



Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Tenth session

Ljubljana, 23–25 October 2024

**DRAFT UNEDITED LIST OF DECISIONS ADOPTED BY
THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES AT ITS TENTH SESSION**

Item 1: Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Adopted the agenda of the tenth session as contained in the document ECE/MP.WAT/74.

Item 2. Status of ratification of the Convention and its Protocols, report on credentials and celebration of new accessions

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed Cote d'Ivoire, Zimbabwe and Zambia as new Parties;
- (b) Called upon donors, international financial institutions, international organizations and other actors involved in transboundary water cooperation to support the implementation of the Convention, especially in new Parties.

Item 3: Special Session – Our waters, our future: Transboundary water cooperation to power climate resilience

The Meeting of the Parties agreed on the following messages:

- (a) Climate change increasingly affects water resources, altering hydrological cycles and amplifying the risk of droughts, floods, and other extreme weather events. Transboundary basins are particularly vulnerable. Projects and concrete actions are needed to increase the resilience of transboundary waters to climate change.
- (b) To address the world multiple crisis, we need collective action. Transboundary water cooperation can and must result in concrete actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, intersectoral coherence, biodiversity and ecosystem preservation and restoration, and peace amongst people and with nature. Cooperation in shared basins

allows to address these challenges collectively. The participation of youth in cooperation is needed to ensure intergenerational justice.

- (c) We need to act on the decisions of the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which stress transboundary risks deriving from climate change impacts and call for climate-informed transboundary management. All countries sharing rivers, lakes and aquifers need to integrate water and transboundary water management and cooperation into development and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions, National Adaptation Plans and other national and regional climate-related policies. The Action oriented document on mainstreaming transboundary water management and cooperation into of Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans provides concrete recommendations on how to achieve this.
- (d) Uncoordinated national climate mitigation efforts, especially in energy and agroforestry, may create trade-offs with other water uses and cause negative impacts of unilateral actions, including in transboundary basins. Transboundary cooperation allows countries to develop more effective integrated strategies and to inform related policies and investments.
- (e) Nature-based solutions and adoption of multi-sectoral management strategies have proven effective in ensuring the resilience of transboundary basins. These approaches improve water quality, enhance water availability and protect ecosystems and biodiversity.
- (f) The power of technology and innovation needs to be mastered and continually developed to support effective planning, decision-making and interventions in a rapidly changing climate, to prepare and timely respond to uncertain future scenarios of extreme climate events affecting water resources.
- (g) To ensure that everyone has a voice in building a climate-resilient future, local communities, civil society, youth and indigenous groups must be empowered. Global efforts to manage water, food, energy, and ecosystems should embrace grassroots initiatives.
- (h) Civil society and young people are working to improve water management, water use and transboundary cooperation. We therefore need to give them the opportunity to participate in decision-making on a secure water future.
- (i) Water must be elevated and prioritized in global climate negotiations while ensuring that the role of transboundary water cooperation is fully recognized in international climate frameworks. COP 29 in Baku and COP 30 in Belem offer crucial opportunities to engage in a dialogue on the actions needed to improve the climate-water nexus, including through initiatives like the COP 29 Presidency Initiative Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action.
- (j) Transboundary water cooperation should also be integrated into other global processes, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and disaster risk reduction frameworks, recognizing the interconnectedness of these issues.

