



Legal Board

LB/2010/INF.4

Seventh meeting
Geneva, 15-16 April 2010
Item 3(c) of the provisional agenda

**DRAFT ORGANISATION OF WORK FOR DEVELOPING A PROPOSAL
ON A MECHANISM TO FACILITATE AND SUPPORT
IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE**

I. Background and objectives

1. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, at its fifth session (Geneva, 10-12 November 2009), entrusted the Legal Board to study possible options and prepare a proposal a mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance, for possible adoption at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2012.
2. At its seventh meeting, the Legal Board will discuss the paper on possible options to facilitate and support implementation and compliance introduced by Mr. Attila Tanzi (Italy). The Legal Board will agree on how to further investigate and develop possible options as well as how to proceed from the study of the possible options to the development of a proposal on a mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance.

II. Proposed organization of work and next steps

3. When discussing future organization of work, the Legal Board is invited to take into account time constraints, limited financial resources as well as lessons learned from its past experience.
4. Considering the successful experience of developing the Guide to Implementing the Convention when the Legal Board established a small drafting group entrusted to work on the text in between of the Legal Board's meetings, the Legal Board may wish to establish at its seventh meeting another drafting group entrusted to prepare a working document which would develop the options recommended by the Legal Board as a basis for future negotiations of the Legal Board.
5. Such drafting group could be composed mostly of Parties to the Convention, with additional participation of interested non-Parties in the process of accession, representing the broad diversity of situations in the UNECE region, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and academia.
6. The working language of the drafting group would be English.
7. The group could work through face-to-face meetings as well as via e-mail and if needed teleconferences.

8. Taking into account that the proposal for a mechanism to facilitate and support implementation and compliance should be presented to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties, and assuming that sixth session will be scheduled in October/November 2012, the last meeting of the Legal Board to finalize the proposal should take place no later than March/April 2012 to allow for the proposal to be presented to the Working Group on Integrated Water Resource Management in May/June 2012 and later to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties. This allows holding 1-2 meetings of the Legal Board in 2011 and one in the first half of 2012, depending on the needs of negotiation process, as well as financial resources available for this activity.

9. As for the next steps, it is proposed that the eighth meeting of the Legal Board is held on 24-25 February, 2011 and that the first meeting of the drafting group is scheduled on 7-8 October 2010 or on 14-15 October 2010. It is also foreseen that the sixth meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management will be scheduled on 2-3 May 2011.
