



United Nations Economic
Commission for Europe



World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe



**ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTH MEETING
OF THE TASK FORCE ON TARGET SETTING AND REPORTING**

**Bratislava, Slovakia, 10-11 May 2012
Hosted by the International Water Assessment Center
at the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, Jeseniova 17**

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1 Opening of the meeting
- 2 Adoption of the agenda
- 3 Review of general progress in setting targets and target dates and challenges encountered by Parties which have not yet set targets
- 4 Specific challenges in setting targets and target dates
- 5 Setting targets in specific areas of work under the Protocol
- 6 Measures to achieve targets and target dates
- 7 Assessing progress towards the targets and towards the objectives of the Protocol
- 8 Preparations for the next reporting exercise
- 9 Future work of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting for 2011-2013
- 10 Other business
- 11 Closing of the meeting.

II. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Task Force on Indicators and Reporting was established by the first Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (Geneva, 17–19 January 2007) with a mandate linked to implementation of articles 6 (Targets and target dates) and 7 (Review and assessment of progress). The Task Force's main objectives are to provide guidance to Parties and to promote the exchange of experience and harmonization in the region. To these aims, the Task Force has prepared Guidelines for the Setting of Targets and Target Dates, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting, as well as Guidelines for Summary Reports in Accordance with Article 7, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its second session (Bucharest, 23-25 November 2010). The Task Force was renamed Task Force on Setting Targets and Reporting at the second session of the Meeting of the Parties.

The first reporting exercise carried out under the Protocol showed that the situation in setting targets and targets dates is very varied among Parties: some Parties have closely implemented the Protocol and have set targets and target dates; others have started the exercise, but encountered difficulties in the implementation of the proposed procedures; finally others have not set targets at all. Problems are manifold, and often related to the difficulties of establishing an appropriate cross-sectoral coordination mechanism.

The Task Force meeting will be devoted to exchanging experience and to have an open discussion on the difficulties encountered, lessons-learned from the implementation of the Protocol and possible ways ahead to strengthen implementation at the national level.

As the meeting will mostly focus on the exchange of experience, participants will be required to actively participate in the discussion under the different agenda items and to prepare specific contributions on their experience.

Another objective of the meeting will be to discuss synergies with other areas of work under the Protocol in particular:

- Surveillance of water-related disease and direct health interventions to reduce water-related disease;
- Small scale water supply and sanitation;
- Equitable access to water and sanitation.

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA

Item 1: Opening of the meeting (Thursday 10 May, 10.00)

1. At its fourth meeting, the Task Force elected Mr. Pierre Studer (Switzerland) as Chairperson. The Chairperson will open the meeting, recalling the mandate of the Task Force and the objectives of the meeting. Representatives of the host country will also address the Task Force.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda (Thursday 10 May, 10.05-10.10)

2. The Task Force is expected to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

Item 3: Review of general progress in setting targets and target dates and challenges encountered by Parties which have not yet set targets (Thursday 10 May, 10.10-11.15)

3. Participants will be invited to shortly report on any significant progress in their country in setting targets and target dates and in achieving them since the fourth meeting of the Task Force, October 2011 in Tbilisi, Georgia, or since the last Meeting of the Parties.
4. A representative of Slovakia will inform about the outcome of the sub-regional workshop for Central European countries, held on 8-9 May 2012, back-to back with the meeting of the Task Force.
5. The secretariat will inform of the creation of a website on targets set by Parties to the Protocol and the submission of targets set by countries.

Coffee break (11.15-11.30)**Item 4: Specific challenges in setting targets and target dates (Thursday 10 May, 11.30-13.00 and 14.00-15.30)**

6. Under this item participants will be invited to discuss several specific aspects linked to setting targets and target dates. Each issue will be introduced by one or more presentations on the experience in different countries followed by general discussion on the situation in all other countries and possible conclusions on the lessons learned.

A. Which targets to set

7. Issues discussed will include:
 - In which areas stipulated by Article 6 are targets mostly set? Which areas proved most challenging for target setting? Which areas have been intentionally excluded from target setting and for which reason?
 - What kinds of targets have been set?
 - What is the relationship between targets set and past/ongoing policies and strategies?
 - How can targets be prioritized? How can tools like cost-benefit analysis and feasibility studies help?
 - How to strike a balance between setting ambitious targets and achievable ones? Are targets set “good enough”? Do they contribute to reducing water-related diseases?

Lunch break (13.00-14.00)**B. How to implement the Protocol on Water and Health together with relevant EU legislation – synergies and added value**

8. Issues discussed will include:
 - What is the experience of EU countries with regard to the relationship between relevant EU legislation and the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health?
 - Which are the areas requiring additional attention to ensure full Protocol implementation?

Item 5: Setting targets in specific areas of work under the Protocol (Thursday 10 May, 15.30-17.30)

A. Surveillance of water-related disease and direct health interventions to reduce water related disease

9. The Task Force will discuss specific targets to improve surveillance of water related disease. It will also discuss specific targets that can be set regarding direct health interventions to reduce water-related disease.

