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SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

31ST SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU

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Final Report

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	OPENING OF THE SESSION	1
2.	ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.....	1
3.	REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE 160TH AND 161ST SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO	1
3.1	Report on “Water Resources And Ecosystems” as Principal Priority of Major Programme II – Natural Sciences.....	2
3.2	Overview of the Draft C/4 Medium-Term Strategy (2002-2007).....	2
3.3	Overview of the Draft 31 C/5 Programme and Budget (2002-2003).....	2
3.4	Report on the Planned UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education	2
3.5	Report on Other Water-Related Centres	2
3.6	Report of the <i>ad hoc</i> IHP Governance Committee	3
3.7	Report of the IHP Finance Committee	3
3.8	Report on IHP’s Involvement in the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and the World Water Development Report (WWDR)	4
3.9	Report on the IHP Activities Pursuant to UN-GA Resolution A/Res/55/196 Proclaiming 2003 as “International Year of Freshwater”..	4
3.10	Other Relevant Decisions of the Executive Board.....	4
4.	REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 14TH SESSION OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IHP. 4	
4.1	Progress Report on the Implementation of the Resolutions and Other Recommendations	5
4.2	Report on the IHP Communication Strategy and the Related UNESCO Web Portal Project	5
5.	REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 30TH SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU 5	
5.1	Review of the Theme of the 6 th Kovacs Colloquium.....	5
5.2	Progress Report on the Preparation of the Pan-African Conference	6
6.	REVIEW OF IHP-V ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO	6
6.1	Review of IHP-V Project Implementation	6
6.2	Report on the IHP-Related Activities of the Participation Programme	6
6.3	Report on Extrabudgetary Activities.....	6
6.4	Summary Report on the Regional IHP Meetings	6
6.5	Report on Co-operation with Other UNESCO Environmental Programmes.....	6
6.6	Report on the Internal and External Evaluation Plans of IHP: Principles to be Followed.....	7
6.7	Progress Report on the Great Man-Made River International Water Prize	8
7.	REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE IHP-VI IMPLEMENTATION PLAN	8

8.	OVERVIEW OF NEW IHP PROJECTS	9
8.1	Hydrology for Environment, Life And Policy (HELP).....	9
8.2	Joint International Isotopes in Hydrology Programme (JIHP).....	9
8.3	International Groundwater Resources Assessment Center (IGRAC)	9
8.4	Internationally-Shared Aquifer Resources Management (ISARM)	9
8.5	From Potential Water Conflicts to Co-operation Potential (PCCP).....	9
8.6	Proposal for the Establishment of a Regional Center for Ecohydrology in Warsaw (Poland) Under the Auspices of UNESCO	9
9.	CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS AND NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.....	10
9.1	Co-operation with WMO in the Field of Hydrology and Water Resources	10
9.2	Report on the 20 th Session of the ACC Sub-Committee on Water Resources.....	10
9.3	Report on the Preparation of the World Water Development Report.....	10
9.4	Report on IHP's Participation in the Process of Preparing the World Summit on Sustainable Development	10
9.5	Co-operation with the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)	11
10.	MATTERS RELATED TO THE 15TH SESSION OF THE IHP COUNCIL	11
10.1	Establishment of the Agenda, Date and Place of the 15 th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP	11
10.2	Major Issues Recommended for Consideration by the 15 th Session of the Council	11
11.	NEXT SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU	11
12.	OTHER MATTERS.....	11
12.1	IHP Secretariat Staff Situation	11
12.2	3 rd World Water Forum	12
13.	APPROVAL OF THE FINAL REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE SESSION	12

ANNEXES

I	AGENDA
II	LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
III	LIST OF DOCUMENTS
IV	TERMS OF REFERENCE (FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE FOR WATER EDUCATION)
V	PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 15 TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IHP
VI	GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND SPECIAL TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 31st session of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 19 to 21 September 2001. Mr. R. Feddes (The Netherlands), Chairperson, and the following Vice-Chairpersons attended the meeting: Mr. A. Afouda (Benin), Mr. M. Benbiba (Morocco), Mr. W. Strupczewski (Poland) and Mr. K. Takeuchi (Japan). Ms. Martha García (Colombia) was unable to attend and was represented by Mr. J. Rodríguez, Secretary-General of the *Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales* (IDEAM) of Colombia. Mr. L. Gottschalk was also present at the meeting as Observer representing the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS). Observers from the Permanent Delegations of Argentina, Colombia, Japan and The Netherlands were also present. Mr. A. Askew, Director of the Hydrology and Water Resources Department of WMO, was unable to attend to act as an Observer and sent an apology. The list of participants is shown in Annex II.

