



United Nations
Economic
Commission for
Europe



Ministry of Transport,
Public Works and Water
Management of the
Netherlands



Ministry for the
Environment,
Land and Sea of
Italy



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



World Health
Organisation
Regional Office for
Europe

Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

PROVISIONAL WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

WATER AND CLIMATE CHANGE: JOINING EFFORTS TO ADAPT

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to be held on 1-2 July 2008 in Amsterdam (the Netherlands)

The workshop “Water and Adaptation to Climate Change: Joining Efforts to adapt” is organized under the auspices of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and of its Protocol on Water and Health, under the joint leadership of the Governments of Germany, Italy, and the Netherlands, with the support of the UNECE and WHO/EURO, and in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

The Workshop will take stock of progress and difficulties in designing and implementing strategies to adapt to climate change in the water, environment and health-related sectors, both within the national and transboundary contexts. Through concrete examples, the workshop will illustrate the different components of effective adaptation strategies, including legal, institutional, technical and financing aspects and promote the sharing of good practices and lessons-learned in the UNECE region. The workshop will thus assist governments in the UNECE region to make adaptation happen both in their domestic water and the related health policies and in their cooperation on transboundary waters.

The workshop will also be an important step in the preparation of a Guidance on water and adaptation to climate change, currently under development under the Water Convention and its Protocol on Water and Health in view of its possible adoption by Parties to both instruments.

TUESDAY, 1 JULY 2008

9:30-10.30 Opening

Welcome speech by the host country, *Mrs. Renske Peters, Director for Water Affairs, DG-Water, Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, the Netherlands*

Opening speeches by:

- *Mr. Massimo Cozzone, Department for Environmental Research and Development, Ministry for the Environment and Territory, Italy; Vice-Chairperson of the Water Convention*
- *Mr Fritz Holzwarth, Deputy Director General Water Management, Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany*
- *Ms. Francesca Bernardini, Secretary of the Water Convention and Co-Secretary of the Protocol on Water and Health, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe*
- *Mr. Roger Aertgeerts, Co-Secretary of the Protocol on Water and Health, World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe*

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00 -12.15: Session 1: Setting the scene

Format: Presentations

Moderator: Mr. Alex Kirby

- Introduction to the workshop and presentation of the draft Guidance on water and adaptation to climate change, *Mr. Joost Buntsma, Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, the Netherlands*
- Key messages of the Symposium “Climate Change and the European Water Dimension”, Common Implementation Strategy activities on climate change and the EU water policy until 2009, *Ms. Meike Gierk, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany*
- Presentation of the findings of the EEA report “Climate change and water adaptation issues” and recent developments, *Mr. Peter Kristensen, European Environment Agency*
- Climate change impacts and water adaptation strategies: Presentation of the results of the survey carried out in non-EEA countries, *Mr. Jos Timmerman, RWS Centre for Water Management, the Netherlands*
- Water and adaptation strategy: why health should be in, *Ms. Luciana Sinisi, Environment Protection and Technical Services Agency, Italy; Chairperson of the Task Force on Extreme Weather Events under the Protocol on Water and Health*

12:15-13.00 Session 2: Making adaptation work: policy, legislation and institutions

Format: Panel discussion

Moderator: Mr. Alex Kirby

- EU policy response with a special focus on the currently elaborated EU white paper on adaptation (*Speaker: to be confirmed*)

- Adaptation strategies in the transboundary context: the case of the Danube River, *Mr. Gheorghe Constantin, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Romania*
- Adaptation needs of the legal framework for transboundary waters: challenges posed by climate change *Mr. Justice Gregory J. Hobbs, Colorado Supreme Court; United States*
- Self-assessment of country's performance - a tool for decision-makers, *Mr. Hamlet Melconyan, Armhydromet, Armenia*

13.00-14.30: Lunch

14.30-15.15 Session 2 cont'd: Making adaptation work: policy, legislation and institutions

15:15-18.00 Session 3: Reducing uncertainty: forecasting, modeling and vulnerability

Format: Panel discussion

Moderator: Mr. Alex Kirby

(a) 15.15-16.15

- Introduction on impacts assessment and scenarios, *Mr. Pavel Kabat, Wageningen University, the Netherlands*
- Governing vulnerability in transboundary context: the Trialog approach, *Ms. Marloes Bakker, Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate, the Netherlands*
- The experience of the NeWater project: Integrating environmental flows into water management to reduce social vulnerability - an example from the lower Amudarya River Basin, *Ms. Gulchekhra Khasankhanova, Design and Research UZGIP Institute, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources Uzbekistan*

16.15-16.30: Coffee break

(b) 16.30-18.00

- Assessment of vulnerability of the Aral Sea basin, *Ms. Natalya Agaltseva, Hydrometeorological Research Institute, Uzbekistan*
- Adaptation of various economic branches of Belarus to climate change, *Mr. Mikhail Kalinin, Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources, Belarus*
- Water supply and sanitation after flooding events, *Mr. Jim Foster, Drinking Water Inspectorate, United Kingdom*
- Vulnerability of forest ecosystems, *Mr. Roman Corobov, Eco-TIRAS International Environmental Association of River Keepers, Moldova*

Dinner by the host

TUESDAY, 2 JULY

9.30-13.00 Session 4: Make adaptation happen!

