

Draft decision on partnerships for the global implementation of the Water Convention

Submitted by the Bureau in cooperation with the secretariat



9th session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
29 September – 1 October 2021 Geneva & Hybrid

Value of partnerships for the Convention and key aspects



Draft decision on partnerships for implementation of the Convention

Cooperation with partners

has always been important for the implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) and has become even more important with the global opening of the Water Convention and the accession thereto by several new Parties.



Cooperation

with partners for the global implementation of the Convention



Cooperation with partners

More than 50 partners:

Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, have already contributed to the implementation of the Water Convention's programmes of work. At its eighth session (Nur-Sultan, 10–12 October 2018), the Meeting of the Parties adopted the Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2).



Cooperation with partners

1

Further strengthen of partnerships in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention at the global level, including the strengthening of cross-sectoral cooperation, is needed

2

Several partners are seizing the opportunity of the Convention's global opening, and have included the Water Convention in their own strategic documents and contribute to its activities, and calls on other partners to do the same, if possible

3

Joint bodies and river basin organizations play vital role in promoting the work of the Convention at the transboundary level and in contributing to its implementation among riparian Member States, while furthering transboundary cooperation in their regions

4

Partnerships have been developed and strengthened with regional organizations to support awareness-raising, capacity-building, implementation and further accessions to the Water Convention

Key aspects

1

Decision VI/4 on cooperation with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and decision VI/5 on cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

2

The International organizations, the non governmental organizations (NGOs), the academia and the business sector, partnerships, to strengthen transboundary water cooperation, by contributing to the Water Convention's programme of work and by supporting its implementation

3

The role of United Nations country teams and resident coordinators in supporting national engagement with, implementation of, and, in particular, in assisting with accession processes to the Water Convention, to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6 and all water-related Sustainable Development Goals

Key aspects

4

The ongoing and strengthened cooperation between international financial institutions and the Water Convention, along with initiatives to further extend and develop joint efforts on the funding and financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development

5

The importance of academia and international organizations in sharing information and building capacity regarding the Water Convention and its practical implementation

6

The close cooperation with the Global Environment Facility, to coordinate activities and exchange experience, in particular between the Global Environment Facility International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network (IW:LEARN) and the different bodies and activities under the Convention

Value of partnerships for the Convention and key aspects



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implementation of the Convention**

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The Water convention continues cooperating closely with the Global Environment Facility, coordinate activities and exchange experience. Invites relevant international organizations, United Nations regional commissions and other UN-Water members, financing institutions, joint bodies, the business sector, academia, civil society and other potential future partners to join the activities of the Water Convention



Implement

developing and formalizing the modalities of existing and future partnerships



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For the development of partnerships:

Decides to regularly review progress and gaps in the development of partnerships and invites partners to report on their related efforts at the next meetings of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.



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1

Recognizes the increasing momentum within the United Nations system for its collective role in fostering transboundary cooperation as a driver of peace, regional cohesion and sustainable development.

2

Recalls the Sustainable Development Goal 6 “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”, with target 6.5 thereof calling for transboundary cooperation, and Welcomes the Sustainable Development Goal 6 Global Acceleration Framework launched by UN-Water in 2020,

3

Welcomes the motion adopted in October 2020, by electronic vote, by the members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on “Cooperation on transboundary fresh waters to ensure ecosystem conservation, climate resilience and sustainable development” that underlines the importance of international commitments related to freshwater cooperation and conservation, particularly the Water Convention and the Watercourses Convention

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4

Continues with, and further strengthens, the cooperation with UNESCO, in particular regarding UNESCO/ECE co-custodianship of indicator 6.5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals

5

Develops and further enhances cooperation with existing and new partners, in particular in the light of the global opening of the Water Convention and of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the Paris Agreement

6

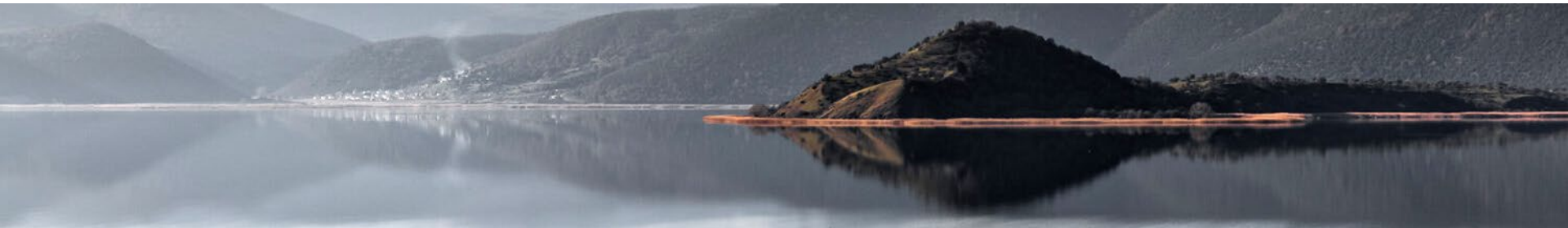
Invites relevant international organizations United Nations regional commissions and other UN-Water members, financing institutions, joint bodies, the business sector, academia, civil society and other potential future partners to join the activities of the Water Convention

Summary

Please take into account the following:

- Global opening of the Convention and the adoption of the Strategy of its implementation at the **global level**;
- Recognizing the importance of partnerships and the need to further strengthen these strategic partnerships in the future;
- That the Bureau is entrusted with the tasks of reviewing the Strategy, in particular the role of the partners in achieving its objectives, and of preparing a draft decision on cooperation with partners for the global implementation of the Convention for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties.

The *Meeting of the Parties* is invited to consider and adopt the draft decision (ECE/MP.WAT/2021/11) , submitted by **the Bureau in cooperation with the Secretariat**.



Thank you.

Веселова Екатерина Викторовна/МПР/РУ

ECE/MP.WAT/2021/11

For the Bureau in cooperation with the secretariat

Economic Commission for Europe



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