



**Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management**

**Eleventh meeting**

Geneva, 18 and 19 October 2016

Item 6(c) of the provisional agenda

**Support to implementation and application of the Convention -  
Reporting under the Convention**

**REPORTING UNDER THE WATER CONVENTION AND  
MONITORING OF GLOBAL SDG INDICATOR 6.5.2**

**Prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau**

**Background and proposed action by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management**

In November 2015, at its seventh session, the Meeting of the Parties adopted decision VII/2 introducing a reporting mechanism under the Convention (see ECE/MP.WAT/49/Add.2).

In accordance with decision VII/2, reporting will start with a pilot exercise in 2016–2017 to test the annexed template. The results of the pilot reporting exercise will be reviewed at the eight session of the Meeting of the Parties.

Decision VII/2 also encourages all Parties and non-Parties, especially those sharing basins with Parties and those considering accession to the Convention, to participate in the pilot reporting exercise and submit to the secretariat their filled out reporting forms electronically in the English, French or Russian languages, as well as their comments on the reporting template.

Decision VII/2 also emphasizes the role of reporting under the Convention as a useful means for reviewing countries' progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.5, which calls countries to "implement [by 2030] integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate." This will not only avoid duplication of reporting efforts but also allow having a dedicated intergovernmental forum to analyze progress on transboundary cooperation under target 6.5, exchange experiences and develop policy recommendations.

In late 2015 and early 2016, after the adoption of the Convention's reporting mechanism, global indicators were developed in the framework of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDGs (IAEG-SDG) and subsequently adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2016.

To measure progress on transboundary cooperation in accordance with target 6.5, indicator 6.5.2 was adopted. The indicator is defined as the percentage of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for transboundary cooperation. UN-Water has been coordinating the technical input to the indicators for SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation, and the methodologies for their measurement. Within this framework, UNECE and UNESCO have led the development of the methodology for indicator 6.5.2 and have been subsequently designated as custodian agencies for monitoring this indicator at the global level.

The next step within this process is the development of a baseline for this indicator. The timeline is linked to the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development which has a central role in the follow up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In particular, the high-level political forum in its July 2018 session will undergo an in-depth review of, among others, goal 6.

Therefore there is a clear overlap between the reporting under the Convention and the monitoring of indicator 6.5.2 in terms of scope, actors involved and users of the review, and timeline of the processes.

To build on this coherence and in line with the ambition of Decision VII/2 to use the Convention's reporting mechanism to monitor progress towards target 6.5 in relation with transboundary cooperation, the UNECE secretariat has revised

the template for reporting under the Convention to reflect the subsequent decision on indicator 6.5.2, adding a section to gather national data on the indicator.

Moreover, to allow substantiating the value of indicator 6.5.2, few modifications have been made to the template. All additions and modifications to the template are shown as tracked changes in the present document.

The template and the accompanying explanatory note will be sent, after the meeting of the Working Group to all countries sharing transboundary waters. The results, including synthesis reports prepared by the secretariat, in cooperation with UNESCO for SDG 6.5.2, and, more broadly for the whole SDG 6 by UN Water, will be submitted to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018 and to the eight session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention, to be held at the end of 2018.

The Working Group is invited to comment on the clarity of the explanatory note and of section III of the template (the other sections have already been formally adopted and are not reopened for discussion) and advice the secretariat on the next steps, in particular how to ensure a high rate of reply and how to best support countries in the reporting process.

## **Explanatory note to the template for reporting under the Water Convention and for global SDG indicator 6.5.2**

This reporting template aims to gather information on the implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and on the progress on transboundary cooperation under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, target 6.5 in accordance with the global indicator 6.5.2.

### **Reporting under the Water Convention**

The Water Convention aims to protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation. Originally negotiated as a regional agreement for the pan-European region, the Convention was amended to allow accession to all UN Member States and is now universally available.

Under the Convention, a reporting mechanism was introduced by the Meeting of the Parties at its seventh session in November 2015.