- (k) Urban development and agriculture must be also adapted to more frequent extreme floods or droughts caused by climate change. There is also a need to restore water ecosystems to their natural state by giving them more space used earlier for settlements and farming. This will provide an opportunity to increase biodiversity, to improve water management and to support local cultural development.
- (l) Transboundary joint projects to rehabilitate degraded water ecosystems, improve water quality and increase resilience to climate change are also crucial for building water and climate security. Better cooperation on water management can support building peace and regional integration across the world.
- (m) The Water Convention's work on water and climate change and the water-energy-food-ecosystem nexus provides valuable tools and practices promoting integrated water and climate policies that address both mitigation and adaptation. These promote integrated water and climate policies that address both mitigation and adaptation.
- (n) The 3rd Progress report on SDG indicator 6.5.2, prepared jointly by UNECE and UNESCO, shows that we need to significantly accelerate progress on transboundary water cooperation if we are to achieve target 6.5 by 2030.
- (o) In particular, it is necessary to develop joint adaptation strategies in the vast majority of transboundary basins to maximise the effectiveness of adaptation by sharing data, enlarging the planning space and reduce costs. Joint bodies, such as basin organizations, should be strengthened to promote collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and cross-sectoral coordination. Countries should also embed climate change consideration when revising and adopting new transboundary agreements and arrangements.
- (p) To accelerate progress on transboundary water cooperation more financial resources need to be mobilized from both national and international sources, including from the private sector. Access to climate finance should be scaled up to support transboundary water cooperation, focusing on adaptation projects that mitigate the impacts of climate change on at regional level, particularly in vulnerable basins.
- (q) The growing momentum of the Water Convention - with nine new Parties since the last Meeting of the Parties and over 20 countries in the process of accession – can be a powerful driver of progress towards SDG target 6.5. We need to build on this positive trend and advance both accession to and implementation of the Convention.
- (r) The UN System-Wide Strategy on Water and Sanitation, launched in 2024, marks a significant milestone in coordinating the efforts of the UN system to support countries in their accession to and implementation of the Water Conventions. In this context, the role of the UN Special Envoy on Water is pivotal. We call on the Special Envoy to actively promote accession to the Water Convention and support its implementation globally.
- (s) The 2026 UN Water Conference presents a crucial opportunity to reaffirm global commitments to transboundary water cooperation and further integrate water and climate agendas.

Item 4: Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the action-oriented document on Mainstreaming transboundary water management and cooperation into Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/3);
- (b) Invited Parties to review and provide comments on the action-oriented document by 31 October 2024 and entrusted the lead Parties, with the support of the secretariat, to finalize the document in advance of the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Baku, 11–22 November 2024);
- (c) Requested the secretariat to transmit the action-oriented document to UNFCCC and to COP 29 and COP 30 Presidencies;
- (d) Encouraged countries and partners to engage in using and promoting the action-oriented document among water and climate colleagues and communities, so that its findings and recommendations for better mainstreaming transboundary water management and cooperation into climate policy frameworks are applied;
- (e) Entrusted the Task Force on Water and Climate to regularly review implementation of the action-oriented document and progress in this area and, if needed, revise the action-oriented document based on lessons learned and experiences garnered from its use and implementation, as well as future developments in global climate and water processes;
- (f) Encouraged countries and basins to mainstream water and the benefits of transboundary cooperation into national climate policies such as, for example, Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans using the action-oriented document;
- (g) Expressed appreciation for the progress made within the basins of the Global network of basins working on climate change adaptation, welcomed the Cubango-Okavango basin and encouraged more transboundary basins to join the Network;
- (h) Thanked the Netherlands and Switzerland for leading this area of work;
- (i) Decided to include “Adapting to climate change in transboundary basins” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 5: Reporting under the Convention and on indicator 6.5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed that all Parties had submitted reports under the Water Convention in the third reporting exercise in 2023-2024;
- (b) Expressed appreciation to the 129 countries out of 153 UN Member States sharing transboundary waters that had submitted reports to UNECE and UNESCO in the third monitoring exercise on indicator 6.5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (c) Called on countries and partners to make use of the reports in order to advance transboundary cooperation;
- (d) Welcomed the report *Progress on transboundary water cooperation under the Water Convention: Third report on implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, 2020-2023* prepared by the secretariat, and the third report *Progress on Transboundary Water Cooperation: Mid-term status of SDG Indicator 6.5.2, with a special focus on Climate Change, 2024*, prepared by UNECE and UNESCO;
- (e) Expressed appreciation for the work of UNECE and UNESCO to support countries through capacity-building, enhancement of guidance materials for reporting and analysing the reports;
- (f) Requested the secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to prepare and publish the fourth progress report under the Convention in Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian, with translation and printing costs to be covered by the United Nations regular budget;
- (g) Requested UNECE to prepare and publish, together with UNESCO and in the framework of UN-Water, the fourth report on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish;
- (h) Recalling Decision IX/2 on reporting, requested the secretariat, in cooperation with UNESCO, subject to availability of resources, to set up an online reporting system, for future reporting exercises under the Convention and on indicator 6.5.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals in order to facilitate the filling of the template by countries, and data verification and analysis by the co-custodian agencies and invited countries to provide financial resources for it;
- (i) Decided to include “Reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention” in the programme of work for 2025–2027. Appreciated the exchange of good practices and lessons learned in transboundary monitoring and data exchange under the Convention.

