



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

BUREAU/2012/1

PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

24 January 2012

**Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties
Eight Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 21-22 February 2011**

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Prepared by the Joint Secretariat

The eighth meeting of the Bureau will take place at the WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Hermann-Ehlers-Strasse 10, Bonn, Germany, in room 1712 – 1713. The meeting will start on 21 February 2012 at 15:00 and finish on 22 February 2012 at 16:30. The meeting will be held in English.

Participants will be asked to register with UN Security at the entry of the building and are therefore invited to bring their national passports.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

(Tuesday, 21 February 15:00 – 15:05)

2. Resources to implement the programme of work and implementation of unfunded activities: general discussion/possibilities for funding.

(Tuesday, 21 February 15:05 – 17:30)

At its most recent meetings, in June and November 2011, the Bureau had decided to set up a group that would look into the possibility to raise funds from alternative sources, in particular charities and foundations, and agree on a strategy on how to approach them. The Chair was entrusted with following up on the issue, gathering ideas and setting up such a group. At its dinner meeting during the Working Group on Water and Health in November 2011, the Bureau had decided to dedicate an afternoon discussion to this issue at its next meeting and to explore options at the national level in the meantime.

As the majority of Bureau members expressed an interest in being part of this fundraising discussion, a first meeting of this fundraising group is organized under

the auspices of the Bureau meeting. Building on the information shared at recent Bureau meetings, national investigations and ideas, Bureau members are invited to share their suggestions and agree on a fundraising strategy and next steps.

In addition, the Bureau will review contributions, pledges and expenditures since the second Meeting of the Parties. Bureau members will inform each other about their countries' possibility to provide financial or in-kind contributions in support of the aims of the Protocol.

On the basis of the above information, the Bureau will discuss the implications for the implementation of the programme of work, in particular for what concerned unfunded or underfunded activities.

A representative from the Resource Mobilization Office (RMO) at the WHO Regional Office for Europe will describe the procedures to be followed by WHO, and will provide information on current sources of voluntary funding, bearing in mind the decision I.1 of the first session of the Meeting of the Parties and follow-up by the Parties concerning the desirability of mainstreaming the work of the Protocol on Water and Health in the overall activities of the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

3. Update on developments in the Joint Secretariat

(Wednesday, 22 February 09:10 – 10:00)

The Co-ordinator, Environment and Health, WHO Regional Office for Europe will inform the Bureau members of the organizational consolidation in the environment and health programme after the closure of the Rome office.

The Chair of the Bureau will provide information on the outcome of a meeting between the representatives of the governing bodies of the ECE Environmental Conventions and the Committee on Environmental Policy hosted by in Geneva, 22 November 2011.

The Chief of the Transboundary Cooperation Section, ECE Environment Division, will inform of the review of ECE activities by member States, implications for the work under the Protocol on Water and Health, and the cooperation of focal points with other counterparts at the national level including those responsible for Rio+20.

4. Strengthening synergies between the different activities under the Protocol

(Wednesday, 22 February 10:00 – 10:30)

At its fourth meeting, the Working Group on Water and Health stressed the need to strengthen synergies between different activities under the Protocol on Water and Health to promote coherence and cross-sectoral cooperation as well as to increase efficiency and impacts.

The Working Group entrusted the Bureau with the preparation of a proposal of practical measures to strengthen synergies between different areas of work under the Protocol. The Bureau will discuss which areas under the Protocol programme of work are most suitable for synergies and how to further such synergies.

5. Programme of work 2011 – 2013

(Wednesday, 22 February 10:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 15:00)

Bureau members will review and discuss activities under each programme area with the aim of prioritizing activities and adjusting implementation in line with resources available.

Programme area 1 – Target setting and reporting

The Bureau will be briefed of plans and timing for the meeting of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting and sub-regional workshops to be organized in 2012. Bureau members will discuss venue and timing of the next meetings and consider appropriate follow-up and synergies with other activities and bodies under the Protocol.

A representative of WHO HQ will brief the meeting on the planning for monitoring access to water and sanitation, and water quality, and explore possible cooperation with the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting.

Programme area 2 – Surveillance and early-warning systems, contingency plans and response capacities

The Bureau will discuss and agree on activities carried out and planned in this area, particularly the planned meeting of the Task Force on Water-related Disease Surveillance.

At the time of writing, negotiations are ongoing with the Russian authorities for the hosting of the Task Force end March early April in Saint Petersburg. The meeting will focus on direct health interventions in the area of vaccine preventable and neglected diseases. Ms. Olga Doronina, Russian Federation, will provide additional information.

