



# Decisions taken

Informal summary of decisions taken  
during the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the Meeting of the Parties  
to the Protocol on water and Health

# 1: Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - adopted the agenda as set out in document  
ECE/MP.WH/10–EUDCE/1206123/3.1/2013/MOP-3/03

## 2: Constitution of the third session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP)



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - welcomed the accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia since its previous session

# 3: Elections of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the third MOP



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - elected Pierre Studer of Switzerland as its Chair
  - elected Marta Vargha of Hungary and Kjetil Tveitan of Norway as its Vice-Chairs
  - thanked Kjetil Tveitan, and Norway, for his chairing of the Bureau and of the Working Group on Water and Health over the past three years

# 4: Special session on equitable access to drinking water and sanitation



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - expressed its appreciation to the moderator, keynote speakers and panellists

Separate informal report:

[www.iisd.ca/water/unece/whp/mop3/brief/whpmop3\\_brief.pdf](http://www.iisd.ca/water/unece/whp/mop3/brief/whpmop3_brief.pdf)



# 5: Elections of other members of the Bureau



- The Meeting of the Parties

- elected

- Alena Drazdova (Belarus)
    - Jarkko Rapala (Finland)
    - Yannick Pavageau (France)
    - Bettina Rickert (Germany)
    - Luis Simas (Portugal)
    - Ana Drapa (Romania)

as members of the Bureau

# 6: Status of implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health



- The Meeting of the Parties:
  - welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and WHO/Europe on their work-sharing arrangements further to article 17, paragraph 2(a) of the Protocol
  - noted the information provided by the Chair of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention
  - also noted the information provided by the UNECE secretariat on activities in support of the Protocol implemented under the *European Union Water Initiative National Policy Dialogues*
  - further noted the information provided by the WHO/Europe secretariat on the relevance to the Protocol of the *Health 2020* and *European Environment and Health Process*
  - welcomed the work carried out under the WHO biennial cooperation agreements and WHO technical programmes in support of the Protocol and the particular role of the Protocol in the achieving the Parma goal on water and sanitation

# 6: Status of implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health



- Major developments
  - Armenia is in the process ratifying the Protocol
  - Kazakhstan is working at the expert level on its possible accession to the Protocol
  - Belarus adopted national targets in November 2013



# 7: Review of past activities and discussion of future activities in the different areas of work



# 7(a): Target setting and reporting



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - took note of the report on the activities of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting
  - expressed its appreciation for the work undertaken by the Task Force, led by Switzerland
  - thanked Finland for its financial support of subregional workshops and generally of this area of work
  - decided to mandate the Task Force to study the need to update the *Guidelines on the Setting of Targets ...* in the light of practice and lessons learned and, as appropriate, to publish the updated version of the document for the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties
  - adopted the Regional report on the status of implementation of the Protocol
  - took note of reports submitted by Parties to the Protocol
  - welcomed reports submitted by Signatories and other States not Party to the Protocol
  - decided to mandate the Task Force to revise the *guidelines and template for summary reports*

# 7(b): Surveillance & early warning systems, contingency plans & response capacities



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - took note of the report on the activities of the Task Force on Water-related Disease Surveillance
  - expressed its appreciation for the work undertaken by the Task Force, led by Italy, and terminated it upon the completion of its mandate
  - welcomed the decision to adopt a more flexible, theme-oriented and cost-effective approach for the new Programme area 2 on Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases
  - also welcomed the integration of *Atlas on Water & Health* into the new Programme area 1

# 7(c): Cross-cutting issues: small-scale water supplies and sanitation and water supply and sanitation under extreme weather events and the impact of climate change



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - took note of the information provided on the activities carried out under the thematic area on small-scale water supplies and sanitation
  - thanked Germany, the Czech Republic and WECF for their leadership and welcomes the activities undertaken in this area of work
  - requested the leads for this area to complete the policy guidance document and to publish it in paper and electronic forms in English and Russian
  - decided to seek synergies with other relevant bodies, including under the Water Convention, on the topics of extreme weather events and the impact of climate change, and to take into account those topics across the programme of work

# 7(d): Project Facilitation Mechanism



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - expressed its appreciation for the work undertaken by and the achievements of the Project Facilitation Mechanism, which had fulfilled its mandate and would therefore discontinue
  - thanked Norway for having led the Project Facilitation Mechanism
  - took note of the work of EBRD in the European Region and welcomed EBRD's efforts in aligning its policies with the Protocol
  - welcomed the adoption of a flexible approach in providing assistance to Parties and other States under the new Programme area 6 on Assistance to support implementation at the national level under the auspices of the Bureau

# 7(e): Compliance procedure



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - took note of the Report of the Compliance Committee to the Meeting of the Parties
  - adopted decision III/1 on general issues of compliance
  - elected Mr. Chantrel, Mr. Lindholm, Mr. Ni, Mr. Trombitsky and Mr. Vykhryst
  - appreciated the work of the Compliance Committee and expressed its gratitude, in particular, to the Committee's outgoing member, Ms. Magdalena Bar
  - thanked the Committee's Chair, Mr. Koester

# 7(f): Promotion of the Protocol and advocacy



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - took note of information provided on a number of high-level events where the Protocol was promoted, e.g. through side-events
  - encouraged focal points to undertake further promotion and advocacy of the Protocol at the national and international levels