Item 6: Increasing awareness of and accession to the Convention and application of its principles drawing on the benefits of cooperation

Item 6.a Increasing capacity for implementation of the Convention and supporting national processes towards accession

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the progress towards accession by many countries worldwide and encouraged them to complete their accession processes as soon as possible;

- (b) Called upon other countries to explore accession to the Convention and to start national dialogues on the derived benefits and implications;
- (c) Welcomed progress made in implementing the Strategy for the implementation of the Convention at the global level and called upon Parties, other countries, partners and the secretariat to advance further that work;
- (d) Welcomed the significant progress made in facilitating the implementation of the Convention in new Parties, and the outcomes of the Water Convention's Match-Making event held on 22 October 2024;
- (e) Called upon technical and financial partners to consider financing the project proposals developed by the new Parties for the matchmaking event and to support them to implement the Water Convention;
- (f) Thanked Finland, France, Germany, Ghana and Hungary for leading the area of work, as well as the secretariat for the support provided to countries interested in acceding to the Convention;
- (g) Commended the efforts by other Parties to support accession by interested countries;
- (h) Reaffirmed its commitment to support accession processes through the provision of technical and legal assistance, including by sharing Parties' expertise in implementation;
- (i) Encouraged the promotion of the 1997 Watercourses Convention together with the 1992 Water Convention, where appropriate;
- (j) Decided to include "Increasing awareness of and supporting national processes towards accession to the Convention" and "Increasing capacity for implementation of the Convention at the national and regional levels, especially for new Parties" in the programme of work for 2025-2027.

Item 6.b Promoting and communicating the benefits of transboundary cooperation

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the publication *The Water Convention: 30 Years of Impact and Achievements on the Ground* illustrating the numerous impacts and benefits of the implementation of the Convention in the past 30 years and encouraged countries and partners to use it.

Item 6.c Supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed progress achieved in different projects supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies, including through applying the *Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation*;
- (b) Encouraged countries, interested basins and partners to use and disseminate the *Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for*

Transboundary Water Cooperation to support the development of agreements, in order to support the implementation of the Convention and achievement of SDG target 6.5;

- (c) Thanked Germany and Hungary for co-leading activities, as well as the secretariat and the Implementation Committee for the support provided to interested countries and organizations in facilitating the development of agreements and other arrangements;
- (d) Decided to include “Supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of joint bodies” in the programme of work for 2025-2027.

Item 6.d Implementation Committee

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Took note with appreciation of the report on the work of the Implementation Committee in 2022–2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/5);
- (b) Noted with appreciation the outcomes of the first advisory procedure;
- (c) Encouraged Parties and other stakeholders to seek the Committee’s assistance, support and facilitation to address difficulties in implementing and complying with the Convention, for example, by using the advisory procedure;
- (d) Adopted the decision on general issues of implementation as contained in the Annex to document ECE/MP.WAT/2024/5;
- (e) Re-elected the following members of the Implementation Committee for a full term:
 - Mr. Pedro Cunha Serra
 - Mr. Martins Paporinskis
- (f) Elected the following new members of the Committee for a full term:
 - Mr. Mahdi Ahmad
 - Mr. Cyrille Vallet
 - Mr. Gabriel de los Cobos
 - Ms. Maria Gwynn
- (g) Expressed appreciation and gratitude to the outgoing Chair of the Implementation Committee, Mr. Attila Tanzi, and members of the Committee, Mr. Kari Kinnunen, Mr. Stephen McCaffrey and Mr. Ivan Zavadsky, for their dedicated service.

Item 7: Water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in transboundary basins

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Called upon Parties to increase synergies between the water-food-energy-ecosystems sectors in order to more sustainably manage resources in transboundary basins, and to tackle more effectively cross-cutting issues like climate change;

- (b) Highlighted the importance of water for climate change mitigation and called upon countries to consider this aspect in their national climate policies;
- (c) Welcomed the progress made in supporting intersectoral dialogues and the operationalization of nexus solutions and investments, either as follow-up to nexus assessments previously carried out under the Convention (Drin, Drina) or contributing to basin dialogues led by partners (Niger);
- (d) Encouraged countries and partners to make use of the numerous publications and tools developed under the Convention over 10 years of work on nexus, including the recent publication of the *Leaflet on the Transboundary Nexus Assessment (TBNA) Methodology*, which made the methodology more accessible and more easily replicable;
- (e) Called upon countries and partners to engage in the work of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus, which provides a unique global platform for knowledge sharing and capacity building on transboundary nexus issues;
- (f) Thanked Finland for leading activities on the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus for the past 10 years;
- (g) Decided to include “Supporting intersectoral dialogues and assessments through the application of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus approach” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 8: Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in a transboundary context

