



Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Task Force on Water and Climate
Twelfth meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 31 March 2021

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWELFTH MEETING
To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva with a possibility of remote participation,
starting on Wednesday, 31 March 2021 at 14.00 p.m.

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Recent activities on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins under the Water Convention
4. How to raise attention to transboundary and regional cooperation in global climate change processes?
5. Future work on climate change in transboundary basins under the Water Convention
6. Other business
7. Closing

II. BACKGROUND AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Background

The Task Force on Water and Climate under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) serviced by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is responsible for activities related to adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins, including flood and drought management, in accordance with the programme of work for 2019-2021 of the Water Convention (programme area 4, see ECE/MP:WAT/54/Add.1). It has the following objectives:

- a) Increase adaptive capacity and improve cooperation in climate change adaptation and mitigation in transboundary basins;
- b) Increase funding for basin-wide or coordinated climate change adaptation measures in transboundary basins by facilitating access to climate funds and building related capacity;
- c) Increase awareness of the importance of water and transboundary cooperation in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at the national and transboundary levels and in intergovernmental global processes, such as United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The twelfth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate aims to discuss, plan and provide guidance to the implementation of the activities on water and climate under the programme of work for 2019-2021 of the Water Convention as well as to the planned activities under the next programme of work for 2022-2024 of the Water Convention.

Practical information

The twelfth meeting of the Task Force will start at 14.00 p.m. and end at 16.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 31 March 2021. It will be held in a hybrid manner, with very few participants present in the Palais des Nations, Geneva and most others connected remotely. The Task Force meeting will be preceded by the global workshop on building climate-resilience through improving water management and sanitation at national and transboundary levels, which will be held on 29-31 (a.m.) March 2021. The working languages will be English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The meeting is open to experts representing governmental authorities, the private sector, non-governmental and international organizations as well as other interested stakeholders. Focal points are requested to disseminate information on the meeting and to facilitate the nomination of relevant representatives of their respective countries.

To attend the meeting, whether virtually or in-person, please register using the following link by 24 March 2021: <https://indico.un.org/event/31154/>

Please kindly find some links towards instructions on:

- 1) How to create an indico account: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeZuft5xQ4U>
- 2) How to register for an online meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WaEj3hShn6U>

For assistance with registration, please see the instructions on the meeting's web page or contact the secretariat by e-mail minako.hirano@un.org.

Further information and relevant material will be made available on the following website in due course: <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/twelfth-meeting-task-force-water-and-climate>

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening (14.00 - 14.10)

1. The co-Chairs will open the meeting and summarize the outcomes of the preceding workshop on building climate-resilience through improving water management and sanitation at national and transboundary levels.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda (14.10 - 14.15)

2. The Task Force is expected to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

Item 3: Recent activities on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins under the Water Convention (14.15– 14.45)

Background document: Overview of the activities of the basins in the global network of basins working on climate change (TFWC/2021/2)

3. The Task Force will be informed about the recent activities on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins namely the outcomes of the last meeting of the global network of basins working on climate change adaptation (26 February 2021 in a virtual format), results of the pilot projects as well as financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins.

4. Representatives of the pilot projects and other basins of the global network of basins working on climate change adaptation will briefly inform about their activities, challenges and lessons learned, followed by questions and comments.

Item 4: How to raise attention to transboundary and regional cooperation in global climate change processes (14.45 -15.15)

5. The Task Force will be informed about the latest developments and important next steps with regards to water and climate under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris agreement, such as the Nairobi Work Programme, the Adaptation Committee etc. It will also be briefed about related processes such as the Marrakech Partnership, the Water and Climate Coalition, the Water Action Track of the Global Commission on Adaptation including outcomes of the Climate Adaptation Summit (25 January 2021), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, etc.

6. The Task Force will discuss how it can provide input to the UNFCCC processes, in particular the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC (Glasgow, November 2021). In particular, participants will discuss how they can raise attention to the importance of water, regional and transboundary cooperation and accelerate action on water and climate when preparing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), other national climate strategies and plans, adaptation communications and in the global Stocktake.

Item 5: Future work on climate change in transboundary basins under the Water Convention (15.15 - 15.50)

Background document: Strategy for future work on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins under the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2015/4)

Draft programme of work for 2022-2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/4-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/4)

7. The Task Force will discuss future activities on water and climate on for the next programme of work of the Water Convention for 2022-2024, as proposed in document ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2021/4-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2021/4) which was prepared based on the outcomes of a survey and the discussions at the last Task Force meeting. Participants will discuss the details of the future activities, for example, the topics for the global workshops, on-line compendium of good practices on and financing climate change adaptation in transboundary basins.

8. The Task Force will also discuss linkages with other related activities under the Water Convention, such as on water allocation in the transboundary context and on the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus.

9. Different partners will be invited to provide comments on linkages between the Water Convention and their work.

Item 6: Other business (15.50 - 16.00)

10. At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item. Delegates wishing to propose points under this item should inform the secretariat as soon as possible.

Item 7: Closing

11. The co-Chairs will close the meeting at 16.00 on Wednesday, 31 March 2021.
