



Convention of the Protection and Use of
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Task Force on Water and Climate
Fourteenth meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 28 February 2024

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FOURTEENTH MEETING

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva - Room XXVI
starting on Wednesday, 28 February 2024 at 10.00 a.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. Mainstreaming transboundary and regional water cooperation in global climate change processes
5. Synergies with regional organizations' strategies and processes
6. Future work on climate change in transboundary basins under the Water Convention
7. Other business
8. 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 2022-2024 of the Water Convention (programme area 4, see ECE/MP:WAT/63/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 fourteenth 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 2022-2024 of the Water Convention as well as to the planned activities under the next programme of work for 2025-2027 of the Water Convention.

Practical information

The fourteenth meeting of the Task Force will start at 10.00 a.m. and end at 18.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 28 February 2024. It will be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The Task Force meeting will be preceded by the Global Workshop on Droughts in Transboundary Basins, which will be held on 26-27 February 2024. 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 please register using the following link **by 12 February 2024**:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1007048/>

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 lien.mai-baby@un.org, telephone: +41(0) 22 917 32 31

Further information and relevant material will be made available on the following website in due course: <https://unece.org/info/Environmental-Policy/Water-Convention/events/386480>

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening (10:00 - 10:10)

1. The co-Chairs will open the meeting and summarize the outcomes of the preceding Global workshop on droughts in transboundary basins.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda (10:10 - 10:15)

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 (10:15 - 11:15)

Background document:

Overview of the activities of the basins in the Global network of basins working on climate change adaptation (TFWC/2024/2)

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 (25-26 May 2023 in a hybrid format) and results of the pilot projects.

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: Mainstreaming transboundary and regional water cooperation in global climate change processes (11:15 - 13:00)

Background document:

Synthesis Report on the technical dialogue of the first Global Stocktake

2023 Annual Report on Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)

Policy brief prepared by the Transboundary Water Cooperation Coalition on Transboundary water cooperation as a means to address climate change

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, the Nairobi Work Programme, the Marrakech Partnership, the Adaptation Committee as well as the Global Stocktake and the Global Goal on Adaptation processes. Particular attention will be given to debrief on the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC (Dubai, UAE, December 2023).

It will also be briefed about related processes such as the relevant climate-related outcomes of the UN-Water conference (22-24 March 2023), the Water and Climate Coalition, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the work of the UN-Water expert group on climate change and water, etc.

6. The Task Force will discuss how to provide effective input to the UNFCCC processes. In addition, participants will discuss how they can raise attention to the importance of water, regional and transboundary water cooperation and accelerate action on water and climate in the discussions on the Global Stocktake and global goal on adaptation and when implementing and revising Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), other national climate strategies and plans and adaptation communications.

7. Finally, the Task Force will discuss opportunities to integrate transboundary/regional perspectives into development and implementation of NDCs and NAPs, in particular in transboundary basins.

Item 5: Synergies with regional organizations' strategies and processes (15:00 – 15:45)

8. The Task Force will be informed on recent developments and updates and discuss possible alignment and synergies with regional organisations' strategies and processes on climate and transboundary water cooperation, such as the recent update of the EU guidance document on climate change in river basin management planning.

Item 6: Future work to address climate change in transboundary basins under the Water Convention (15:45- 17:45)

Background document:

Programme of work for 2022-2024 (ECE/MP:WAT/63/Add.1)

10. The Task Force will discuss the remaining activities in the Programme area 4 “Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins” to be undertaken as part of the Water Convention Programme of Work 2022-2024.

11. After an introduction by the Secretariat about lessons learned and the process of developing the 2025-2027 work programme, the Task Force will also discuss future activities on climate change in transboundary basins under the new Water Convention Programme of Work 2025-2027 and beyond. Partners will be invited to provide insights on how they can contribute to the future program of work.

Item 7: Other business (17:45 - 18:00)

12. 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 8: Closing

13. The co-Chairs will close the meeting at 18:00 on Wednesday, 28 February 2024.
