23RD OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM
“Water governance in the OSCE area – increasing security and stability through co-operation”

CONCLUDING MEETING

Prague, 14 – 16 September 2015
Venue: Czernin Palace, Loretánské nám: 5, 118 00 Prague

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

Monday, 14 September 2015

09:30 – 11:30 Opening Plenary Session (open to the press)

Moderator: Dr. Halil Yurdakul Yigitgüden, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Rapporteur: Ms. Jenniver Sehring, Environmental Affairs Advisor, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Welcoming remarks:

- H.E. Jakub Kulhánek, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic
- H.E. Lamberto Zannier, Secretary General, OSCE

Keynote Speeches:

- H.E. Ivica Dacic, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia
- H.E. Didier Burkhalter, Head of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

Selected topics:

- Good water governance as a response to increasing water challenges
- Water governance as a tool to increase resilience to environmental challenges and disasters
Statements by Delegations / Discussion

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee/Tea break

Opening of the Exhibition „Helsinki +40“ by H.E. Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General, (ground floor)

12:00 – 13:00 Review of the implementation of the OSCE commitments in the field of water governance

Selected topics:

- Presentation of the UNECE Review Report
- Forward looking discussion on the Review Report's main findings and recommendations

Moderator: Ambassador Dejan Šahović, Head of the OSCE Chairmanship Task Force

Rapporteur: Mr. Edvardas Aleksandras, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- Mr. Sergiusz Ludwiczak, Acting Director of Environment Division, UNECE (tbc)
- Ms. Sonja Koeppel, Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, UNECE

Discussion

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:00 Session I: The benefits of good water governance across different levels

Selected topics:

- Co-operative approaches as a factor for security and stability
- Water-food-energy-ecosystems-nexus
- Framework for multi-level, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder co-ordination
- Measuring the benefits of water governance and co-operation

Moderator: Ambassador Thierry Béchet, Permanent Representative of the European Union Delegation to the OSCE
Rapporteur: Ms. Dana Bogdan, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- Mr. Eugene Z. Stakhiv, lecturer and researcher at John Hopkins University, and visiting scholar at the Corps’ Institute for Water Resources US
- Mr. Ahmet Saatci, President, Turkish Water Institute
- Ms. Aziza Akhmouch, Head - Water Governance Programme, Regional Development Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD
- Mr. Massimo Cozzone, Chairperson of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
- Mr. Gazmend Turdiu, Deputy Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council

Discussion

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee/Tea break

16:30 – 18:00 Session II: Water governance at national level – best practices and new approaches in the OSCE region

Selected topics:

- Best practices in OSCE participating States
- Methods for monitoring and assessing
- Fostering transparency and anti-corruption in the water sector
- Sustainable financing of water management

Moderator: Ambassador Andreas Papadakis, Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE

Rapporteur: Mr. Uros Milanovic, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Serbia to the OSCE, 2015 Serbian OSCE Chairmanship

Speakers:

- Mr. Berdi Berdiyev, Head of the Department of Coordination of the Ecological Programmes, Ministry of Nature Protection, Turkmenistan
- Mr. Rob Uijterlinde, Netherlands Association of Regional Water Authorities
- Ms. Lotte Feuerstein, Programme Coordinator, Water Integrity Network, Germany
- Ms. Tatsiana Minzhurava, Chief Expert, Ministry of Natural Resources, Belarus

18:30 Reception hosted by the Serbian 2015 OSCE Chairmanship
Tuesday, 15 September 2015

09:30 – 11:00  Session III: Water governance and co-operation at transboundary level: lessons learnt for water diplomacy

Selected topics:

- The role of regional organizations for enhanced water co-operation
- Water diplomacy as a tool for conflict prevention and trust building
- Good practices in information and data sharing
- Bottom-up approaches and public participation in transboundary context

Moderator:  Mr. Jan Dusík, ENVSEC Chair, Director of UNEP Regional Office for Europe

Rapporteur:  Mr. Leonid Kalashnyk, Environmental Programme Officer, Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- Mrs. Marina Seliverstova, Head of the Federal Agency of Water Resources, Russian Federation
- Mr. Oliver Magnin, Water Policy Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Mr. Sulton Rakhimzoda, Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources, Republic of Tajikistan
- Mr. Benedikt Mandl, Public Participation and Communication, ICPDR Secretariat
- Mr. Ramiro Martínez, General Coordinator, Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations (MENBO), Spain