2. Mr. R. Feddes, Chairperson, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants. He then introduced Mr. W. Erdelen, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, who also welcomed the participants on behalf of UNESCO and confirmed the importance of the meeting. Mr. Erdelen highlighted the following points in his address:

- the changes in the top management of UNESCO and the election of new Assistant Directors-General in four of the five programme sectors;
- the new focus of UNESCO in a few programme areas and the selection of one principal priority in each of the five sectors;
- *Water Resources and Ecosystems* being selected as the principal priority for the Natural Sciences Sector. This means allocation of more funds;
- a brief summary of the main outcome of the seventh meeting of the Chairpersons of the five intergovernmental science programmes of UNESCO;
- the importance of IHP and the related new initiatives to UNESCO, particularly IHP-VI, WWAP, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and the specialized regional centres in Tehran and Egypt.

3. Finally, he commended the close collaboration between IHP and sister UN agencies, particularly the Hydrology and Water Resources Programme of WMO and relevant NGOs such as IAHS and IAH.

4. Mr. A. Szöllösi-Nagy, Secretary IHP, then explained the organization of the background documentation for the items with which the 31st session of the IHP Bureau was to deal with. The list of documents is attached as Annex III.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The representative of IAHS requested adding item 9.5 on *Co-operation with the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)*. The Secretary IHP suggested a modification to agenda item 13, to read: *Approval of the Final Report and Closure of the Session*. The Bureau accepted these amendments and adopted its agenda that is reproduced in Annex I.

3. REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE 160TH AND 161ST SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO

6. The Secretariat reported on the status of execution of the decisions of the 160th and 161st sessions of the UNESCO Executive Board in relation to IHP.

3.1 Report on “Water Resources And Ecosystems” as Principal Priority of Major Programme II – Natural Sciences

7. The Bureau took note of and welcomed the decision of the 160th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO endorsing the Director-General’s proposal of adopting “Water Resources and Ecosystems” as the principal priority of Major Programme II: Natural Sciences. This meant that more financial resources would be allocated to IHP. The 161st session of the Executive Board confirmed this decision.

3.2 Overview of the Draft C/4 Medium-Term Strategy (2002-2007)

8. The Bureau took note of the related part of the Draft Medium Strategy for 2002-2007 (31 C/4) and welcomed the designation of “Water resources and supporting ecosystems” as the highest priority for the science programmes of UNESCO for the entire medium term period (paragraph 104). The Bureau also noted the changes made in paragraphs 104 and 105 by the 161st session of the Executive Board to stress interagency co-operation, arid and semiarid zones, and the role of UNESCO in the prevention of water-related conflicts. The Bureau also welcomed this decision and requested the IHP Secretariat to work towards producing deliverables that match and secure the sustainability of this all through the Medium Term Plan period.

3.3 Overview of the Draft 31 C/5 Programme and Budget (2002-2003)

9. The Bureau took note of and expressed its satisfaction with the contents and the allocated budget to IHP (\$4,427,200) under 3 main lines of action in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2002-2003 (31 C/5). It stressed the need for allocation of additional Professional and General Service staff to match this new situation.

3.4 Report on the Planned UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education

10. The Secretariat reported on the status of establishing the proposed Institute. The Bureau confirmed the strong support of IHP and requested the Secretariat to pursue the initiative in the spirit of the Council Resolution XIV-10. It was noted with satisfaction that the proposed Institute would not place demands upon the regular IHP budget. The envisaged synergies and continuous co-ordination between IHP and the Institute have been encouraged. The innovative nature of the Institute was emphasized. The Bureau welcomed the concept that the UNESCO-IHE Institute will function as a hub of a network providing assistance to create its own “mirror sites” in developing countries (institutional development). In this context the initiative to increase the language diversity in education was welcomed. The Bureau has recognized that, once the Institute is established by the 31st session of the General Conference, the next Bureau session has to prepare the election of six of the future board members of the Institute by the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP at its 15th session in June 2002. The inherent formal procedure was discussed under agenda item 10.

11. The Terms of Reference for potential members of the Governing Board of the proposed UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education was tabled and accepted (see Annex IV).

3.5 Report on Other Water-Related Centres

12. The Secretariat reported on the status of several regional water centres proposed to be established under the auspices of UNESCO. It reported that the proposal for a Regional Centre on Urban Water Management in Tehran had been welcomed by the 161st session of the Executive Board and had recommended its approval by the General Conference at its forthcoming 31st session. The Regional Centre for Training and Water Studies of Arid and Semiarid Zones (Egypt) will be formally considered by the 162nd session of the Executive Board (October 2001). The Water Centre for Arid and Semiarid Regions of Latin America and the Caribbean is about to start with Flemish funding and support of the Chilean government and will soon thereafter formalize its request to obtain the auspices of UNESCO. The Bureau noted with satisfaction the progress achieved with these Centres.

