



UNECE



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

WORKSHOP ON COLLECTING GOOD PRACTICES ON TARGET SETTING AND REPORTING

(Geneva, 8 (afternoon) – 9 March 2016)

INFORMATION NOTICE

Background and objectives

1. According to article 6 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)-World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe) Protocol on Water and Health, in order to achieve the Protocol's objectives of protecting human health and well-being through improving water management, Parties must set targets and target dates within two years of becoming a Party. Article 7 requires Parties to collect and evaluate data and information on their progress towards the achievement of the targets, as well as on indicators designed to show how far that progress has contributed towards preventing, controlling or reducing water-related disease.
2. The *Guidelines on the Setting of Targets, Evaluation of Progress and Reporting*¹ produced with the aim of supporting Parties and other States in implementing the above mentioned articles proved to be a comprehensive tool that has been extensively used in the past five years. At the same time, applying the Guidelines in the process of target setting and reporting has allowed countries acquiring a wealth of experience on how to translate them into practice as well as identifying main gaps where further guidance and support would be needed.
3. The Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting, entrusted by the Meeting of the Parties to update the Guidelines, decided at its eighth meeting (Geneva, 2 July 2015) to collect good practices and lessons learned from Parties and other States in order to publish them for the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Bern, 14–16 November 2016). A call for good practices and lessons learned was launched at the eighth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 21–22 October 2015) and a drafting group was established to review and compile inputs.
4. The objective of the Workshop on collecting good practices on target setting and reporting (Geneva, 8 (afternoon) – 9 March 2016) is to:
 - Review good practices and lessons learned that have been identified and gather additional experiences
 - Detect gaps and needs for including additional good practices and lessons learned
 - Examine submitted case studies and foster the development of additional ones.

¹ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.II.E.12. Available from <http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/pub.html>

5. The advance draft of the document to be produced as an outcome of the workshop will be considered at the ninth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health (Geneva, 29–30 June 2016) before its final submission to the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Bern, 14–16 November 2016).

Scope of the good practices document

6. The collection of good practices and lessons learned should cover, *inter alia*, each step of the target setting and reporting process, as recommended by the Guidelines. Case studies are, therefore, expected in the following areas:
 - Institutional arrangements for setting and implementing targets;
 - Development of baseline analysis and prioritization of issues;
 - Definition of draft targets, including:
 - a. Examples/cases studies of targets that have been set under different target areas;
 - b. Financial and economic matters related to the setting of targets (including cost-benefit analysis);
 - c. Setting targets under the Protocol in EU countries.
 - Public involvement in the process of setting targets;
 - Official adoption, publication and promotion of the targets;
 - Developing national action plans / programmes of measures to implement the targets set, including fund mobilization strategies;
 - Reviewing and assessing progress towards the achievement of the targets, revision of the targets and reporting;
 - Raising political awareness, communication and promotion.
7. Case studies and practical examples for good practice or lesson learned under different areas above should be presented in a short, concise way.
8. More information is available in the informal document *Draft outline of the collection of good practices and lessons learned on target setting and reporting* prepared for the eighth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health.²

Organization of work

9. The workshop, organized in the framework of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting, will be held on 8 (afternoon) – 9 March 2016, back-to-back with the Strategic workshop on the future work under the Protocol (7-8 (morning) March 2016)
10. The workshop is targeted at all those who are responsible for or involved in target setting and reporting processes in Parties and other States: governmental representatives from environment health and water sectors, service operators, local authorities, representatives of academia, research institutes, non-governmental and international organizations. It will aim at providing a platform for an interactive exchange and communication among participants with different backgrounds and representing different sectors.
11. In preparation for the workshop, Parties and other States are kindly requested to propose possible good and bad practices as well as lessons learned and practical recommendations for

² Available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=38174#/>

the different steps of target setting and reporting process under the Protocol, in accordance with the above outline. An abstract of the proposed case studies (maximum 200 words) should be provided to the secretariat (nataliya.nikiforova@unece.org) by 15 January 2016. Please inform the secretariat as soon as possible if you intend to submit a case study by the deadline.

12. A detailed provisional programme for the workshop will be issued at the end of January 2016.

Practical information

13. The workshop will start on Tuesday, 8 (afternoon) March 2016 at 3:00 p.m. and will close at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 9 March 2016. It will be held in conference room V of the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The workshop will be organized back-to-back with the Strategic workshop on the future work under the Protocol (7 -8 (morning) March 2016).

14. The working languages will be English, French and Russian. All relevant documentation for the meeting will be made available in due course at http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41691#.

15. The meeting is open to experts from Parties to the Protocol and other States representing governmental authorities, water and health managers, the private sector, international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as other interested stakeholders.

16. In accordance with the United Nations accreditation procedures, participants should register online at https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=_BosrG as soon as possible but not later than 20 February 2016.

17. Eligible participants from countries with economies in transition may apply for financial support to facilitate their participation in the meeting. Requests for financial support should be submitted to the UNECE secretariat (protocol.water_health@unece.org) **as soon as possible, but no later than 15 January 2016**, using the financial support request form available on the meeting website. No application will be accepted after this deadline due to visa and travel arrangement regulations. Priority will be given to countries and organizations submitting good and bad practices, lessons learned and case studies.

18. Participants requiring an entry visa should inform the secretariat as soon as possible. Due to the entry of Switzerland in the Schengen Zone, visa procedures have become more complicated. The minimum amount of time needed for obtaining a visa is 15 working days. Participants needing a visa are therefore requested to submit their application as soon as possible and to initiate visa procedures at least three weeks before the meeting.

19. On their way to the meeting, participants should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva Security and Safety Section located at the Pregny Gate, 14 Avenue de la Paix (see map on the ECE website). Please allow time for this. In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 1606.

20. Practical information on the Palais des Nations, as well as on transport and accommodation in Geneva, is available at: <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>.