Reporting, among others, is key for reviewing and enhancing national implementation of the Convention, supporting accession to it by creating a baseline, enhancing basin-specific cooperation, promoting the accumulation and exchange of lessons learned, good practices and experiences, and helping to identify the specific needs of basins, and thereby supporting the mobilization of resources, for example, for capacity-building and technical assistance activities.

### **Reviewing progress on transboundary cooperation under SDG 6**

In 2015, the SDGs were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. Target 6.5 calls for countries to implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate.

In late 2015 and early 2016, global indicators were developed in the framework of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDGs (IAEG-SDG) and subsequently adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2016.

To measure progress on transboundary cooperation in accordance to target 6.5, indicator 6.5.2 was adopted. The indicator is defined as the *percentage of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for transboundary cooperation* (more information on the methodology of calculation is available in section III).

For SDG 6, UN-Water has been coordinating the technical input to the indicators and the methodologies for their measurement. In this framework, UNECE and UNESCO have been designated as custodian agencies for monitoring this indicator at the global level.

As the reporting under the Convention was also intended as a means to review countries' progress towards target 6.5, the reporting template was revised to include questions related to the calculations of indicator 6.5.2.

### **Who should report?**

Parties to the Water Convention are under a good faith obligation to report.

For the global review of the progress towards target 6.5 in accordance with indicator 6.5.2, all countries sharing transboundary waters are invited to report information in section III, regardless of whether they are Parties to the Water Convention or not.

Even if for the calculation of indicator 6.5.2 only information in section III is strictly necessary, also non-Parties to the Convention are encouraged to fill in sections I and II of the reporting template as they allow outlining a more defined picture of the situation concerning transboundary water cooperation. The overall template can indeed be useful to track progress more closely beyond the indicator value and better describe the current baseline. This is valuable also because inevitably the indicator is based on a number of criteria defining minimum thresholds and the information in sections I and II can allow tracking progress towards the different criteria.

### **Use of the reported information**

Reporting has primarily a national importance and usefulness to inform decision-making at the national and transboundary level.

At the global level, data collected through this reporting will be elaborated to define:

- the global baseline for the implementation and application of the Water Convention
- the global baseline for the status of transboundary cooperation in accordance to indicator 6.5.2.

Results, including synthesis reports, will be submitted both to the High Level Political Forum in July 2018 which will focus, among others, on the in depth review of SDG 6, and to the eight session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention, to be held at the end of 2018.

### **Deadline for reporting**

Countries are requested to submit their filled in template by **31 March 2017** to the Secretariat of the Water Convention

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

E-mail: [transboundary\\_water\\_cooperation\\_reporting@unece.org](mailto:transboundary_water_cooperation_reporting@unece.org)

Template for reporting under the [Water Convention](#) and for global [SDG indicator 6.5.2](#)

**Country name:** [fill in]

This template or reporting form is in the form of a questionnaire to be filled out. Questions can be either “closed”, Yes /No , with appropriate boxes to tick; “open”, requiring further information to be supplied, indicated by the words in square brackets [fill in]; or a combination of both. Depending on the country situation, it will not always be necessary to fill in extra information where space is provided for this.

The questions are divided into ~~three~~ **four** parts: national (section I); by transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (section II); [list of transboundary waters and information for calculation of the \*\*4\*\*SDG indicator 6.5.2, Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation \(section III\)](#), and final questions (section **IV**). Please answer open questions very briefly, and in less than 200 words, using bullet points as appropriate. Section II will need to be completed for each of the transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers (please just copy the template for these questions and fill out again for each additional transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer).

The template encourages those reporting to refer to the reporting under other multilateral environmental agreements to which their country is a Party. ~~Both Parties and non Parties are encouraged to fill out the reporting form.~~

**I. Transboundary water management at the national level**

In this first section, you are requested to provide general information on transboundary water management at the national level. Information on specific transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers and agreements should be presented in section II and not repeated here.

1. (a) Does your country’s national legislation refer to measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact (art. 2 of the Convention)?