Options for direct health interventions will be presented by a representative of the WHO Collaborating Centre for the prevention and control of infectious diseases for rotavirus vaccination, and of the WHO Collaborating Centre for the monitoring of anthelmintic drug efficacy for soil-transmitted helminthiasis, for neglected diseases.

Programme area 3 – Cross cutting issues

Small scale water supply

Mr. Oliver Schmoll, Germany, will inform the Bureau of plans and timing for the policy guidance and questionnaire on small scale water supply and sanitation.

In addition, the Bureau will be informed on the work carried out in the area of small scale water supplies on location in Georgia, the planned work to be undertaken in this area in Tajikistan, and the progress made in the development of appropriate guidance materials for the introduction of water safety plans in small scale water supply and sanitation systems.

Recreational water safety

The Bureau will be informed on progress made in the drafting of the revised Guidelines for safe recreational water environments, and the plans for completion of this work in line with the overall work plan for rolling revision of WHO guidelines managed by WHO HQ.

The Bureau will also be informed of the status of preparation for the 5th International Conference on Spas and Pools (Rome, Italy, 10 – 12 April 2012).

Programme area 4 – Project Facilitation Mechanism

The Chair of the Project Facilitation Mechanism and the Facilitator will inform on progress in the projects, funded by Norway, to set targets in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan and on the intention of Finland to provide support for target setting in Armenia.

A representative from Norway will inform the Bureau on progress made in target setting in the Arkhangelsk, Murmansk and Komi region in the context of the Barents Cooperation.

On the basis of achievements and lessons learned, the Bureau will discuss future activities of the Project Facilitation Mechanism.

Programme area 5 – Compliance procedure

The Chair of the Compliance Committee of the Protocol on Water and Health will brief the Bureau of the outcome of the Committee's last meeting, held back-to-back with the Working Group on Water and Health on 3 November 2011. He will also provide information on plans for the next meeting in 2012.

No requests for the consultation process have been submitted to date. The Bureau will be invited to discuss possible action to make countries more comfortable with

addressing the Compliance Committee in the framework of the consultation process.

Programme area 7 – Public awareness, access to information and public participation

Ana Drapa, Romania, will inform the Bureau of progress in the organization of a joint event on public participation, together with the Task Force on Public Participation under the Aarhus Convention in spring 2012 in Romania and the work to be conducted by a drafting group of experts to develop guidance for involving the public in consultations and decision-making processes under the Protocol.

A representative of the WHO Youth network will provide information on the work of the different Youth groups in the region and the importance of this work for awareness building.

Programme area 8 – Equitable access

Chantal Gatignol, France, will inform the Bureau on activities carried out, in particular the finalization of the document on good practice to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation and its launch at the 6th World Water Forum (Marseilles, France, 12 – 17 March 2012) as well as future activities to further the use and implementation of the good practices document including the development of promotion materials, participation in national and international events, and implementation activities.

6. International meetings

(Wednesday, 22 February 2012 15:00 – 15:30)

European Task Force on Environment and Health (Bled, Slovenia, 26 – 28 October 2011)

A representative of WHO will inform the Bureau of the outcome of the first Task Force meeting, particularly with regard to direct health interventions in the area of vaccine preventable and neglected diseases.

Regional Preparatory Meeting for The United Nations Conference On Sustainable Development (Geneva, 1-2 December 2012)

The secretariat will brief the Bureau of the outcome of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20, its references to water and the Protocol on Water and Health and implications for the preparations for the Rio Conference. The Bureau will be invited to discuss its contribution to the preparations for Rio+20, in cooperation with other national counterparts responsible for water and the CSD/sustainable development.

6th World Water Forum (Marseilles, France, 12 – 17 March 2012)

Bureau members will be briefed on the progress made in preparing interventions in the 6th World Water Forum that are of relevance to the Protocol on Water and Health. They will be invited to discuss how to ensure that water and health related issues and the Protocol are well represented at the World Water Forum and its outcome.

7. Cooperation with the European Commission

(Wednesday, 22 February 2012 15:30 – 16:00)

At its seventh meeting the Bureau recognized the need and opportunity to strengthen the cooperation with the European Commission. Oliver Schmoll will brief the Bureau about the steps taken since the last meeting. The Bureau will discuss possible follow up and next steps.

8. Future meetings under the Protocol

(Wednesday, 22 February, 16:00 – 16:10)

The Bureau will review the calendar of future meetings under the Protocol and agree on dates of its next meeting.

9. Other business

(Wednesday, 22 February, 16:10 – 16:20)

(At the time of writing, the Secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item)

10. Closing

(Wednesday, 22 February, 16:30)