Agenda Item 6b/
Supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies

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1. Main achievements in this area of work

- Promotion and training on how to apply the Practical Guide on the development of legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation at:
  - Pan-Africa Training on International Water Law & Governance in Uganda, co-organized with GWP, Northumbria University School of Law etc. (19-23 September 2022)
  - Regional workshop on Strengthening Legal and Institutional Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation and Data & Information Exchange (Beirut, 30-31 May 2023)
- Upon on request from Zambia, support to development of draft agreement for the establishment of Luapula River Authority (secretariat presented the Practical Guide and reviewed and provided inputs to the document drew directly from the Practical Guide)
- Upon request from the concerned countries, support to basin-level projects supporting the development of agreements and strengthening of institution on the Senegalese-Mauritanian aquifer, Dniester and Chu Talas
Request for capacity building activities from countries to support the development of agreements and strengthening of institutions (received by the secretariat):

**Europe and Asia:**
- Albania/Kosovo*/North Macedonia/Montenegro (Drin)- future GEF project led by GWP-MED;
- Ukraine (Bug and Dniester (future GEF project led by OSCE));
- Armenia/Georgia (Khrami-Debed basin);
- Kazakhstan/Kyrgyzstan (Chu-Talas);
- Kazakhstan/Uzbekistan (Pretashkent Aquifer)

**Africa:**
- Senegal/Guinea Bissau/The Gambia/Mauritania (Senegalo-Mauritanian aquifer basin);
- Togo (Mono Basin, coastal sedimentary aquifer basin);
- Zambia/DRC (Luapula basin);
- Tanzania (Songwe Basin);
- Niger (Niger Basin);
- Congo/Cameroon (Ogooué-Ntem-Nyanga-Komo);
- Côte d’Ivoire/Burkina Faso/ECOWAS (Comoe-Bia-Tanoe);
- ECOWAS countries (the development of directive on shared waters in West Africa)

**Latin America and Caribbean:**
- Panama/Colombia (Rio Jurado basin);
- Honduras/El Salvador (Ocotepeque-Citala aquifer basin);
- SICA countries – support to the development of regional guidelines for transboundary waters in Central America
- Dominican Republic-Haiti
2. Challenges and lessons learned

- Challenges to respond to the all requests due to financial and capacity constraints
- Further engagement from partners is key to support countries and regional organizations
- Lesson learned: SDG indicator 6.5.2 reporting helped in raising attention to the gap regarding operational agreement and joint bodies
- Lesson learned: Need for stronger attention to the development of legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation and develop more capacities
3. Planned future activities until MOP10

- Global Workshop on developing agreements (focus on how to apply the Practical Guide with a view to prevent conflicts)
  - hosted by Hungary with financial support of Germany and iw:learn (tbc)

- Date: **7 – 8 November 2023**, Budapest

- Participants from **selected basins across the world**

- **Survey** will send to countries: help to design and structure global workshop and understand the needs of Parties, Non-parties, and Stakeholders when they need to develop transboundary water agreements

- Initial discussions with possible partners such as GEF iw:learn, GWP, SIWI..
4. Planned future activities until MOP10

• Lead Parties: Hungary and Germany

• At least one regional or basin workshop on developing agreements and establishing joint bodies will be organized to support cooperation processes, promoting the “Practical Guide on the development of legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation” and the “Principles for Effective Joint Bodies for Transboundary Water Cooperation”,

• Upon request from the concerned countries and pending the availability of resources, a number of basin-level projects supporting the development of agreements and strengthening of institutions will be implemented. Such as Chu-Talas, Dniester, Drin, Luapula River, Dominican Republic-Haiti and Senegalo-Mauritanian aquifer basin

• Activities will also include support to regional cooperation, such as work in Central Asia, support to regional economic communities in Africa and in Latin America for the development of regional frameworks for water cooperation

MAJOR REGIONAL OR BASIN-LEVEL ACTIVITIES CAN ONLY BE IMPLEMENTED WITH ADDITIONAL EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDING FOR THE SECRETARIAT
5. Partners
Thank you!
(please include your contact information)

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RESOURCES
www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html