Yes /No

*If yes, list the main national legislation:* [fill in]

- (b) Do your country’s national policies, action plans and strategies refer to measures to prevent, control and reduce any transboundary impact?

Yes /No

*If yes, list the main national policies, action plans and strategies:* [fill in]

- (c) Does your country’s legislation provide for the following principles?

Precautionary principle Yes /No

Polluter pays principle Yes /No

Sustainable development Yes /No

- (d) Does your country have a national licensing or permitting system for wastewater discharges and other point source pollution (art. 3, para. 1 (b)) (*e.g., in industry, mining, energy, municipal, wastewater management or other sectors*)?

Yes /No

*If yes, for which sectors? (please list):* [fill in]

*If not, please explain why not (giving the most important reasons) or provide information if there are plans to introduce a licensing or permitting system:* [fill in]

*If your country has a licensing system, does the system provide for setting emission limits based on best available technology?*

Yes /No

(e) Are the authorized discharges monitored and controlled (art. 3, para. 1 (b))?

Yes /No

*If yes, how? (Please tick the ones applicable):*

- Monitoring of discharges
- Monitoring of physical and chemical impacts on water
- Monitoring of ecological impacts on water
- Conditions on permits
- Inspectorate

Other means (*please list*): [fill in]

*If your country does not have a discharge monitoring system, please explain why not or provide information if there are plans to introduce a discharge monitoring system: [fill in]*

(f) What are the main measures which your country takes to reduce diffuse sources of water pollution on transboundary waters (art. 3, para. 1) (*e.g., from agriculture, transport, forestry or aquaculture*)? *The measures listed below relate to agriculture, but other sectors may be more significant. Please be sure to include these under "others":*

**Legislative measures**

- Norm for uses of fertilizers
- Norms for uses of manure
- Bans on or norms for use of pesticides
- Others (*please list*): [fill in]

**Economic and financial measures**

- Monetary incentives
- Environmental taxes (such as fertilizer taxes)
- Others (*please list*): [fill in]

**Agricultural extension services**

**Technical measures**

*Source control measures*

- Crop rotation
- Tillage control
- Winter cover crops
- Others (*please list*): [fill in]

*Other measures*

- Buffer/filter strips
- Wetland reconstruction
- Sedimentation traps
- Chemical measures
- Others (*please list*): [fill in]

**Other types of measures**

*If yes, please list: [fill in]*

(g) What are the main measures which your country takes to enhance water efficiency (art. 3)?

*Please tick as appropriate (not all might be relevant)*

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| A regulatory system regarding water abstraction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitoring and control of abstractions          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Water rights are clearly defined                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Water allocation priorities are listed          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Water-saving technologies                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advanced irrigation techniques                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Demand management activities                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other means (please list)                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(h) Does your country apply the ecosystems approach (art. 3, para. 1 (i), and art. 2, para. 1 (d))?

Yes /No

*If yes, please describe how:* [fill in]

(i) Does your country take specific measures to prevent the pollution of groundwaters (art. 3, para. 1 (k))?

Yes /No

*If yes, please list the most important measures:* [fill in]

2. Does your country require transboundary environmental impact assessment (EIA)?

Yes /No

Does your country have procedures for transboundary EIA?

Yes /No

*If yes, please make reference to the legislative basis (please insert the name and section of the relevant laws). (Please note: If your country is a Party to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, you may refer to your country's report under that Convention.):* [fill in]

3. Does your country have transboundary agreements or arrangements for the protection and/or management of transboundary waters (i.e., surface waters or aquifers), whether bilateral, multilateral and/or at the basin level?

Yes /No

*If yes, list the bilateral, multilateral and basin agreements (listing for each of the countries concerned):* [fill in]

## II. Questions for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer

Please complete this second section for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or for group of basins covered by the same agreement or arrangement and where conditions are similar. It might also be convenient to group basins or sub-basins for which your country's share is very small.<sup>a</sup> In some instances, you may provide information on both a basin and one or more of its sub-basins, for example, where you have agreements<sup>b</sup> on both

<sup>a</sup> In principle, section 2 should be submitted for every transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer in the country, but States may decide to group basins in which their share is small or leave out basins in which their share is very minor, e.g., below 1 per cent.

