



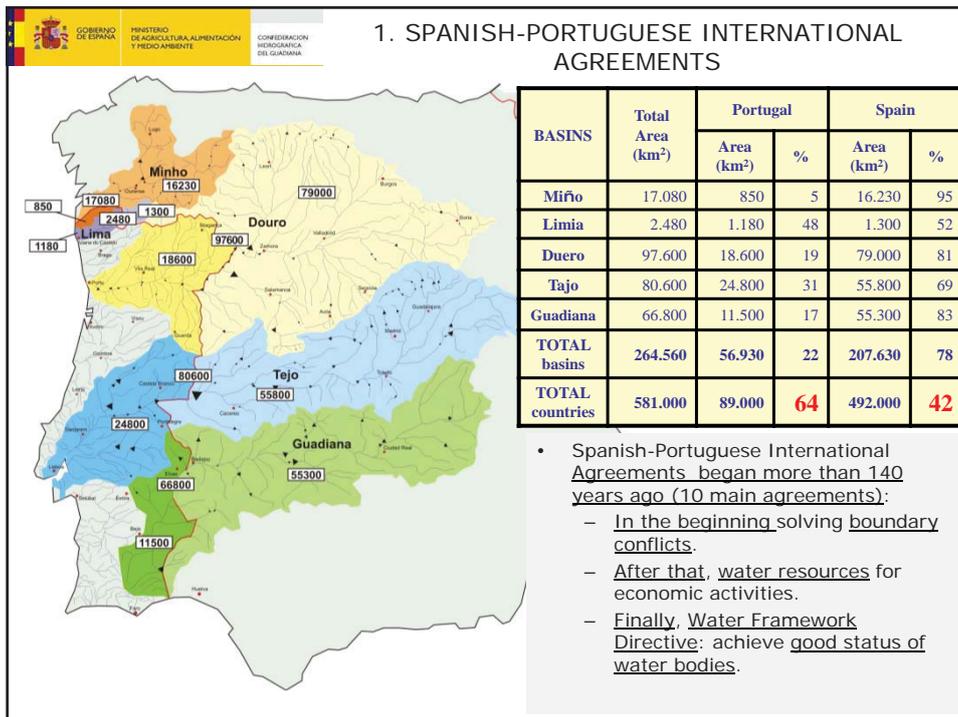
Transboundary rivers:
Portugal & Spain
Albufeira Convention

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2. ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION

- A political, legal and technical framework to solve common problems were established by this treaty.
- The Agreement is developed under an environmental perspective according to Water Framework Directive (*good status of surface and groundwater of the Spanish-Portuguese river basins, sustainable use of water and mitigation of floods and droughts effects*)
- The Convention essential guiding principles are:
 - Achieve an equilibrium between environmental protection and exploitation of water resources for economic activities by both countries (sustainable development).
 - Coordination of efforts to be carried out by both countries for water management and improving knowledge of shared basins
- The aim area is all the shared river basins of Miño, Limia, Douro, Tagus and Guadiana (including surface water, groundwater, estuarine and coastal water)

2. ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION

- The Convention is in force along a period of 7 years, and it is automatically extended for 3 years.
- Cooperation in Albufeira Convention is based on four principal elements:
 - Regular and systematic exchange of information (including coordination in hydrological extreme situations -droughts and floods-, identification of dangerous polluting substances, priority polluting substances, etc.).
 - Consultation, coordination, discussion and resolution of conflicts via specific organs.
 - Adoption of measures which make possible the homologation of administrative and juridical systems of both countries (Some studies must be carried out, as environmental studies in the estuarine area of the Guadiana river)
 - Flow regime.

2. ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION

FLOW REGIME - ANUAL VALUES

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| MIÑO | 3.700 hm ³ at FRIEIRA |
| DUERO | 3.500 hm ³ at MIRANDA // 3.800 hm ³ at SAUCELLE 5.000 hm ³ at CRESTUMA |
| TAJO | 2.700 hm ³ at CEDILLO 4.000 hm ³ at PONTE MUGE |
| GUADIANA | Values between 600 and 300 hm ³ at AZUD DE BADAJOZ (depending on precipitacon and reservoir storage status) 2 m ³ /s continuous at BADAJOZ and at POMARAO |

FLOW REGIME - REFERENCE PRECIPITATION

| River | REFERENCE PRECIPITATION | DATE | |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| MIÑO | 70 % | 1st of july | |
| DUERO | 65 % | 1st of june | |
| TAJO | 60 % | 1st of april | Especial tow years of drought |
| GUADIANA | variable | 1st of march | Precipitation and reservoir status. |

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|  GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA | MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, ALIMENTACIÓN Y MEDIO AMBIENTE | CONFEDERACION HERRIGARICA DEL GUADIANA | <h2>2. ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION</h2> |
|--|--|--|----------------------------------|

- Two main organs were formed,
 - The Conference of the Parts,
 - The Commission for the Development and Application of the Agreement (CADC).

