin, its experience within the framework of the Panama-Costa Rica Border Development Agreement.</li> <li>Border situation between the Republic of Panama and the Republic of Colombia.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Karla Murillo</b>, State Distance University, Binational Commission of the Sixaola River Basin.</p> <p><b>Rolando Pinzon</b>, Advisor to the Directorate of Foreign Policy, Ministry of Foreign Relations</p>
11:45-12:30 pm	<p><b>Questions and comments on the morning session</b></p>	<p><i>Moderator:</i> Alexander López, Secretariat of the Water Convention</p>
12:30-13:30 pm	<i>Lunch</i>	
<b>Session 4. The Role of the Water Convention and the Accession Process</b>		
13:30-14:20 pm	<p><b>Introduction to the Water Convention</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Water Convention: a codification of the norms and principles of international water law</li> <li>Why is the Water Convention important? Benefits and opportunities for Parties</li> <li>The normative process towards accession to the Water Convention</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alexander Lopez</b>, Water Convention Secretariat <b>Harry Liiv</b>, Special Envoy for Transboundary Waters, Estonian Ministry of Environment. <b>Chantal Demilecamps</b>, Water Convention Secretariat.</p>
14:20-14:50	<b>Questions and comments</b>	
14:50-15:05 pm	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:05-15:35 pm	<p><b>International experience: accession to and implementation of the Water Convention</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Latin American route to accession: Case of the Dominican Republic</li> <li>The Hungarian experience in the implementation of the Water Convention</li> </ul>	<p><b>Domingo Melenciano</b>, Manager of Science and Technology at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic <i>(virtual)</i> <b>Peter Kovacs</b>, Director of Water, Ministry of the Interior of Hungary</p>
15:35-16:00 pm	<b>Questions and comments</b>	
16:00–18:00 pm	<i>Cocktail event</i>	

**DAY 2**  
**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7**

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
9:00-9:15 am	Registration	
<b>Session 5. Workshop with national actors</b>		
9:15-9:25 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of the dynamics and methodology of the workshop.</li> </ul>	
9:25-10:20 am	<p><b>Challenges, initiatives and priorities for Panama's transboundary watersheds</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Border development program between the Republic of Panama and the Republic of Costa Rica.</li> <li>Participatory forum for contributions from stakeholders and provinces.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Georgina Osorio</b>, Ministry of Economy and Finance of Panama.</p> <p>Participatory process</p>
10:20-10:45 am	<p><b>Available tools and opportunities for improvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support for integrated water resources management, water security and adaptation to climate change.</li> <li>Support to the financing of transboundary cooperation and basin development</li> <li>Support for the development of agreements in transboundary basins</li> </ul>	<p><b>Harry Liiv</b>, Estonian Ministry of Environment.</p> <p><b>Erik Salminen</b>, Secretariat of the Water Convention</p> <p><b>Peter Kovacs</b>, Ministry of the Interior, Hungary</p>
10:45-11:00 am	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:00-11:55 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group work: Brainstorming focused on the opportunities, benefits and challenges for Panama in the framework of the accession and implementation of the Water Convention.</li> <li>Plenary: Presentation of the results of the working groups and prioritization of actions for the future implementation of the Convention.</li> </ul>	<p>Moderators: Ministry of Environment and Convention Secretariat</p>
<b>Session 6. Closing</b>		
11:55-12:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closing remarks</li> </ul>	<p>Ministry of Environment of Panama</p> <p>Water Convention Secretariat</p>
12:00-13:00 pm	<i>Lunch</i>	