Format: carousel

This session foresees work in 3 parallel thematic groups: one group on floods, one group on water scarcity and drought, and one group on water quality and health aspects. The 3 groups will all discuss during three subsequent one-hour sessions the following issues: prevention/ preparedness, response, and recovery/after-care.

A 10 minute break between sessions will allow participants to move from a group to another if they so wish

Each of the one-hour session will be introduced by the session moderator and by a 10 minute presentation of a specific example/case. The following discussion will focus on the aspects highlighted by the presentation as well as other issues related to the theme.

Group 1: Floods

Moderator: Mr. Henk van Schaik, Co-operative Programme on Water and Climate, the Netherlands
Rapporteur: Mr. Mikhail Kalinin, Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources, Belarus Belarus

9:30- 10:30 Example of preparedness: Experience from Germany, *Ms. Meike Gierk, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety*

10 minute break

10:40-11:40 Example of response: Belarus experience in response to floods, *Mr. Mikhail Kalinin, Central Research Institute for Complex Use of Water Resources, Belarus*

10 minute break

11:50- 12:50 Example of recovery/aftercare after floods: Experience from 1997, 2002 and 2006 floods in the Czech Republic, *Mr. Odrich Novicki, Masaryk Water Research Institute, Czech Republic*

Group 2: Water scarcity and drought

Moderator: Mr. Osmo Purhonen, Southwest Finland Regional Environment Centre, Finland
Rapporteur: Mr. Luit-Jan Dijkhuis, Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, the Netherlands

9:30-10: 30 Example of preparedness: Monitoring of water balances in Hungary;
Mr. Péter Kozák, Directorate for Environmental Protection and Water Management of Lower Tisza District, Hungary

10 minute break

10:40-11:40 Example of response: Building partnerships to reduce risk to drought and desertification; *Mr. Douglas Pattie, UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Platform for the promotion of early warning*

10 minute break

11:50-12:50 Example of recovery measures after drought: Experience in Moldova; *Mr. Ion Salaru, Ministry of Health, Moldova*

Group 3: Declining water quality and health issues

Moderator Ms. Luciana Sinisi, Environment Protection and Technical Services Agency, Italy
Rapporteur: Mr. Roger Aertgeerts, WHO-EURO

9:30-10: 30 Examples of preparedness: Early detection and early warning, *Ms. Martina Behanova, Public Health Authority, Slovakia*
 The Protocol on Water and Health as a tool for climate change adaptation, *Mr. Roger Aertgeerts, WHO-EURO*

10 minute break

10:40-11:40 Example of response: Experience of Ukraine, *Ms. Svitlana Gariyenchuk, Center of Ecological Audit and Certification, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ukraine*

10 minute break

11:50-12:50 Example of recovery/aftercare: Managing the risk of vector-borne diseases in adaptation measures, *Ms. Luciana Sinisi, Environment Protection and Technical Services Agency, Italy*

13.00-14.30: Lunch

Overview of Session 4

	Group 1 Flood	Group 2 Water scarcity and drought	Group 3 Water quality and health aspects
9.30-10.30	Prevention/preparedness <i>Ms. Meike Gierk, Germany</i>	Prevention/preparedness <i>Mr. Péter Kozák, Hungary</i>	Prevention/preparedness <i>Ms. Martina Behanova, Slovakia Mr. Roger Aertgeerts, WHO-EURO</i>
10.40-11.40	Response <i>Mr. Mikhail Kalinin, Belarus</i>	Response <i>Mr. Douglas Pattie, UN ISDR</i>	Response <i>Ms. Svitlana Gariyenchuk, Ukraine</i>
11.50-12.50	Recovery/after care <i>Mr. Odrich Novicki, Czech Republic</i>	Recovery/after care <i>Mr. Ion Salaru, Moldova</i>	Recovery/after care <i>Ms. Luciana Sinisi, Italy</i>

14.30-15.30 Session 5: How much does it cost? Where should the money come from?

Format: Panel discussion

Moderator: Mr. Alex Kirby

- Dutch experience in financing adaptation measures, *Mr. Niels Vlaanderen, Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, the Netherlands*
- Perspectives in countries with economies in transition: the case of Ukraine, *Ms. Natalia Zakorchevna, State Committee for Water management, Ukraine*
- Financing of adaptation measures: climate proofing of funding schemes, *World Bank (Speaker to be confirmed)*

15.30-16.00: Coffee break

16.00-16.45 Session 6: Final discussion on the guidance on water and adaptation to climate change

Moderators: Mr. Joost Buntsma, Ms. Meike Gierk and Ms. Luciana Sinisi

- Introduction by the moderators of the session
- Presentation of the key messages by the rapporteurs for Session 4
- Interventions from the floor: key issues identified by the workshop in relation to the Guidance

16.45-17.00 Closing statements by the host country
