Outcomes of the 6th Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (Geneva, 16-18 November 2022)

Peter Kovacs, Head of Department of River Basin Management and Water Protection of the Ministry of Interior, Hungary
Key outcomes of MOP-6

- **Broad and high-level participation**: 300 participants from over 45 countries, over 20 ministers, state secretaries and ambassadors
- MOP elected Hungary as its Chair, new members of the Bureau and Compliance Committee also elected

**High-level session**
- Focused on *strengthening resilience* of WASH and health services in times of climate change and pandemics – Protocol as a framework for integrated response to crises
- **Conclusions** brought forward by Hungary, as MOP Chair, to the 2023 UN Water Conference

**Countries’ progress towards accession**
- Montenegro acceded to the Protocol in 2019 – 27th Party
- **Four countries in the process of accession** (Italy, Kazakhstan, North Macedonia, Uzbekistan)
- UN Secretary General stressing the **call for accession** in his message to the MOP – all countries of the pan-European region to ratify the Protocol and strive for full implementation
Key outcomes of MOP-6

Future work

• Programme of work for 2023-2025 adopted
• Two projects on equitable access to water and sanitation, climate change and food-water-energy nexus currently ongoing

Read more here!

Improving governance for water and health

Equitable access to water and sanitation

Increasing resilience to climate change

WASH in institutions

Prevention of water-related diseases

Safe management of water and sanitation

Small-scale water and sanitation supplies

Safe management of water and sanitation

Increasing resilience to climate change
Key outcomes of MOP-6

Publications

1. Making water and sanitation affordable for all:
   Policy options and good practices to ensure the affordability of safe drinking water and sanitation services in the pan-European region

2. Delivering safe sanitation for all:
   Areas for action to improve the situation in the pan-European region

3. Water, sanitation and hygiene in health-care facilities:
   A practical tool for situation assessment and improvement planning

Learn more
Cooperation between the Protocol and the Water Convention

Increasing resilience to climate change
• Jointly organized Global Workshop on building climate resilience through improving water management and sanitation at national and transboundary levels (29-31 March 2021)
• Possible joint events to be organized in future triennium – thematic focus on water and disaster risk reduction, water scarcity, financing climate adaptation

Cooperation under the framework of National Policy Dialogues
• NPDs carried out in 2021-2022 with the aim of strengthening water governance and integrated water resource management in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. To continue in future triennium

Exchange of experience between Protocol Compliance Committee and Convention Implementation Committee

NB: Strategic discussion at the Protocol’s Bureau meeting in May 2023. Global relevance of PWH, increasing interest from European Commission, need to build partnerships. Vision for the Protocol and its future development under preparation
Upcoming events in 2023-2024 – international events and meetings under the Protocol

- 7th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Budapest, Hungary, 5-7 July 2023)
- Strategic workshop on climate change under the Protocol on Water and Health (Geneva, 13-14 November 2023)
- Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting – thematic focus on climate (Geneva, 14 November (p.m.) 2023)
- Expert group meeting on equitable access to water and sanitation (Paris, March 2024, details tbc)
- Compliance Committee meeting (Geneva, 5-6 March 2024)
- Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 16-17 April 2024)
- Workshop on climate change and target setting in Mediterranean countries (Lisbon, June 2024, details tbc)
- Regional workshop on equitable access to water and sanitation (Budapest, September 2024, details tbc)
- Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting (Geneva, 4-5 November 2024)
Thank you for your attention!

- More information on the Protocol is available here.

- You can contact the Protocol’s secretariat at: protocol.water_health@un.org.