
Opening of the Water Convention

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1. Activities in 2013

- Participation of more than 40 non UNECE countries in the activities under the Convention e.g. in:
 - Post-2015 development agenda consultations on water management, Feb. 2013 in Geneva
 - Core group of pilot projects meeting, Feb, 2013, Geneva
 - First meeting of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems nexus, April 2013, Geneva
 - Climate change workshop and Task Force meeting, June 2013
- Promotion of the Convention in international meetings
 - Zaragoza conference on international water cooperation, Jan.
 - World Water Day event in March, the Hague
 - Water diplomacy meeting, the Hague, April
 - Seminar on international water law, Dundee, June
 - INBO General Assembly, Fortaleza, Aug.
 - Stockholm World Water Week, Sept.
 - UNESCO IHP meeting, Nairobi, Sept.



2. Main challenges and lessons learnt

- Exchange of experience is useful for both sides, UNECE countries learn from non-ECE
- High interest by non-ECE countries
- Ensure rapid ratification of the amendments by all Parties
- Raise awareness and build capacity on the Convention in other regions + deal with misconceptions, e.g. through brochure on opening
- Need to coordinate with the UN Watercourses Convention, develop joint messages
- Opening is not only task of secretariat, but also Bureau, focal points, partners

Need for resources



3. Future work and funding needs

- Capacity-building on Convention and global exchange of experience
 - Participation of non-ECE countries in our activities
 - Promotion of the Convention at the global level, e.g.
 - Budapest Water Summit
 - GEF International Waters conference, Barbados, Oct.
 - Closing event of the IYWC, Mexico, Dec.
 - Regional workshops to promote the Convention and the exchange of experience
 - for African countries in May 2014
 - for the League of Arab states in early 2014
- Synergies with New York Convention

Cooperation with partners such as GEF