# 7(g): Public awareness, access to information and public participation



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - adopted *the Guide on public participation under the Protocol on Water and Health*
  - thanked Romania and WECF for their leadership, and Norway for its financial support, and welcomed the activities undertaken in this area of work
  - expressed appreciation of the cooperation with the Aarhus Convention's Task Force on Public Participation in Decision-making, which was important for the success of activities on public participation under the Protocol
  - invited all Parties, other States and other stakeholders to translate the guide into national languages to facilitate the wide dissemination of the document, including to the public
  - also invited all Parties, other States and other stakeholders to make use of this publication to help improve the planning and carrying out of the public participation process in the different stages of the Protocol's implementation



# 7(h): Equitable access



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - adopted *No one left behind: Good practices to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the pan-European region* and the *Equitable access score-card: Supporting policy processes to achieve the human right to water and sanitation*
  - thanked France for its leadership and financial support to this area of work and all those experts who supported the activities
  - invited all Parties, other States and other stakeholders to make use of the *Score-card* as a policy tool to assess the situation of equity of access to water and sanitation in their respective countries and plan necessary measures for improvement of the situation
  - noted that the wealth quintile analysis complements the *Score-card* approach by providing country-specific data on access to water and sanitation by different groups of population
  - invited Parties, other States and other stakeholders to promote and use the publication *No one left behind*

# 7(i): Capacity-building and sharing of experience



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - welcomed the information provided and encouraged WHO/Europe to continue its Water Safety Plan capacity-building initiatives
  - also welcomed the integration of capacity-building across the foreseen Programme areas

# 8: The Protocol on Water and Health and relevant global processes and initiatives



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - recognized the relevance of the Protocol for progressively realizing regional and global commitments at the national level, including the possible post-2015 sustainable development goal(s) related to water and sanitation
  - entrusted the Bureau to explore further opportunities for the promotion and use of the Protocol, including in the framework of the debate on the post-2015 development agenda

## **9: Programme of work for 2014–2016, terms of reference of bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation**



- The Meeting of the Parties:
  - endorsed the report on the implementation of the programme of work for 2011–2013 and on contributions and expenditures
  - expressed its gratitude to Parties and other cooperating States, especially to the lead countries and organizations of activities that have provided human and financial resources to implement the programme of work 2011–2013
  - commended the members of the Working Group on Water and Health, the Bureau, the other subsidiary bodies and the joint secretariat for their work and support for the implementation of the Protocol through guidance documents, reports, projects and publications, and for their assistance in the organization of workshops, conferences, training courses and other meetings

## **9: Programme of work for 2014–2016, terms of reference of bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation**



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - requested the Bureau to examine the possibilities for sustainable financing to support implementation of future programmes of work, to review decision I/5 on the financial arrangements to support the implementation of the Protocol and to present a new draft decision to the next session of the Meeting of the Parties

# IPSAS



- The Meeting of the Parties took note of the information provided by the secretariat on
  - United Nations General Assembly resolution 60/283, approving the adoption by the United Nations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)
  - Implementation by the United Nations Secretariat and WHO of IPSAS Standard 23 on Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions (Taxes & Transfers)
- The Meeting of the Parties also took note that funds contributed to the two funds
  - established by the Meeting of the Parties to receive voluntary contributions from Parties, Signatories, other States, regional economic integration organizations and other partners to support the promotion and effective implementation of the Protocolhave to be categorized as either conditional (specified) or non-conditional (unspecified) in the meaning of IPSAS

# IPSAS and the Protocol



- The Meeting of the Parties decided that all contributions made to the relevant trust funds, unless otherwise agreed by the donor and the recipient, would be directed exclusively to support the work of Protocol in accordance with its programme of work.
- Such contributions are considered by default non-conditional and their future economic benefit is not required to be returned to the donor, with the understanding that it will be used for carrying out activities to support the work of the Protocol.

## **9: Programme of work for 2014–2016, terms of reference of bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation**



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - thanked the Parties, other States and organizations that provided leadership and support to the activities that laid the basis for the current draft programme of work
  - conveyed its appreciation to the Parties, other States and organizations that have already expressed their readiness to take the lead in or contribute to the implementation of the programme of work, through the provision of in-kind resources or financial contributions to the Protocol's trust funds
  - adopted the programme of work and its budget as amended at the meeting, and entrusted the Bureau and the secretariat to estimate costs for those activities that need further definition



## **9: Programme of work for 2014–2016, terms of reference of bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation**



- **The Meeting of the Parties:**
  - called on Parties, other States and relevant organizations to actively contribute to the activities contained in the programme of work, including through financial and in-kind contributions allowing predictable and stable funding of and support to the implementation of activities

# 10: Partners in cooperation: links with other organizations and programmes



# 11: Date and venue of the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - decided to hold its 4<sup>th</sup> ordinary session in 2016 in Switzerland



# 12: Other business



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - took note of a planned conference on a possible Public-Private Partnerships International Specialist Centre on Water
  - delegated the Bureau to provide the mandate for official publications, provided that such decisions appear in a publicly available report of a Bureau meeting
  - requested the secretariat to reprint the Protocol in the current four languages (English, French, German, Russian)
  - requested the secretariat to ensure that the year of publication should be clear in publications



- The Meeting of the Parties
  - entrusted the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau with the preparation of the report of the session