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the publication of the *Summary Handbook on Water Allocation in a Transboundary Context* as an accompaniment to the *Handbook on Water Allocation in a Transboundary Context* and encouraged countries and partners to use and disseminate both publications;
- (b) Invited countries, basin organizations and regional organizations to submit offers to the Secretariat to host workshops at the basin or regional scale aimed at building capacity on transboundary water allocation and its complementary approaches under the Convention;
- (c) Thanked Finland and Hungary for co-leading activities on transboundary water allocation for the past three years;
- (d) Decided to include “Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in a transboundary context” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 9: Promoting integrated water resources management in transboundary basins

Item 9.a Source-to-sea management of transboundary waters

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Recognised the importance of source-to-sea governance in transboundary cooperation, and the need for better coordination across administrative and political boundaries at all levels;
- (b) Expressed gratitude to the co-lead Parties, Estonia and Slovenia, the lead author, the members of the drafting group, the secretariat, as well as the partners involved, for developing the draft annotated outline of the guidance note for the implementation of source-to-sea management in transboundary basins (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/6);
- (c) Invited countries and organizations to provide written comments on the draft annotated outline of the guidance note to the Water Convention secretariat no later than 30 October 2024;
- (d) Also invited countries and partners to submit case studies for the guidance note by 15 November 2024;
- (e) Entrusted the secretariat, in consultation with lead Parties (Estonia, Panama and Slovenia), and the drafting group, with the task of finalizing the Guidance note, based on the annotated outline and comments received, and publishing and printing the publication in English, French, Russian and Spanish, with the English version available to be presented at the third United Nations Ocean Conference (Nice, France, 9–13 June 2025);
- (f) Decided to include “Source-to-sea: linking governance and management of transboundary freshwaters and the coastal and marine environment” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 9.b Conjunctive management of transboundary surface waters and groundwaters

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed progress made in raising awareness of the benefits of the conjunctive management of surface waters and groundwaters, including in transboundary basins, through activities under the Convention, and welcomed the outcomes of the workshop held in October 2023;
- (b) Encouraged countries to apply conjunctive management approaches as much as possible;
- (c) Invited countries, joint bodies and partner organizations to provide expert support to the development of the policy guidance on conjunctive water management with a focus on transboundary basins;
- (d) Requested the secretariat to develop and publish the policy guidance on conjunctive water management with a focus on transboundary basins in Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian, with translation and printing costs to be covered by the United Nations regular budget;
- (e) Decided to include “Promoting conjunctive management of transboundary surface waters and groundwaters” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 10: Water quality in transboundary basins, including water and industrial accidents

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the continued close cooperation with the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on the prevention of accidental water pollution, mostly through the organization of JEG activities, and stressed the importance of the work done by the JEG under the Conventions on the issue of water and industrial accidents;
- (b) Encouraged countries and partners to make use of the numerous guidance documents prepared by the JEG;
- (c) Thanked the current Co-Chairs of the JEG (Hungary and Serbia) for their work and encouraged countries to nominate additional members for the JEG;
- (d) Encouraged joint bodies to cooperate with the JEG with regards to knowledge sharing and capacity building for preventing accidental water pollution in transboundary basins;
- (e) Decided to include “Improving water quality, including through pollution prevention and control” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 11: Financing of the Convention

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Took note of the overview of contributions and expenditures in 2022-2024 (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/7) and thanked all the countries and organizations that had provided the financial resources to ensure the implementation of the 2022–2024 programme of work;
- (b) Appreciated the valuable in-kind contributions by Parties and partners that facilitated the implementation of various activities under the 2022–2024 programme of work;
- (c) Expressed concerns about the limited progress in achieving the targets for a more sustainable and predictable funding of the work under the Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/63/Add.2);
- (d) Underlined the necessity to establish a more predictable and sustainable funding mechanism of the Water Convention to overcome challenges related to financing in order to ensure continuity of the services provided by the Secretariat and of activities under its programme of work;
- (e) Adopted the decision on a process towards a more sustainable and predictable financing mechanism of the Water Convention’s work (as contained in ECE/MP.WAT/2024/8), invited Parties and prospective Parties to contribute to the development of the proposal by participating in the Ad Hoc Working Group and invited them to inform the secretariat of the names of their representatives in that regard by 15 January 2025;
- (f) Adopted the decision on promoting equal and effective participation of all Parties in sessions of the Meeting of the Parties and other meetings under the Convention through translation and interpretation into Arabic, Chinese and Spanish (as contained in ECE/MP.WAT/2024/9).

