



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

2 October 2012

**Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties
Ninth Meeting
Geneva, Switzerland, 12 October 2012**

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Prepared by the joint secretariat

The ninth meeting of the Bureau will take place at the Palais des Nations in room S-1. It will start on 12 October 2012 at 13:00 and finish on 12 October 2012 at 17:30. The meeting will be held in English.

Bureau members should be in possession of a long-duration badge to enter the Palais des Nations. If this is not the case please contact: cammile.marcelo@unece.org.

As the meeting is held back-to-back with the fifth meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health that will take place on 11 and 12 October 2012, the Bureau will focus on any follow-up issues emanating from the Working Group discussions and is expected to reflect on some strategic issues regarding the implementation of the Protocol, which have relevance for the Bureau.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

(Friday, 12 October 13:00 – 13:05)

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

(13:05 – 13:45)

The Bureau will be briefed on the outcomes of the discussions of the first meeting of the fundraising group formed upon the decision of the Bureau at its eighth meeting. The meeting of the fundraising group is scheduled to be held prior to the meeting of the Working Group on 10 October 2012. Particularly, the Bureau members are expected to provide comments on further development of the fund-raising strategy as a tool to mobilize funds from various sources, including private charities and foundations.

3. Programme of work 2011 – 2013

(13:45 – 14:15)

Bureau members will briefly discuss any follow-up or pending issues pertaining to implementation of the current programme of work based on the discussions of the Working Group at its fifth session, in particular in relation to activities which are not fully funded.

4. Preparations for the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health

(14:15 – 15:00)

The third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health is scheduled to take place from 25 to 27 November 2013. The Chair will be invited to share any preliminary information regarding the arrangements of the Meeting on behalf of Norway.

Based on this, Bureau members will brainstorm on general features of the Meeting of the Parties, such as:

- Level of participation and inclusion of a high-level/ministerial session
- Organization of side events
- Involvement of partners and ways and means to promote the event.

The Joint Secretariat will share information on the preparatory process, especially concerning the resource requirements and the deadlines for the different steps (such as preparation of documents, sending of invitations, second reporting exercise, election of compliance committee members, etc.).

On the basis of the above discussion, Bureau members will share responsibilities for the different preparatory steps.

5. Programme of work of the Protocol on Water and Health for 2014-2016

(15:00 – 16:00)

The Bureau will discuss the strategic direction for implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health between the third and fourth sessions of the Meeting of the Parties. In this regard, the Bureau members will be invited to exchange ideas and views on general priorities of the programme of work for 2014-2016 and discuss the next steps in its development. One of the key aspects of discussions will be the elaboration of the work plan, which from one side will be covering the core activities of the Protocol and some emerging issues identified at the meetings of the Task Forces and the Working Group, and from the other, could be adequately funded, taking into account the current financing situation.

On the basis of the previous discussions, the Bureau is expected to agree on the ways and means to elaborate the draft programme of work, including possible future meetings and timeline for the preparations.

6. Project Facilitation Mechanism

(16:00 – 16:45)

Following the discussions of the Bureau at its eighth session and possible outcomes of the discussions of the Working Group at its fifth session, the Bureau members will reflect on the

future development of the Project Facilitation Mechanism, including the need to conduct a review of its achievements and lesson learnt to date, with a view to propose possible new modality of its operation and funding.

In addition, the Bureau will consider the possibility to hold the next session of the Mechanism and continue its discussions on possible candidate countries to lead this activity after the resignation of the previous Chair.

7. Strengthening synergies between the different activities under the Protocol
(16:45 – 17:15)

Following the discussions of the Bureau at its eighth session, the Bureau members will review the progress achieved in ensuring synergies between different activities under the Protocol and possible further measures needed to strengthen such synergies, including in the future programme of work.

Synergies between the Protocol and other UNECE MEAs

The Chair will inform the Bureau about the recently established process of cooperation and coordination between the representatives of the governing bodies of the ECE environmental conventions and the Committee of Environmental Policy.

The Chair and a representative of the Joint Secretariat from ECE will also update the Bureau on the upcoming sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes to be held from 28 to 30 November 2012 in Rome, Italy, particularly focusing on possible synergies between the Convention and the Protocol in light of the draft programme of the Convention for 2013-2015.

8. Future meetings under the Protocol
(17:15 – 17:25)

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

9. Other business
(17:25 – 17:30)

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

10. Closing
(17:30)