Discussion

11:00 – 11:30  Coffee/Tea break

11:30 - 13:00  Session IV: Panel debate - Water governance and sustainable development

Selected topics:

- Water governance for socio-economic development and environmental protection
- Water and security in the context of the post-2015 Development Agenda
- Effective institutional and legislative frameworks for good water governance at all levels

Moderator:  Ms. Biljana Filipović, Head, Department of International Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia
Rapporteur: **Ms. Nino Malashkia**, Associate Environmental Affairs Officer, Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- **Mr. Jan Dusik**, ENVSEC Chair, Director of UNEP Regional Office for Europe
- **Mr. Andrei A. Begeneev**, Member of the Committee on Ecology and Nature, Majlis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- **Dr. Marian Patrick Neal**, SIWI, Manager UNESCO-Centre for Water Cooperation
- **Dr. Wilhelm Vogel**, Head of the Unit Surface Water, Austrian Environmental Agency

Discussion

13:00 – 14:30  
Lunch break

14:30 – 16:00  
Session V: Facilitating effective water governance in the context of new environmental challenges

Selected topics:

- Water in the context of the global climate change agenda
- Adaptation to new environmental challenges in transboundary river basins
- Adaptation to new environmental challenges at community level

Moderator: **Ms. Marta Bonifert**, Executive Director, Regional Environment Centre for Central and Eastern Europe

Rapporteur: **Mr. Bernd Forster**, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE

Speakers:

- **Mr. Benjamin Pohl**, Senior Project Manager, Adelphi, Germany
- **Mr. Yuriy Nabyvanets**, Deputy Director on Science, Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute
- **Mr. Iskandar Abdullaev**, Executive Director, CAREC
- **Mr. Paolo Angelini** Head of Delegation to the Alpine Convention, Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea, Italy

Discussion

16:00 – 16:30  
Coffee/Tea break

16:30 - 18:00  
Session VI: Governing waters for effective disaster risk reduction

Selected topics:
- Co-operative water governance as a catalyst for preventive action
- Water and security in the context of the follow-up to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Water-related DRR as a tool for trust-building at all levels, including with its gender aspects

Moderator: tbc

Rapporteur: Mr. Darren Perdue, Political Officer, United States Mission to the OSCE

Speakers:
- Mr. Pavel Puncochar, Director General, Water Section Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Czech Republic
- Dr. Ursula Schaefer-Preuss, Chair Global Water Partnership, Germany
- Mr. Jan Lueneburg, Head of Democratization Department, OSCE Mission to Serbia
- Ms. Paola Albrito, Head of the Regional Office for Europe, UNISDR
- Mr. Jože Papež, Head of Development and Projects Department, Hidrotehnik, Slovenia

Discussion

18:00 Reception hosted by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
Wednesday, 16 September 2015

09:00 – 10:30  Session VII: Strengthening participation and awareness raising for effective water governance

Selected topics:

- The growing role of civil society—experience from OSCE participating States
- Fostering participation and raising awareness: the role of Aarhus Centers
- The role and engagement of the private sector in addressing water challenges

Moderator:  Ms. Désirée Schweitzer, Deputy Co-ordinator / Head, Environmental Activities, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Rapporteur:  Mr. Zhaslan Nurtazin, Associate Environmental Governance Officer, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- Ms. Biljana Filipović, Head, Department of International Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia
- Mr. Aleksandar Perovic, Manager, Aarhus Centre representative, Montenegro
- Mr. Kim Skibsted, Vice President, Group Communications, Grundfos
- Mr. Andreas Beckmann, Managing Director of WWF, Danube – Corp programme

Discussion

10:30 – 11:00  Coffee/Tea break

11:00 – 12:30  Concluding Plenary Session – Follow-up to the 23rd OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

- General Discussion
- Closing statements

Moderator:  Dr. Halil Yurdakul Yigitgüden, Co-ordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Rapporteur:  Mr. Edvardas Aleksandras, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Speakers:

- Ambassador Vuk Žugić, Permanent Mission of Serbia to the OSCE, 2015 Serbian OSCE Chairmanship
- Ambassador Antje Leendertse, Head of the Task Force for the 2016 German OSCE Chairmanship, Federal Foreign Office, Germany