Ms Heide Jekel  

Ms Heide Jekel, born 1961, has been head of the division „Cooperation in International River Basins, Freshwater Management Conventions, International Freshwater Protection Law“ since 2005. She represents Germany in six international river basin commissions (Rhine, Moselle/Saar, Danube, Elbe, Odra and Meuse) as well as in four bilateral boundary waters commissions with the Netherlands, Poland, Czechia and Austria. The implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and other EU water related directives on national and international level is one of the focuses of her work. She has co-chaired the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management of the Water Convention for several years and is a long-standing member of the Convention’s Bureau.  

After having graduated in law, Ms Jekel started her professional career in the district government in Koblenz and the environment ministry of the German federal state Rhineland-Palatinate. 1994 she joined the Federal Environment Ministry, first dealing with legal issues concerning the final disposal of radioactive waste. She was environment attaché at the Permanent Representation of Germany to the European Union in Brussels 1998 and 1999. Afterwards she worked several years in the water law division of the Federal Environment Ministry and inter alia transposed the EU Water Framework Directive into national federal law.