Item 12: Election of officers

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Elected the following officers for the period 2025-2027:

- Aleš Bizjak (Slovenia) as Chair;
- Harry Liiv (Estonia) as Vice-Chair;
- Bakary Faty (Senegal) as Vice-Chair;

(b) Elected by vote the following additional officers to the Bureau for the period 2025-2027:

- Ms. Heide Jekel (Germany)
- Mr. Luay Ali Al-Daloo (Iraq)
- Mr. Daniyar Sagadiyev (Kazakhstan)
- Ms. Fanny-Tsilla Koninckx (France)
- Ms. Bernadette Araba Adjei (Ghana)
- Mr. Péter Kovács (Hungary)
- Ms. Anna-Stiina Heiskanen (Finland)
- Mr. Salvatore D'Angelo (Italy)
- Ms. Mariia Shpanchuk (Ukraine)
- Ms. Kamala Huseynli-Abishova (Azerbaijan)
- Ms. Maria Amakali (Namibia);

(c) Agreed that the current co-Chairs of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and the Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment would remain in office until the Working Groups officially elect their own co-Chairs, who would then become members of the Bureau.

Item 13: National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Reconfirmed the important role of National Policy Dialogues (NPDs) in fostering the implementation and application of the Water Convention and its Protocol on Water and Health, the progressive approximation to European Union legislation and the enhancement of transboundary cooperation;
- (b) Welcomed the progress, strong commitment to and ownership of countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and highlighted that the cross-sectoral work in the framework of the NPDs was extremely useful in supporting countries in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and strengthened cooperation on water and health;
- (c) Noted with appreciation how the dialogue processes have evolved in all countries to adjust to different situations and supporting further evolution of the processes to respond to new country needs;
- (d) Welcomed the interest of some new Parties in applying NPD methodologies, experiences, and lessons learned, and encouraged donors to support the transfer of experiences between countries;
- (e) Encouraged the European Commission and other donors to continue to support financially the work of the NPDs in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia;
- (f) Decided to include "Supporting National Policy Dialogues on Integrated Water Resources Management in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia" in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 14: Facilitating funding and financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Stressed the importance of funding and financing transboundary water cooperation and basin development and the usefulness of the Convention platform for knowledge sharing and peer learning in this field;
- (b) Welcomed increased cooperation with financial institutions and other partner organizations, as well as the private sector, in raising awareness of the importance of financing transboundary water cooperation and basin development and invited such institutions to further strengthen cooperation with the Convention as per recommendations listed in the Draft decision on cooperation with international financial institutions (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/10);
- (c) Welcomed the publication *How to accelerate the Funding and Financing of Transboundary Water Cooperation and Basin Development? Opportunities and Challenges* and encouraged countries, joint bodies, partner organizations and other interested actors to use it to mobilize financial resources for transboundary water cooperation;
- (d) Thanked Switzerland and the Netherlands for leading this area of work and all the partners who actively contributed to it;
- (e) Decided to include “Facilitating funding and financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 15: Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the publication *Updated Strategies for Monitoring and Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters* (ECE/MP.WAT/70) and called upon countries, basins and partners to use it in their efforts to develop their monitoring and assessment practices and to strengthen the implementation of the Convention;
- (b) Welcomed the publication *Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Data-sharing in Transboundary Basins* (ECE/MP.WAT/73) and encouraged countries, joint bodies, partner organizations and other interested actors to use it to develop their data and information sharing practices;
- (c) Thanked Finland and Senegal for leading this area of work, the Kingdom of the Netherlands for proving expert support, and all the experts and contributors to the publications for their input;
- (d) Reaffirmed its commitment to provide tailored assistance and support for developing joint or coordinated monitoring or information and data exchange in transboundary basins, in basins mentioned in the draft programme of work, as well as in other basins upon request and pending the availability of dedicated resources, and invited countries and partner organisations to express interest and provide support to such efforts;