Coffee break (16.15-16.30)

B. Small scale water supplies and sanitation

10. The Task Force will be informed about the work carried out in the area of small scale water supplies and sanitation and future plans. It will be informed of progress in the collection of information through a questionnaire and the development of the policy guidance on small scale water supplies and sanitation.
11. Participants will discuss specific targets that can be set in this area and how this can inform the work on small scale water supply.

C. Equitable access to water and sanitation

12. The Task Force will be presented with the publication “No one left behind. Good practices to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region” as well as plans to develop a self assessment tool to support implementation of the good practices contained in the document. The Task Force will discuss how to promote the use and application of the good practices document on equitable access at the national and local levels.
13. Participants will discuss specific targets that can be set in this area and how the Task Force can contribute to the development of the self assessment tool.

Item 6: Measures to achieve targets and target dates (Friday 11 May, 9.30-11.30)

14. The Task Force will exchange information on the measures that are planned or already in place to achieve the targets set under the Protocol. Issues discussed will include:
 - Are measures already agreed when setting the targets?
 - If not, how are they decided upon?
 - What kinds of measures are mostly being implemented?
 - How is the financing for the measures secured?

Coffee break (11.30-11.45)

Item 7: Assessing progress towards the targets and towards the objectives of the Protocol (Friday 11 May, 11.45-12.30)

15. The Task Force will exchange information on how the progress towards the targets is measured in the different countries, as stipulated by Article 7, what are the difficulties and the lessons-learned.
16. Participants will also discuss the possible synergies with the WHO / UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation and how the future developments under the JMP can assist countries in implementing the Protocol.

Item 8: Preparations for the next reporting exercise (Friday 11 May, 12.30-13.00)

17. The Task Force will discuss preparations for the next reporting exercise for the MOP in 2013. The secretariat will share a draft timeline. The Task Force will advice on possible activities to support Parties in reporting, including, as appropriate, the organization of a workshop on reporting back-to-back with the next Task Force meeting.

Item 9. Future work of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting for 2011-2013 (Friday 11 May, 13.00-13.20)

18. The Task Force will review its programme of work for 2011-2013. It will assess the results of the current meeting and advice the secretariat and the Chair on the scope and format of future meetings.
19. The Task Force will also tentatively agree on the date and venue of its next meeting.

Item 10: Other business (Friday 11 May, 13.20)

20. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

Item 11: Closing of the meeting (Friday 11 May, 13.20-13.30)

21. The Chairperson will summarize the key outcomes of the discussion, and will close the meeting at 1.30 p.m.

IV. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The fifth meeting of the Task Force will be held in Bratislava, Slovakia, on 10-11 May 2012. The meeting is hosted by the International Water Assessment Centre and organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. It will be held at the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, Jeseniova 17.

The meeting will start at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 10 May and will close at 1.30 p.m. on Friday 11 May 2012. It will be held back-to-back with the sub-regional workshop for countries in Central Europe, held on 8-9 May 2012.

The working languages will be English and Russian with simultaneous interpretation. All relevant documentation for the meeting will be made available in due course at the following website: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=27500>

The meeting is open to experts from Parties and non-Parties to the Protocol representing governmental (ministerial) authorities, water and health managers, the private sector, international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as other interested stakeholders. **Focal points are requested to facilitate nomination of relevant experts from their respective countries.** Given the complexity of the issues to be discussed, delegates should consult beforehand in their countries with the relevant **health, environment and water management authorities** to ensure that the views, needs and approaches of all sectors concerned are taken into account in the discussions.

Eligible participants from countries in Eastern Europe, South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia may apply for financial support to facilitate their participation in the meeting. **Requests for financial support** should be submitted together with the nomination and the registration form to the UNECE secretariat (katri.veldre@unece.org) as soon as possible, and in any case **not later than 2 April 2012**. No application will be accepted after this deadline.

Participants requiring **entry visas** should inform as soon as possible but **no later than 26 March 2012** the local meeting organizers (boris.minarik@shmu.sk).

All participants are requested to **complete the registration form and to transmit it by 15 April 2012** to the UNECE secretariat (katri.veldre@unece.org) and to IWAC (boris.minarik@shmu.sk).

The local organizers made a prebooking at Hotel Ibis and Hotel Tatra. All participants are requested to reserve their room **directly with the hotel** as soon as possible and in any case **by 23 April 2012**.

HOTEL IBIS

Group name: WATER & HEALTH
 Room rate /night: 49 EUR – single occupancy
Buffet breakfast and VAT included, local tax 1.65 EUR/night/person excluded.
 Payment: direct payment => individually by guest upon arrival*
 *all the res. have to be guaranteed with credit card

Zuzana Harmanova

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HOTEL TATRA

Group name: WATER & HEALTH
 Room rate / night: 67 EUR - single room
Breakfast, internet, pay TV, VAT and city tax included.

Tomáš Leskovský

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For additional practical questions participants should contact IWAC (Ms. Andrea Majovska; phone: +421 2 594 15 415; e-mail: andrea.majkovska@shmu.sk).