<sup>b</sup> In section II, "agreement" covers all kinds of treaties, conventions and agreements ensuring

the basin and its sub-basin. You may coordinate your responses with other States with which your country shares the basin or aquifer or even prepare a joint report for shared basins. General information on transboundary water management at the national level should be provided in section I and not repeated here.

Please reproduce the whole section II with its questions for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins for which you will provide a reply.

**Name of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group thereof, list of the riparian States, and country's share of the basin: [fill in]**

1. Is there one or more transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreement(s) or arrangement(s) on this basin (art. 9)?

One or more agreements or arrangements exist and are in force

Agreement or arrangement developed but not in force

Agreement or arrangement developed, but not in force for all riparians

*Please insert the name of the agreement or agreements or arrangements: [fill in]*

Agreement or arrangement is under development

No agreement

*If there is no agreement or arrangement or it is not in force, please explain briefly why not and provide information on any plans to address the situation: [fill in]*

**If there is no agreement or arrangement and no joint body for the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer then jump to question 4; if there is no agreement, but a joint body then go to question 3. →**

**Questions 2 and 3 to be completed for each bilateral or multilateral agreement or arrangement in force in the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer or group of basins or sub-basins**

2. (a) Does this agreement or arrangement specify the basin area subject to cooperation?

Yes /No

If yes, does it cover the entire basin, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

If not, what does it cover?: [fill in]

Or, if the agreement or arrangement relates to a sub-basin, does it cover the entire sub-basin?

Yes /No

Which States (including your own) are bound by the agreement or arrangement? *(Please list):* [fill in]

(b) Are connected<sup>c</sup> aquifers (or groundwater bodies) covered by the agreement/arrangement?

Yes /No

(c) What is the sectoral scope of the agreement or arrangement?

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cooperation in the field of transboundary waters. Section II can also be completed for other types of arrangements, such as memorandums of understanding.

<sup>c</sup> Either hydraulically connected to the watercourse or those located within the basin area.



- All water uses
- A single water use or sector
- Several water uses or sectors

*If several water uses or sectors, please list (check as appropriate):*

**Water uses or sectors**

- Industry
- Agriculture
- Transport (e.g., navigation)
- Households
- Energy: hydropower and other energy types
- Tourism
- Nature protection
- Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(d) What topics or subjects of cooperation are included in the agreement or arrangement (art. 9)?

**Procedural and institutional issues**

- Dispute and conflict prevention and resolution
- Institutional cooperation (joint bodies)
- Consultation on planned measures
- Mutual assistance (art. 15)

**Topics of cooperation**

- Joint vision and management objectives
- Joint significant water management issues
- Navigation
- Environmental protection (ecosystem)
- Water quality
- Water quantity or allocation
- Cooperation in addressing floods
- Cooperation in addressing droughts
- Climate change adaptation

**Monitoring and exchange**

- Joint assessments
- Data collection and exchange (art. 13)
- Joint monitoring (art. 11)
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Common early warning and alarm procedures (art. 14)
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on planned measures

### Joint planning and management

Development of joint regulations on specific topics

Development of international or joint river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans

Management of shared infrastructure

Development of shared infrastructure

Other (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the agreement or arrangement and its implementation, if any (*please describe, if applicable*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main achievements in implementing the agreement or arrangement and what were the keys to achieving such success?: [fill in]

(g) Please attach a copy of the agreement or arrangement or provide the web address of the document (*please attach document or insert web address, if applicable*): [fill in]

3. Is your country a member of an operational joint body or joint bodies for this agreement/arrangement (art. 9)?

Yes /No

*If no, why not? (please explain)*: [fill in]

### Where there is a joint body (or bodies)

(a) If there is a joint body, which kind of joint body (*please tick one*)?