- Conference of the Parts, with a high political level,
 - It is laid out as a high political level organ on which the Agreement's development rests
 - It is formed by members of respective Governments and the Chairpersons are a Minister of each State
 - They meet when the Parts decide, so, no specific frequency is fixed for their meetings (a meeting can be requested by any Part).
 - It is the higher instance to solve those questions impossible to agree within the Commission.

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- Commission for application and development of the Convention (CADC), with a more technical content:
 - It is formed by delegations appointed by each Part after according the number of delegates (number of members must be as reduced as possible to make the Commission operational)
 - It can create Sub-commissions and Working Groups considered necessary.
 - The aim of the Commission is the resolution of themes related with the interpretation and approval of the Agreement
 - The decisions are adopted by consensus and these are submitted to a right of review by the respective governments. Decisions take effect if no formal revision request is submitted in the time of two months. The Commission may only pronounce in a corporate manner on those questions that have been agreed.
 - The Commission has no legal personality. It does not carry out its agreements either, which correspond to the competent national administration
 - Ordinary meetings take place twice a year and extraordinary meetings whenever requested by one of the Parts.
 - Meetings take place alternately in Spain and Portugal. Spanish and Portuguese are the work languages.
 - It works according to the operating Schedule drafted by itself and approved by the Parts.
 - The Chairpersons are authorized to take urgent decisions, reporting what they have done to the Commission supposedly in the next ordinary meeting.
 - Sub-commissions and Working Groups are created by the Commission itself, specifying the terms of mandate and their general composition.





3. ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION / WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

- Some duties in international basins are required by WFD:
 - Member States must designate International Districts (international river basins).
 - Member States must elaborate a Programme of Measures and a Management Plan in each International District, or a Programme and Plan in each portion lying within its territory. Anyway, they must ensure coordination for the whole of the River Basin District. Existing structures may be used for this purpose (e.g. Albufeira Convention).
 - Member State must identify a competent authority for the development of the Directive within the national territory of a international River Basin. For this purpose may designate a National or International pre-existing Body as Competent Authority (e.g. Spanish River Authorities – Confederaciones Hidrográficas; Portuguese Administração de Região Hidrográfica).
 - Participation of European Commission could be required by Member States to establish Programme of measures according to Art. 11.





3. ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION / WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

- In an International Basin, coordination must focus on:
 - Definition of the International Basin and Competent Authorities.
 - Characterization of the surface water bodies:
 - Situation and limits.
 - Classification in categories: river, lakes, transitional waters, coastal waters, artificial and heavily modified water bodies.
 - Characterization of groundwater bodies, situation, limits.
 - Identification of pressures and impacts.
 - Information of monitoring network & protected areas.
 - Ecological and chemical status of surface water bodies and quantitative and chemical status of groundwater bodies.
 - Coordination of Programme of measures.
 - Definition of environmental objectives of shared water bodies.

4. GUADIANA RIVER – ALBUFEIRA CONVENTION

- Specific Guadiana river issues nowadays:
 - Coordination of National River basin Management Plans according WFD:
 - Status of water bodies
 - Environmental objectives
 - Programme of measures
 - Differences in flows measurements in Badajoz and Pomarão.
 - Caya-Cuncos Stretch: Assigned to Portugal. **Alqueva dam and reservoir** (4.100 hm³). It occupies 3.000 ha in Spanish territory
 - Management Plan of Alqueva reservoir, (sailing, touristic activities, cattle drinking through, pollution, etc.)
 - Quality of water from Spain to Portugal & vice-versa
 - Pomarão Flow regime : annual minimum flow and quarterly minimum volume required (similar to Badajoz).
 - Estuarine environmental objectives, and monitoring programme.
 - Exploitation of international estuarine stretch: Bocachanza Abstraction.
 - Ecological minimum flows in estuary.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FOR YOUR ATTENTION