13. The Secretariat emphasized the marked formality of the process within UNESCO to establish such Centres, as Member States must be convinced of the added value of UNESCO to the actions of the Centre in the region and of the Centre to UNESCO's objectives and programme, and that there are no undue financial commitments on UNESCO's part.

14. It was noted that no further actions had been taken by the concerned institutions with regard to the establishment of an international research and training centre for water management in Valencia, Spain. Likewise, the proposal for the Regional Humid Tropics Centre in Ghana had not prospered as the sources and magnitude of financial requirements for this Centre had not been clarified. The Bureau requested that favorable conditions be fostered for the creation of this Centre. There was general agreement that the heads of the regional centres should actively and effectively carry out fund-raising activities from various sources.

15. In view of the deliberations, the Bureau recommended a systematic overview by the 15th session of the Council of the implementation of the resolutions issued by the IHP Intergovernmental Council during the period of execution of IHP-V. Likewise, it recommended that each IHP Centre should present a report on its activities for the last 6 years, including funding sources, to the Regional Meetings in order to assess the regional impact. The Regional Meetings will be requested to introduce agenda items to this effect.

3.6 Report of the *ad hoc* IHP Governance Committee

16. The Bureau was informed that few responses were received from the National Committees to the Secretariat's request for the proposed Terms of Reference of the Committee and the criteria for the assessment of the success of the Regional Meetings for consideration by the Committee. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to once again contact the National Committees urging them to respond urgently.

3.7 Report of the IHP Finance Committee

17. The Bureau noted that for the year 2000, the IHP budget was not subjected to major reductions. As a result, all the planned activities were executed smoothly. The Bureau also noted that the provisional budget for the next biennium 2002-2003 (31 C/5) represents a considerable increase over the previous years. The Bureau expressed satisfaction with the budgetary allocations and urged the Secretariat to mobilize further extrabudgetary funds.

3.8 Report on IHP's Involvement in the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and the World Water Development Report (WWDR)

18. The Bureau took note with appreciation of the report of the Secretariat and welcomed the synergies between the UN system-wide WWAP, hosted by UNESCO, and IHP in general and with IHP-VI and HELP in particular. PCCP, a sub-component of WWAP, was dealt with under item 8.5 of the agenda. The Bureau acknowledged that, through linkages to WWAP and WWDR, scientists have a chance to influence the formulation of national and international water policies. The Bureau noted, however, that the implementation of this extrabudgetary activity put an additional burden on the staff and facilities of the IHP Secretariat. The ensuing discussion revealed that WWAP has a special focus on Africa that will be presented during the forthcoming International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn, Germany, in December 2001.

3.9 Report on the IHP Activities Pursuant to UN-GA Resolution A/Res/55/196 Proclaiming 2003 as "International Year of Freshwater"

19. The Bureau noted the report on the planned IHP activities pursuant to UN-GA Resolution A/RES/55/196 proclaiming 2003 as "International Year of Freshwater". It endorsed the indicated activities and additionally requested the Secretariat to send a circular to all IHP National Committees requesting that they discuss the subject and propose relevant activities that would be reported to the 15th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council. The Secretariat could then combine these activities as a consolidated IHP contribution.

3.10 Other Relevant Decisions of the Executive Board

20. No other relevant decisions were reported under this item.

4. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 14TH SESSION OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IHP

21. The Secretariat reported on the status of implementation of the 12 Resolutions adopted at the 14th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council.

Resolution XIV-1 : Regional Hydrologist Post in New Delhi Office

22. Pending the creation of a Regional Hydrologist post, the Bureau requested the upgrading of the present General Service post to that of National Project Officer.

Resolution XIV-2 : Implementation of a Communication Strategy for IHP

23. The Bureau acknowledged the high standard of IHP publications; a weakness, however, was that they are not widely known, especially in the younger scientific community. Further, the Bureau encouraged more electronic publishing to raise the visibility of IHP publications. Both now urgently require a permanent communication specialist within the Secretariat to enhance the visibility of the publication strategy and other IHP activities.

24. The Bureau was very impressed with the current development of the UNESCO Water Portal. Along with the communication specialist, the Bureau recommended the

permanent emplacement of a Webmaster for the continued maintenance of the Water Portal.

25. The Bureau also encouraged the IHP National Committees to establish their own Web sites, following the format of the UNESCO Water Portal. Upon request, the Secretariat will provide the necessary template.