Plenipotentiaries

Bilateral commission

Basin or similar commission

Other (*please describe*): [fill in]

(b) Does the joint body cover the entire transboundary basin or sub-basin, river, lake or aquifer, or group of basins, and all riparian States?

Yes /No

(c) Which States (including your own) are member of the joint body? (*Please list*): [fill in]

(d) Does the joint body have any of the following features (*please tick the ones applicable*)?

A secretariat

*If the secretariat is a permanent one, is it a joint secretariat or does each country host its own secretariat? (Please describe)*: [fill in]

A subsidiary body or bodies

*Please list (e.g., working groups on specific topics)*: [fill in]

Other features (*please list*): [fill in]

(e) What are the tasks and activities of this joint body (art. 9, para. 2)<sup>d</sup>

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<sup>d</sup> This may include tasks according to the agreement or tasks added by the joint body, or its subsidiaries. Both tasks which joint bodies coordinate and tasks which they implement should be

- Identification of pollution sources
- Data collection and exchange
- Joint monitoring
- Maintenance of joint pollution inventories
- Setting emission limits
- Elaboration of joint water quality objectives
- Management and prevention of flood or drought risks
- Preparedness for extreme events, e.g., common early warning and alarm procedures
- Water allocation and/or flow regulation
- Policy development
- Control of implementation
- Exchange of experience between riparian States
- Exchange of information on existing and planned uses of water and related installations
- Settling of differences and conflicts
- Consultations on planned measures
- Exchange of information on best available technology
- Participation in transboundary EIA
- Development of river, lake or aquifer basin management or action plans
- Management of shared infrastructure
- Addressing hydromorphological alterations
- Climate change adaptation
- Joint communication strategy
- Basin-wide or joint public participation and consultation of, for example, basin management plans
- Joint resources to support transboundary cooperation
- Capacity-building
- Any other tasks (*please list*): [fill in]
- (f) What are the main difficulties and challenges that your country faces with the operation of the joint body, if any?
  - Governance issues
  - Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
  - Unexpected planning delays
  - Please describe, if any:* [fill in]
  - Lack of resources
  - Please describe, if true:* [fill in]
  - Lack of mechanism for implementing measures

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included.

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Lack of effective measures

Please describe, if true: [fill in]

Unexpected extreme events

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Lack of information and reliable forecasts

Please describe, if any: [fill in]

Others (please list and describe, as appropriate): [fill in]

(g) If not all riparian States are members of the joint body how does the body cooperate with them?

No cooperation

They have observer status

Other (please describe): [fill in]

(h) Does the joint body or its subsidiary bodies meet regularly?

Yes /No

If yes, how frequently does it meet? [fill in]

(hi) What are the main achievements with regards to the joint body?: [fill in]

(ji) Are representatives of international organizations invited to the meetings of the joint body (or bodies) as observers?

Yes /No

(kj) Did the joint body ever invite a coastal State to cooperate (art. 9, paras. 3 and 4)?

Yes /No

*If yes, please give details. If no, why not?: [fill in]*

4. Is there a joint or coordinated management plan (such as an action plan or a common strategy) or have joint objectives been set specifically to improve the status of the transboundary waters subject to cooperation (art. 9, para. 2 (f)) ?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide further details: [fill in]*

5. How is the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer protected, including the protection of ecosystems, in the context of sustainable and rational water use (art. 2, para. 2 (b), and art. 3, para. 1 (i)) ?

Afforestation

Restoration of ecosystems

Environmental flow norms

Groundwater measures (e.g., protection zones)

Other measures (please list): [fill in]

6. (a) Does your country exchange information and data with other riparian States in the basin (art. 13)?

Yes /No

(b) If yes, on what subjects are information and data exchanged?

