

5th joint meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment under the Water Convention, 6-8 May 2024

Item 8.(b) Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all levels

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Background:

Global Workshop on Source-to-sea Management

(14-16 December 2022, Geneva & online)

Format: 3-day workshop on effective source-to-sea management with practical peer-learning elements

Participants: 316 registered participants (120 in-person, 196 virtual)

Organizers: Water Convention Secretariat, under the leadership of Estonia and Slovenia, in cooperation with UNEP MAP, IOC-UNESCO, SIWI, S2S Platform, GWP, GEF, IW:Learn (funding partners: Sweden and Germany)

Outcomes:

- Transboundary and intersectoral cooperation must be strengthened,
- More awareness and capacity-building are needed,
- Financing of source-to-sea action must be incentivized,
- There is momentum and urgency to accelerate source-to-sea action.



Background:

Guidance Note on the implementation of the source-to-sea approach in transboundary basins

- A direct outcome from the workshop was the proposal to **develop a Guidance Note on the implementation of the source-to-sea approach in transboundary basins**
- In June 2023, the **Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management decided to develop such a Guidance Note** in the framework of the Water Convention.
- In February 2024, first meeting of the **Expert Group** was held.
 - Members of Expert Group: Estonia and Slovenia (Lead Parties), Costa Rica, France, Namibia, Portugal, Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management, The Gambia, UNEP, UNEP-MAP, Black Sea Commission, GEF, GWP, HELCOM, ICPDR, IHE Delft, SIWI



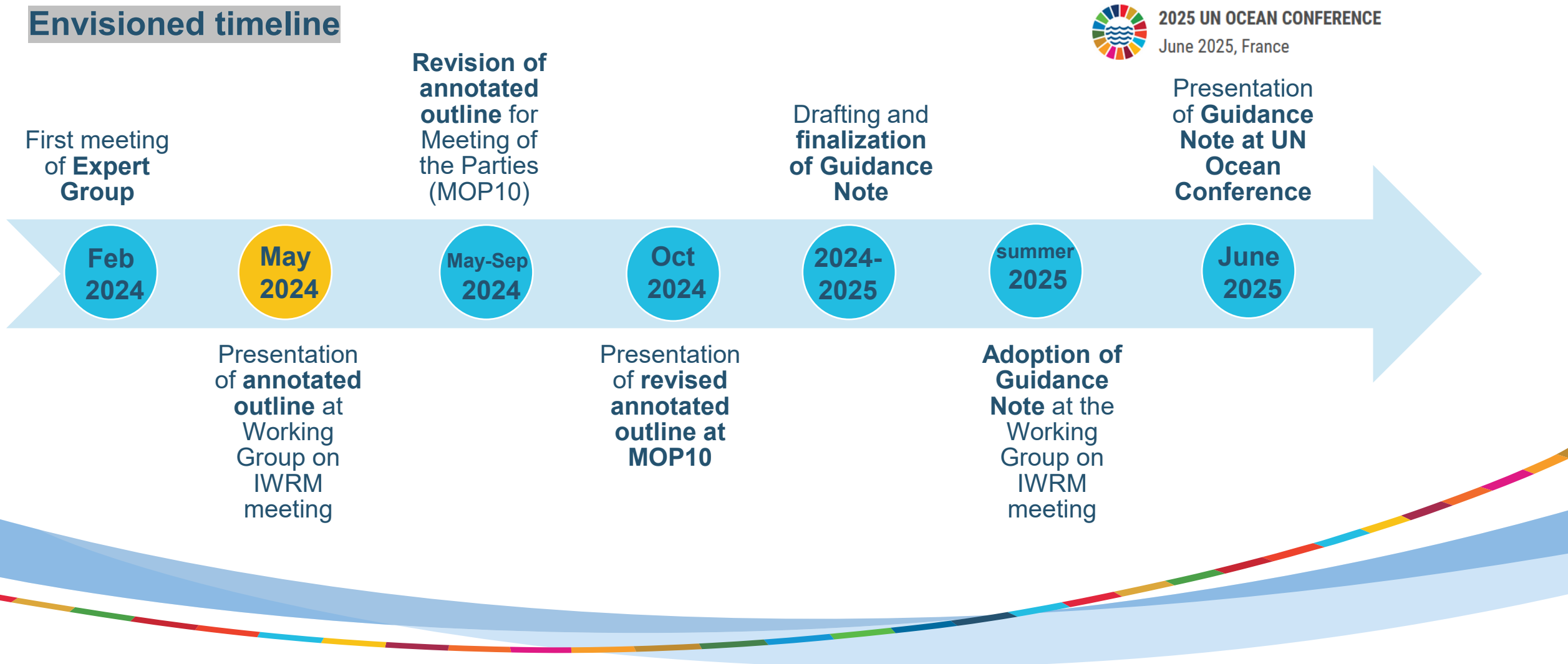
Guidance Note on the implementation of the source-to-sea approach in transboundary basins

Objectives:

- **Promote understanding:** The guidance note aims to increase the understanding of the need for and benefits of source-to-sea governance and the significance of the source-to-sea approach in integrated water resource management, ecosystem conservation, and sustainability.
- **Build capacity:** To provide guidance and tools for governments, organizations, and stakeholders involved in managing transboundary basins, watersheds, and coastal areas, with the goal of enhancing their capacity for effective source-to-sea management.
- **Facilitate implementation:** To assist in the practical application of source-to-sea management principles by offering actionable steps, methodologies, and best practices.
- **Transboundary and trans-sectoral collaboration:** To encourage collaboration and cooperation among different institutions, sectors and stakeholders involved in the management of land, freshwater, and marine resources.
- **Case studies and best practices:** To showcase successful case studies and best practices in source-to-sea management from different regions, offering practical insights and inspiration.

Guidance Note on the implementation of the source-to-sea approach in transboundary basins

Envisioned timeline



Guidance Note on the implementation of the source-to-sea approach in transboundary basins




Introduction of draft outline of the guidance note for the implementation of the source-to-sea approach in transboundary basins

(ECE/MP.WAT/WG.1/2024/INF.5-ECE/MP.WAT/WG.2/2024/INF.5)

Thank you!

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