



**Economic and Social
Council**

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22 July 2004

ENGLISH ONLY

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

**MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
THE PROTECTION AND USE OF TRANSBOUNDARY
WATERCOURSES AND INTERNATIONAL LAKES**

Legal Board

Second meeting

Geneva, 16-17 September 2004

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND MEETING

to be held at the Palais des Nations *

starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 16 September 2004

* New accreditation procedures have been introduced for all delegates attending meetings held at the Palais des Nations. Delegates are therefore requested to complete the attached registration form also available from the Water Convention's web site (<http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/registrationmeeting.htm>) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat, at the latest 10 days prior to the meeting, i.e. by **6 September 2004**, either by fax (+ 41 22 917 0107) or by e-mail (evelina.rioukhina@unece.org with a copy to francesca.bernardini@unece.org). Prior to the meeting, delegates are requested to present themselves at the Pass and Identification Unit of the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Villa Les Feuillantines, 13, Avenue de la Paix (a map is attached) for the issuance of an identification badge. In case of difficulty, please contact by telephone the UNECE Water Convention secretariat (Mrs. Evelina Rioukhina, tel: +41 22 917 14 99).

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the report of the first meeting.
4. Draft rules of procedure for the meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health.
5. Draft compliance review mechanism under the Protocol on Water and Health.
6. Survey and analysis of bilateral and multilateral agreements on flood prevention, protection and mitigation.
7. Date and venue of future meetings of the Legal Board.
8. Other business.
9. Closing of the meeting.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The second meeting of the Legal Board will start on 16 September at 10 a.m. and end on 17 September at 5 p.m. It will be held in English only.

Documents for the Legal Board's meeting as well as for other meetings under the Water Convention are available at <http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/documents.htm>.

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

The Legal Board is invited to adopt the agenda for its second meeting as set out in the present document.

Item 2: Election of officers

According to decision III/3 of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (see ECE/MP.WAT/15/Add.1), the Legal Board will elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson from among the participants.

Item 3: Adoption of the report of the first meeting

The Working Group will adopt the report of its first meeting (MP.WAT/AC.4/2004/2), prepared by the secretariat in consultation with Mr. Attila TANZI (Italy) and Ms. Elisabeth Katherine JENKINSON (United Kingdom), Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the first meeting.

Item 4: Draft rules of procedure for the meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health

The Legal Board will have before it a document on the draft rules of procedure for the meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (MP.WAT/AC.4/2004/7), based on the outcome of its first meeting. It is expected to finalize the draft for submission to the Working Group on Water and Health at its fourth session (Geneva, 9-10 December 2004).

Item 5: Draft compliance review mechanism under the Protocol on Water and Health

The Legal Board will have before it a document on the draft compliance review mechanism (MP.WAT/AC.4/2004/8) under article 15 of the Protocol on Water and Health, based on the outcome of its first meeting. It is expected to finalize the draft for submission to the Working Group on Water and Health at its fourth session.

Item 6: Survey and analysis of bilateral and multilateral agreements on flood prevention, protection and mitigation

According to programme element 2.1 of the 2004-2006 work-plan, a survey of provisions concerning transboundary river-basin cooperation in flood prevention, protection and mitigation in national legislation as well as in bilateral and multilateral agreements should be made, and options, including the possibility of drawing up a legal

instrument under the Convention, to further develop and strengthen a common framework for flood prevention, protection and mitigation strategies should be explored (ECE/MP.WAT/15/Add.2). Following the outcome of the seminar on flood prevention, protection and mitigation (Berlin, 21-22 June 2004; MP.WAT/SEM.3/2004/3), the task force on flood prevention, protection and mitigation, with Germany as lead country, requested assistance from the Legal Board to undertake this survey and analyse possible gaps in bilateral and multilateral flood agreements. The 2000 Guidelines on Sustainable Flood Prevention, newly adopted/amended national legislation and recently concluded agreements with specific provisions on flood prevention could serve as a basis for such an analysis.

Based on the outcome of this analysis and requests for assistance from countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, the “legal component” of the common framework could offer model provisions on floods for States riparian to the same transboundary waters, so as to establish or update relevant provisions of bilateral or multilateral agreements. It could also give rise to a UNECE regional agreement.

The Legal Board will discuss and decide on its contribution to this work and its cooperation with the task force on flood protection, prevention and mitigation, in order to submit the preliminary results to the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its first meeting (Geneva, 15 December 2004).

Item 7: Date and venue of future meetings of the Legal Board

The Legal Board is expected to set the indicative dates for its future meeting(s) and decide on their venue(s), possibly in conjunction with the next meeting of the task force on flood protection, prevention and mitigation.

Item 8: Other business

At the time of writing the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

Item 9: Closing of the meeting

The Chairperson will close the meeting.



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Delegation/Participant of Country, Organisation or Agency

Participant

Family Name

First Name

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Mrs.

Ms

Date Of Birth

/ /

(DD/MM/YYYY)

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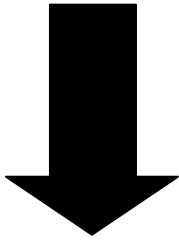
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