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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

**BUREAU/2014/1**

**PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH**

**5 March 2014**

**Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties  
Twelfth meeting  
Dübendorf, Switzerland, 24-25 March 2014**

## **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWELFTH MEETING**

Prepared by the joint secretariat

The twelfth meeting of the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) – World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe) Protocol on Water and Health will take place in the premises of the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag) located in Dübendorf (Zürich)<sup>1</sup>. It will start on 24 March 2014 at 13.00 and finish on 25 March at 13.00.

- 1. Adoption of the agenda**  
(Monday 24 March, 13.00-13.10)
- 2. Workplan to carry out the secretariat functions in 2014**  
(Monday 24 March, 13.10 -13.30)

The joint secretariat will present the workplan to carry out the secretariat functions under the Protocol on Water and Health in 2014 (see document BUREAU/2014/2) agreed by ECE and WHO/Europe in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations. Activities included in the workplan were duly reflected in the preliminary schedule of meetings and other major activities under the Protocol on Water and Health for 2014-2016, contained in document BUREAU/2014/3<sup>2</sup>.

- 3. Programme of work for 2014-2016**  
(Monday 24 March, 13.30 -18.00)

The third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (Oslo, 25-27 November 2013) adopted the programme of work for 2014-2016<sup>3</sup> and its budget. Recognizing that the pledges made were far from sufficient to secure implementation of the

<sup>1</sup> For details of the location see: [http://www.eawag.ch/about/standorte/anreise\\_dd/index\\_EN](http://www.eawag.ch/about/standorte/anreise_dd/index_EN)

<sup>2</sup> The document on the preliminary schedule of meetings and other major activities under the Protocol on Water and Health for 2014-2016, was prepared by the joint secretariat based on the request of the Chair of the Bureau.

<sup>3</sup> Available at: [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/wat/MOP3-PWH/docs/ECE\\_MP.WH\\_11\\_Add.1\\_programme\\_of\\_work\\_2014-2016\\_ENG.PDF](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/wat/MOP3-PWH/docs/ECE_MP.WH_11_Add.1_programme_of_work_2014-2016_ENG.PDF)

whole programme of work, the Meeting of the Parties mandated the Bureau to prioritize activities according to the financial resources available and requested it to inform the Working Group on Water and Health accordingly.

The twelfth meeting of the Bureau will therefore be primarily devoted to reviewing the programme of work for 2014-2016 vis-à-vis the available and foreseen financial and human resources and plan future activities, with special attention for the activities to be carried out in 2014.

To this end, the representatives of lead Parties and the joint secretariat will inform the Bureau on the planned activities under the Protocol (based on document BUREAU/2014/3) within the following programme areas:

- Programme area 1 – Improving governance for water and health: support for setting targets and implementing measures
- Programme area 2 – Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases
- Programme area 3 – Small-scale water supplies and sanitation
- Programme area 4 – Safe and efficient management of water supply and sanitation systems
- Programme area 5 – Equitable access to water and sanitation: translating the human right to water and sanitation into practice
- Programme area 6 – Assistance to support implementation at the national level
- Programme area 7 – Compliance procedure

The Bureau will also be informed about other relevant activities carried out by ECE and WHO/Europe in support of the Protocol implementation, including field projects and capacity building activities.

#### **4. Resources to implement the programme of work and the financing mechanism under the Protocol: general discussion/possibilities for funding** (Tuesday 25 March, 9.00 - 11.30)

At its third session, the Meeting of the Parties requested the Bureau to examine the possibilities for sustainable financing to support implementation of future programmes of work, to review decision I/5 on the financial arrangements to support the implementation of the Protocol and to present a new draft decision to the next session of the Meeting of the Parties.

The Bureau will therefore discuss how to plan its work on the elaboration of a new draft sustainable financing arrangement under the Protocol to be presented at the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties.

Understanding the urgent need to explore funding opportunities for the implementation of the current programme of work, the Bureau will discuss how to further organize its fundraising activities, inter alia, by reviewing the work of its informal fundraising group during 2011-2013 and considering the need to continue the efforts in a similar format. The discussion will be closely linked to the agenda item 2, especially regarding the major funding gaps and priorities in the implementation of the programme of work for 2014-2016.

#### **5. Overview of the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health** (Tuesday 25 March, 11.30 -12.00)

The Bureau will discuss the situation with the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the pan-European region based on: i) the outcomes of the second reporting exercise under the Protocol outlined in the regional report on the status of implementation of the Protocol<sup>4</sup> submitted to the third session of the Meeting of the Parties; and ii) the updated information regarding the number of Signatories and Parties to the Protocol and the number of Parties that adopted and communicated to the secretariat their national targets and targets dates in accordance with article 6.

Particularly, the Bureau will discuss the ways and means to improve the outreach to non-Parties and promote the accession of the Protocol throughout the region. This may include the organization of some targeted follow-up activities to national and subregional events held previously in a number of countries. In addition, the Bureau will review the success of previous events for promoting the Protocol and consider future events such as the World Water Day, the preparatory process of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum and the discussion on water in the post-2015 development agenda.

**6. Self-assessment of the ECE Environment Division**  
(Tuesday 25 March, 12.00 - 12.30)

The ECE secretariat will inform the Bureau about the outcomes of the self-assessment exercise of the ECE Environment Division, which covered the evaluation of the activities under the Protocol on Water and Health in 2011-2013 and the preparations for and the conduct of the third session of the Meeting of the Parties. Particularly, the secretariat will share the outcomes of the relevant questionnaire completed by various stakeholders.

**7. Provision of financial support to participants of meetings held under the Protocol**  
(Tuesday 25 March, 12.30 - 12.45)

The Bureau will consider the current rules for the provision of financial support for travel of participants from selected ECE member States to meetings held under the Protocol and decide on the need to revise the applicable eligibility criteria and on the ways to operationalize possible changes.

The ECE secretariat will inform the Bureau about the proposed new procedure for the disbursement of financial support to eligible participants of meetings held under the Protocol.

**8. Other business**  
(Tuesday 25 March, 12.45 - 13.00)

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this agenda item.

**9. Closing**  
(Tuesday 25 March, 13.00)

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<sup>4</sup>The document is available at [http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/wat/MOP3-PWH/docs/ECE\\_MP.WH\\_2013\\_3\\_regional\\_implementation\\_report\\_ENG.PDF](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2013/wat/MOP3-PWH/docs/ECE_MP.WH_2013_3_regional_implementation_report_ENG.PDF)