

# Task Force on Water and Climate

Sibylle Vermont (Switzerland) and Niels  
Vlaanderen (Netherlands)



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**WATER CONVENTION**



# Progress and activities 2016

## *Third Meeting of the Global Network of Basins 6-7 April*

- \* *Progress of the basins, a.o.:*
  - \* *Mainstreaming of climate into the GEF project on the Chu Talas*
  - \* *Implementation plan in the Dniester*
  - \* *Strategic Framework published for the Neman*
  - \* *Launch of international research and nature conservation program in Dauria*
  - \* *Implementation of range of measures in Niger*
  - \* *Establishment of National and regional Dialogue Platforms for CICOS*
- \* *Water scarcity and droughts and the role of groundwater*
- \* *Financing basin-wide adaptation*



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**20 YEARS WATER CONVENTION**



# Some lessons learned and recommendations

- \* The climate change adaptation process at the basin level needs to be transparent, interactive and participatory and cross-sectoral
- \* Infrastructure development needs climate change into account and user-pay principle
- \* Information on risks of non cooperation and benefits of cooperation
- \* Promote ecosystem-based adaptation
- \* Importance of exchange of data and information
- \* Monitoring of effectiveness of measures
- \* Lack of financial means to implement measures and monitor progress



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**20 WATER CONVENTION**  
YEARS



# Progress and activities 2016

*6th Workshop on Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins, 13 - 14 September*

*\* Financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins*

*8th meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate, 15 September*



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**20 YEARS WATER CONVENTION**



# Some lessons learned and recommendations

- \* Political will -> awareness raising (politicians and public)
- \* Importance of domestic finance (Ministers of finance)
- \* Long term and short term financial strategy for CC
- \* Consider water in a wider economic outreach (jobs – ecosystem services - PES)
- \* Jungle of international funds (not all labelled CC): guidance is needed
- \* Need to convince with a business case- > bankable projects: need of capacity building
- \* Complexity of transboundary basins: Need a clear recipient for a bank
- \* Easier to finance if basin management plan
- \* Additionality: which proportion of measures is attributable to adaptation → needs a better definition



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**20 YEARS WATER CONVENTION**



# Most significant achievements

- \* *Increased transboundary cooperation and increased adaptive capacity in several transboundary basins*
- \* *Lessons learned publication*
- \* *Open atmosphere*
- \* *Lively discussions*
- \* *Strategy on future work developed*



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**20 YEARS WATER CONVENTION**



# Planned future activities

- \* UNISDR “Words into Action” - Implementation Guide for River Basin Management and Transboundary Cooperation
- \* A possible sourcebook on sources of financing ?
- \* Cooperation with the transport division of UNECE

-> -> -> **Continue work on financing**



11th Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management  
Geneva, 18-19 October 2016

Special session on the Water Convention's 20th anniversary  
and its global opening

**20 YEARS WATER CONVENTION**