- (e) Decided to include “Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins to address pressures on water resources” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 16: Partnerships and contribution to global processes

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Took note with appreciation of the significant contribution of the Water Convention to relevant global processes, resulting in its increased recognition at the global level and the growing awareness of the importance of transboundary water cooperation;
- (b) Highlighted the importance of strengthened partnerships with various partners to support the global implementation of the Water Convention;
- (c) Adopted the Decision on cooperation with international financial institutions (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/10);
- (d) Adopted the Decision on cooperation with regional organizations for the implementation of the Water Convention (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/11);
- (e) Welcomed the information provided on the Protocol on Water and Health and encouraged synergies between the activities under the Convention and the Protocol, as well as cooperation between the respective governing bodies;
- (f) Decided to include “Partnerships, communication and input to global processes” in the programme of work for 2025–2027.

Item 17: Communication and promotion

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Requested Parties that have not yet officially nominated a focal point to do so at their earliest convenience;
- (b) Encouraged non-Parties that have not yet officially nominated a focal point to take action as soon as possible.

Item 18: International Water Assessment Centre

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Welcomed the contribution of IWAC to activities under the Convention in 2022–2024;
- (b) Thanked the Government of Kazakhstan for its support provided to the Centre in 2022–2024 and its commitment to continue hosting the Centre;
- (c) Adopted the programme of work of the International Water Assessment Centre for 2025–2027 (see ECE/MP.WAT/2024/12), and called upon countries, partners and donors to support its implementation;
- (d) Requested the Centre to regularly report on the implementation of its activities to the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and to the Meeting of the Parties at its eleventh session;

- (e) Requested Kazakhstan to prepare, in consultation with the Bureau and the secretariat, a draft programme of work for the Centre for 2028–2030, aligned with the corresponding draft programme of work under the Convention, for submission to the Meeting of the Parties at its eleventh session.

Item 19: Programme of work for 2025–2027, terms of reference of the bodies established to implement it and resources needed for its implementation

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Thanked the Parties and organizations that had provided leadership for and support to the activities under the programme of work for 2022–2024;
- (b) Conveyed its appreciation to the Parties and organizations that had expressed readiness to take a lead in implementing the programme work for 2025–2027 and to those that had offered to finance parts of it;
- (c) Adopted the programme of work for 2025–2027, the bodies established to implement it and the relevant budget (ECE/MP.WAT/2024/2), as amended during the session;
- (d) Requested the Bureau to make arrangements to further develop the programme of work and adapt it to changing circumstances, by clarifying, adding or skipping activities, and avoid, to the extent possible, duplication of efforts with water-related activities of other United Nations bodies and other international organizations, in accordance with its terms of reference as laid down in rule 20 (4) (a) of the rules of procedure of the Meetings of the Parties (ECE/MP.WAT/54/Add.2);
- (e) Called on Parties to provide the extrabudgetary resources required to implement the programme of work in line with decision IX/3 on targets for a more sustainable and predictable funding of the work under the Convention (see ECE/MP.WAT/63.Add.2);
- (f) Invited non-Parties and partners to also support implementation of the future programme of work.

Item 20: Date and venue of the eleventh session of the Meeting of the Parties

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Thanked Senegal for the kind offer to host the eleventh session of the Meeting of the Parties, accepted the offer and decided to hold its next session in 2027 in Dakar as a four-day meeting;
- (b) Welcomed Namibia offer to host a meeting under the Convention's programme of work 2025-2027 and to co-chair the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management.

Item 21: Other business

Item 22. Presentation of the main decisions

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Adopted the decisions taken during the session;

- (b) Entrusted the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, with finalizing the report of its tenth session ECE/MP.WAT/75 (forthcoming), including the Chair's summary of the high-level special session on "Our waters, our future" (ECE/MP.WAT/75/Add.3).

Item 23. Closing of the session

The Meeting of the Parties:

- (a) Expressed appreciation and gratitude to the outgoing Chair, Mr. Harry Liiv, for his leadership of the Meeting of the Parties and his support to the Convention in the past three years, as well as to the outgoing members of the Bureau for their dedicated work in the Bureau;
- (b) Also expressed its appreciation and thanks to the Chairs of the bodies under the Convention for their excellent work;
- (c) Expressed its great appreciation to Slovenia, in particular the Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, for the close cooperation in the run up to the tenth session of the Meeting of the Parties.