

**Tuesday, 20 June, 12:30 – 13:00**

## **18th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)**

Dear Colleagues,

- I am glad to participate in the meeting today and discuss the integrated and intersectoral approach to water management.
- I represent the UNECE Sustainable Energy Division which works to improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region. We promote international policy dialogue and cooperation among governments, energy industries and other stakeholders.
- The key areas of our work include sustainable resource management, carbon neutrality, energy efficiency, hydrogen, and renewable energy. We work towards building resilient energy systems. In our work, we also look at the water-energy nexus approach for energy production.
- This approach, for example, allows to examine how much water will be needed for green hydrogen production, how to use water more sustainably for hydrogen produced from the electrolysis process.
- This year the Sustainable Energy Division will organize the Almaty Energy Forum which will be held from 6-8 November 2023 at the Kazakh British Technical University. This will be the third edition of this regional event, based on a strategic partnership between UNECE, UNDP and UNESCAP, aimed at helping countries across the region to accelerate their energy transition.
- During the Forum, we will focus on low and zero-carbon technology interplay for resilient energy systems, water-energy nexus, energy connectivity, and fostering the next generation of experts to deliver on energy transition.
- The session on water-energy nexus will discuss the interdependency of energy production and water resources, its challenges and opportunities at the national and regional levels. In particular, the session will look at different ways of energy generation (hydrogen, nuclear, solar) in the Central Asian region and their demand for water.
- We would like to invite all of you to participate in this event and join us in Almaty on 6 November!

Thank you for your attention!