



United Nations Economic  
Commission for Europe



Ministry of  
Environment and  
Forests of Romania



MINISTERUL  
SĂNĂTĂȚII  
Ministry of Health of  
Romania



World Health  
Organization  
Regional Office for  
Europe



Federal Ministry for the  
Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

Umwelt  
Bundes  
Amt   
For our Environment



Global Water  
Partnership  
Romania



WECF  
Women in Europe  
for a Common  
Future

## WORKSHOP ON INFORMATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN WATER AND HEALTH RELATED ISSUES

15-16 June 2010 Bucharest, Romania

### Draft programme

#### DAY 1 – 15 June 2010

#### 9:00 Registration of participants

#### 9:30 Opening

**Chair: Elena Țuchiu, Director, National Administration "Apele Romane", Romania**

- Opening remarks – Prof. Dr. Adrian Streinu-Cercel, State Secretary, Ministry of Health, Romania
- Katharina Lenz, Germany, Environment Agency UBA
- Francesca Bernardini, Co-Secretary of the Protocol on Water and Health, UNECE,
- Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director, Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF)
- Liviu Popescu, President, GWP Romania

Introduction round of all participants

#### 10:45 Plenary session 1: Presentation of access to information and public participation principles and obligations under the Aarhus Convention, the Protocol on Water and Health and relevant EU legislation

**Chair: Elena Țuchiu, Director, National Administration "Apele Romane", Romania**

- The Aarhus Convention: rights and obligations to improve the environment *Fe Sanchis-Moreno, Secretariat of the Aarhus Convention, UNECE*
- The Protocol on Water and Health as tool for access to information and public participation in water and health related issues *Tomasz Juszcak, UNECE secretariat of the Protocol*

#### 11:30 Coffee break

- Public participation under the Water Framework Directive and under the Protocol on Water and Health: how the two processes can be mutually supportive  
*Valentin Brustur, expert, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Romania*
- Challenges and added value of public participation – lessons learned from the implementation of European Water Policies  
*Magdolna Toth Nagy, Regional Environmental Center (REC)*

**13:00 - 14:30 Lunch**

**14:30 Session 2 (plenary followed by group discussions)  
The multiple roles of non-governmental organizations in policy planning, implementation and compliance**

**Chair: Fe Sanchis-Moreno, UNECE**

- NGOs in water and health policy planning and implementation: partners or enemies?  
*Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director, WECF*
- Developing Water and Wastewater Policy on Municipal level – Cross-sectional cooperation and political participation  
*Karl-Axel Reimer, Department of Environment, Sodertalje Municipality, Sweden*
- Communications from the public to the Protocol's Compliance Committee: an entry point for NGOs  
*Serhiy Vykhryst, member of the Protocol's Compliance Committee*
- Introduction to the working sessions: objectives, issues for discussion, organization of work, expected outcome  
*Simon Koolwijk, facilitator*

**15:30 Coffee break**

**15: 45 Session reconvenes in working groups.**

**18:00 Closure of the day**

**19:00 Reception**

**DAY 2 – 16 June 2010**

**9:00 Plenary session 3: Overview of mechanisms, tools, existing guidelines and good practices for access to information and public participation**

**Chair: Sascha Gabizon, WECF**

- Presentations of the outcome of the two working groups by the rapporteurs
- WECF experience in working with authorities and communities - good and bad lessons  
*Joint Presentation by: Nadejda Andreev, WISDOM, Moldova; Rauf Sabitov, Jabagly-Manas Kazakhstan; Galina Verbovskaya, Ecoproject Belarus; Kiria Ketevan, Greens Movement Georgia; Kamran Ahmadov, EKOT Azerbaijan; Suraya Saidova, ASDP-Nau Tajikistan; Claudia Wendland, WECF (facilitator)*

- Participative methodologies - Involving local communities in decision-making and understanding the need for Hygiene, Water and Sanitation management  
*Elmira Jodosheva, Central Asian Alliance for Water, Margriet Samwel, WECF*
- Barriers and challenges of implementing good sanitation practices within the WHO-Euro region.  
*Claudia Wendland, WECF*

**10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break**

- EBRD's stakeholder engagement requirements for water sector projects  
*Polina Pimenova, EBRD*
- Public participation in IWRM - sanitation issues  
*Liviu Popescu, GWP Romania*
- A web-site on water of Ministry of Health: Portale Acque- Toward an integrated system for information to the public and public participation  
*Luca Fornara, Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato-IPZS, Stefania Marcheggiani, Italian National Institute of Health*
- The Atlas of Water and Health: an opportunity for informing the public on the reporting under the Protocol  
*Andrea Rechenburg, WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promoting Water Management and Risk Communication, Bonn*
- Access to information in emergency situations  
*Emma Anakhasyan, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment*

**13:00 - 14:00 Lunch**

**14:00 Session 4 (plenary followed by group discussions)  
How access to information and public participation can be organized under the Protocol – developing guidelines based on lessons learned**

**Chair: Francesca Bernardini, UNECE**

- Public participation in target setting under the Protocol on Water and Health  
*Tatiana Siniaeva, Eco-Tiras, Republic of Moldova*
- Collaboration between governmental authorities and NGOs under the Protocol  
*Natalja Šliachtic, Center for Health Education and Disease Prevention, Lithuania*
- The way ahead under the Protocol: developing best practices and guidelines / strategy document for public participation and access to information under Protocol on Water and Health  
*Anna Tsvetkova, MAMA-86 Ukraine and Anke Stock, WECF*
- Introduction to the working sessions: objectives, issues for discussion, organization of work, expected outcome  
*Simon Koolwijk, facilitator*

**15: 00- 16:45 Session reconvenes in working groups.**

**16:45 – 17:00 Coffee break**

**17:00 – 17:30 Presentations of the outcome of the three working groups by the rapporteurs and conclusions**

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