Environmental conditions (art. 13, para. (1) (a))

- Research activities and application of best available techniques (arts. 5, 12 and 13, para. 1 (b))
- Emission monitoring data (art. 13, para. 1 (c))
- Planned measures taken to prevent, control or reduce transboundary impacts (art. 13, para. 1 (d))
- Point source pollution sources
- Diffuse pollution sources
- Existing hydromorphological alterations (dams, etc.)
- Discharges
- Water abstractions
- Future planned measures with transboundary impacts, such as infrastructure development
- Other subjects (*please list*): [fill in]

(c) Is there a shared database or information platform?

Yes /No

(d) Is the database publicly available?

Yes /No

*If yes, please provide the web address:* [fill in]

(e) What are the main difficulties and challenges to data exchange, if applicable? (*please describe*): [fill in]

(f) What are the main benefits of data exchange on the transboundary waters subject to cooperation? (*please describe*): [fill in]

7. Do the riparian States carry out joint monitoring in the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. 11, para. 1)?

Yes /No

(a) If yes, what does the joint monitoring cover?

	Covered?	Hydrological	Ecological	Chemical
Border surface waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters in the entire basin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surface waters on the main watercourse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connected aquifers (or groundwaters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unconnected aquifers (or groundwaters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(b) If joint monitoring is carried out, how is this done?

- National monitoring stations connected through a network or common stations
- Joint and agreed methodologies
- Joint sampling
- Common monitoring network
- Common agreed parameters

(c) Please describe the main achievements regarding joint monitoring, if any: [fill in]

(d) Please describe any difficulties experienced with joint monitoring: [fill in]

8. Do the riparian States carry out joint assessment of the transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer (art. 11)?  
 Yes /No   
*If yes, please provide the date of the last or only assessment, the frequency and scope (e.g., surface waters or groundwaters only, pollution sources, etc.) of the assessment: [fill in]*
9. Have the riparian States agreed to use joint water quality standards?  
 Yes /No   
*If yes, is the basis an international or regional standard (please specify which) or has it been adapted from the national standards of the riparian States?: [fill in]*
10. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of accidental pollution (art. 14)?
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Notification and communication                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Coordinated or joint alarm system for accidental water pollution | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please list): [fill in]                                   |                          |
| No measures  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]*
11. What are the measures implemented to prevent or limit the transboundary impact of extreme weather events (art. 14)?
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Notification and communication                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Coordinated or joint alarm system for floods   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Coordinated or joint alarm system for droughts | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint climate change adaptation strategy       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joint disaster risk reduction strategy         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please list): [fill in]                 |                          |
| No measures                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
- If not, why not? What difficulties does your country face in putting in place such measures?: [fill in]*
12. Are procedures in place for mutual assistance in case of a critical situation (art. 15)?  
 Yes /No   
*If yes, please provide a brief summary: [fill in]*
13. Are the public or relevant stakeholders involved in transboundary water management in the basin, river, lake or aquifer? (art. 16)?  
 Yes /No   
*If yes, how? (please tick all applicable) (Please note: If your country is a Party to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention), you may refer to your country's report under that Convention.):*
- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Stakeholders have observer status in a joint body                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <i>If yes, please specify the stakeholders for each joint body: [fill in]</i> |                          |
| Availability of information to the public                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Consultation on planned measures or river basin management plans<sup>e</sup>

Public involvement

Other (*please specify*): [fill in]

**Please remember to complete section II for each of the transboundary basins, rivers, lakes or aquifers. Please also remember to attach copies of agreements, if any.**

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<sup>e</sup> Or, where applicable, aquifer management plans.

### III. Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

#### Methodology

Using the information gathered in section II, the information gathered in this section allows for the calculation of the Sustainable Development Goal global indicator 6.5.2, which is defined as *the proportion of transboundary basins' area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation.*

The value of the indicator at the national level is derived by **adding up the surface area in a country of those transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. 'transboundary' basins') that are covered by an operational arrangement and dividing the obtained area by the aggregate total area in a country of all transboundary basins (both catchments and aquifers).**<sup>f</sup>

**Transboundary basins** are basins of transboundary waters, that is, of any surface waters (notably rivers, lakes) or groundwaters which mark, cross or are located on boundaries between by two or more States. For the purpose of the calculation of this indicator, for a transboundary river or lake, the basin area is determined by the extent of its catchment. For groundwater, the area to be considered is the extent of the aquifer.

