



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

Core Group on Groundwater
Second meeting
Geneva, 11–12 June 2012

LB/2012/INF.1

Annotated provisional agenda for the second meeting

**To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Monday, 11 June 2012***

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Draft model provisions on transboundary groundwaters
3. Capacity for Water Cooperation (CWC) project under the Convention: Workshop on Legal, Institutional and Technical Aspects of Managing Transboundary Groundwaters (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 29–31 May 2012)
4. Other business
5. Closing of the meeting

II. Annotations

1. The second meeting of the Core Group on Groundwater will be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, in Room XXI. It will start at 10 a.m. on Monday, 11 June 2012, and end at 5.30 p.m. Tuesday, 12 June 2012.
2. The working languages will be English, French and Russian.
3. All relevant documentation for the meeting of the Core Group on Groundwater will be available at http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/2nd_core_group_groundwater.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: 10–10.10 a.m., Monday, 11 June 2012

4. The Core Group on Groundwater is expected to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

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* Delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations are requested to complete the registration form available on the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) website (http://www.unece.org/env/water/meetings/2nd_core_group_groundwater) and to transmit it to the UNECE secretariat by **28 May 2012** by e-mail (katri.veldre@unece.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see the map on the UNECE website, http://www.unece.org/meetings/UN_Map.pdf). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917-2439. Experts from eligible countries may apply for **financial support** to facilitate their participation in the meeting. Requests for financial support should be addressed to the UNECE secretariat together with the registration form as soon as possible, and in any case **by 27 April 2012**.

2. Draft model provisions on transboundary groundwaters

Tentative timing: 10.10 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–6.00 p.m., Monday, 11 June 2012, and 9.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m. and 2.30 – 4.00 p.m., Tuesday, 12 June 2012

5. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its fifth session mandated the Legal Board and the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management to prepare a preliminary study on the application of the principles of the Convention to transboundary groundwaters, to be submitted to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties for consideration as to whether further action was needed.

6. The Legal Board had addressed the application of the principles of the Convention to transboundary groundwaters at its seventh, eighth and ninth meetings (Geneva, 15–16 April 2010, 24–25 February 2011 and 1–2 September 2011, respectively). Following the consultation with the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties (Geneva, 9 March 2011) and the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its sixth meeting (Geneva, 4–5 May 2011), the proposal to develop model provisions on transboundary groundwaters had been endorsed by both the Bureau and the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2011/2) with a view to having the set of model provisions ready for possible adoption at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties. Furthermore, the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management had decided to create a Core Group on Groundwater in order to develop those model provisions, and had requested nomination of national legal and technical experts for that activity.

7. At its first meeting (Geneva, 30 January 2012), the Core Group on Groundwater discussed the Draft Model Provisions on Transboundary Groundwaters (LB/2012/INF.1) submitted by the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Legal Board and agreed upon a number of revisions to the above-mentioned document, including, inter alia, the expansion of commentaries and addition of relevant examples to showcase good practices. It mandated the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Legal Board to work on the new version of the model provisions and agreed on two rounds of commenting by members of the Core Group on Groundwater.

8. The Core Group on Groundwater will discuss the revised draft of the model provisions submitted by the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Legal Board and further elaborate the text by taking decisions on the drafting language so as to submit the document for endorsement by the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management at its seventh meeting (Geneva, 3–4 July 2012) allowing the submission of the draft model provisions on transboundary groundwaters to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties (Rome, 28–30 November 2012).

3. Capacity for Water Cooperation (CWC)¹ project under the Convention: Workshop on Legal, Institutional and Technical Aspects of Managing Transboundary Groundwaters (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 29–31 May 2012)

Tentative timing: 4.00–5.00 p.m., Tuesday, 12 June 2012

9. The secretariat will inform the Core Group on Groundwater on the outcomes of the Workshop on Legal, Institutional and Technical Aspects of Managing Transboundary Groundwaters (Almaty, Kazakhstan, 29–31 May 2012).

4. Other business

Tentative timing: 5.00–5.15 p.m., Tuesday, 12 June 2012

10. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item.

5. Closing of the meeting

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¹ The CWC project aims to create a framework enabling cross-fertilization and exchange of experience between countries and river basins regarding regulatory, institutional, methodological and other aspects of integrated management of transboundary waters in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and at the same time sharing of valuable experience from other parts of the ECE region (see <http://www.unece.org/env/water/cwc.htm>).

Tentative timing: 5.15–5.30 p.m., Tuesday, 12 June 2012

11. The Chair will summarize the major outcomes of the meeting and will formally close the meeting on Tuesday, 12 June 2012 at 5.30 p.m.