An **"arrangement for water cooperation"** is a bilateral or multilateral treaty, convention, agreement or other formal arrangement among riparian countries that provides a framework for cooperation on transboundary water management.

For an arrangement to be considered **"operational"** all the following criteria needs to be fulfilled:

- There is a joint body, joint mechanism or commission (e.g. a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation.
- There are regular formal communications between riparian countries in form of meetings.
- There is a joint or coordinated water management plan(s), or joint objectives have been set, and
- There is a regular exchange of data and information.

#### Calculation of indicator 6.5.2

Please list below the surface waters (rivers and lakes) and aquifers in your country's territory that are transboundary and provide the following information for each of them:

- the surface area of their basins (the catchment of rivers or lakes and the aquifer in the case of groundwater) within the territory of your country (in km<sup>2</sup>); and
- whether they are covered by a cooperation arrangement that is operational according to the above criteria (please consider the replies to the questions in section II, in particular questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6).

#### Transboundary river or lake basins [please add rows as needed]

<u>Name</u>	<u>Countries shared with</u>	<u>Surface area (in km<sup>2</sup>) within the territory of the country</u>	<u>Covered by an operational arrangement (yes/no)</u>

<sup>f</sup> Draft Step-by-step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.5.2 on transboundary cooperation can be referred to for details of the necessary data, the definitions and the calculation. It is available at <http://www.unwater.org/publications/publications-detail/en/c/428764/>



<u>Sub-total: area of surface water catchments covered by an operational arrangements (in km<sup>2</sup>) [A]</u>			
<u>Total area of surface water catchments (in km<sup>2</sup>) [B]</u>			

**Transboundary aquifers [please add rows as needed]**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Countries shared with</u>	<u>surface area (in km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>§</sup> within the territory of the country</u>	<u>Covered by an operational arrangement (yes/no)</u>
<u>Sub-total: surface area of transboundary aquifers covered by operational arrangements (in km<sup>2</sup>) [C]</u>			
<u>Total surface area of transboundary aquifers (in km<sup>2</sup>) [D]</u>			

**Indicator value for the country**

$$((A + C)/(B + D)) \times 100\% =$$

**Additional information**

If the respondent has comments that clarify assumptions or interpretations made for the calculation, or the level of certainty of the spatial information, please write them here:

**Spatial information**

If a map (or maps) of the transboundary surface water catchments and transboundary aquifers (i.e. ‘transboundary basins’) is available, please attach that. Ideally, shapefiles of the basin and aquifer delineations that can be viewed in Geographical Information Systems should be sent.

<sup>§</sup> For a transboundary aquifer, the extent is derived from the aquifer system delineation which is commonly done relying on information of the subsurface (notably the extent of geological formations). As a general rule, the delineation of aquifer systems is based on the delineation of the extent of the hydraulically connected water-bearing geological formations. Aquifer systems are three-dimensional objects and the aquifer area taken into account is the projection on the land surface of the system. Ideally, when different aquifer systems not hydraulically connected are vertically superposed, the different relevant projected areas are to be considered separately, unless the different aquifer systems are managed conjunctively, if possible.

**IV. Final questions**

1. What are the main challenges your country faces in implementing the Convention and cooperating on transboundary waters? (*Please describe*): [fill in]
2. What have been the main achievements in implementing the Convention and cooperating on transboundary waters? What were the keys to achieving that success? (*Please describe concrete examples*): [fill in]
3. Name and contact details of the person(s) who filled out the questionnaire (*please insert*): [fill in]  
Date: [fill in] Signature: [fill in]
4. Please include any additional information on the process of preparing the report (e.g., whether there was an exchange or consultation within the joint body or with riparian countries), in particular which institutions have been consulted (*please describe*): [fill in]
5. If you have any other comments please add them here (*insert comments*): [fill in]

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this report.

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