26. The Bureau endorsed the continuation of engaging the Cambridge University Press for the publication of high quality IHP products.

Resolution XIV-3 to Resolution XIV-12

27. These items were discussed and reported elsewhere in the session.

4.1 Progress Report on the Implementation of the Resolutions and Other Recommendations

28. Under paragraph 32 of document IHP/Bur-XXXI/Inf.7 “Proposal for the consideration of the Bureau on setting up a strategy to improve the communications between the Council and various UNESCO governing bodies”, the Bureau recognized that there was insufficient linkage between decisions made at the IHP Intergovernmental Council and the activities of National Commissions. The Bureau urged the IHP National Committees to brief the UNESCO National Commissions for further conveyance to representatives at the sessions of the UNESCO Executive Board and General Conference.

4.2 Report on the IHP Communication Strategy and the Related UNESCO Web Portal Project

29. See Resolution XIV-2.

5. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 30TH SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU

30. The Bureau noted with satisfaction the progress in implementing the recommendations of the 30th session of the Bureau and adopted the following decisions:

5.1 Review of the Theme of the 6th Kovacs Colloquium

31. The Secretariat reported that the theme “Misconceptions in Hydrology” for the 6th Kovacs Colloquium that had been suggested at the 30th session of the Bureau had not generated sufficient interest within the IHP scientific circles. On the other hand, it had been proposed to perform a full external evaluation of IHP-V. This evaluation would cover the different aspects of the programme: administrative, governance, fulfillment of goals set, impact on stakeholders and other relevant considerations. Under these circumstances, it seems necessary to carry out the full scientific evaluation of IHP-V. Thus, the evaluation would constitute an appropriate theme for the forthcoming Kovacs Colloquium.

32. After deliberating, the Bureau decided to accept the theme on the scientific evaluation of IHP-V. The 6th Kovacs Colloquium will be entitled “Scientific Evaluation of the Fifth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme”. The Bureau also

considered that the conceptual substance of the previously suggested theme could be kept in another forward-looking event addressing “the future of hydrology”, in which young scientists, such as IAHS’ Hydrology 2020 group, could actively participate.

5.2 Progress Report on the Preparation of the Pan-African Conference

33. The Bureau noted and approved the preparatory actions of the Pan-African Conference proposed by UNESCO Nairobi Office and related partners and endorsed the postponement of the Conference to the year 2003 to coincide with the “International Year of Freshwater”.

6. REVIEW OF IHP-V ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO

6.1 Review of IHP-V Project Implementation

34. The Bureau expressed satisfaction that a great deal of good work had been undertaken; it also expressed appreciation for the well-prepared documentation connected with this agenda item.

6.2 Report on the IHP-Related Activities of the Participation Programme

35. The Bureau expressed satisfaction with the increasing contribution of the Participation Programme to the IHP objectives and urged the IHP National Committees to utilize this facility in a more efficient way.

6.3 Report on Extrabudgetary Activities

36. The Secretariat gave an overview of extrabudgetary funding at UNESCO and detailed information on water-related extrabudgetary funding. It described the increase in extrabudgetary funding for freshwater activities. The Bureau expressed satisfaction with the situation reported.

6.4 Summary Report on the Regional IHP Meetings

37. The Bureau noted the current status of preparations for the Regional Meetings recommended by the 14th session of the Intergovernmental Council. It also noted with concern the low level of responses from the IHP National Committees to provide inputs to the Terms of Reference for the work of the ad hoc Committee and criteria for assessment of the success of the Regional Meetings. Nonetheless, it was recommended that the responses received so far should be made available to the forthcoming regional meetings to serve as an additional broad guideline to their deliberations.

6.5 Report on Co-operation with Other UNESCO Environmental Programmes

The Bureau took note of the various co-operation schemes among the social and environmental science programmes of UNESCO.

39. A joint session was held between the IHP and the MAB Bureaux to exchange views on areas of possible closer collaboration, particularly on the joint IHP/MAB Main Line of Action 3: *Land-water interactions: towards sustainable development* under sub-programme II.2.1 of 31 C/5. The meeting proved fruitful and highlighted the specifics of

each programme as well as areas of complementarity and collaboration. Several directions for joint actions have been delineated where follow-up by the two Secretariats is foreseen to develop this into specific activities under MLA 3 and other applicable actions of the IHP 31 C/5. In the discussion it was emphasized that the biosphere reserve network could provide an excellent base for joint research to develop interdisciplinary approaches. It was also noted that the majority of the world water problems are occurring outside of the biosphere reserves.

40. The Bureau took note that the request of the Steering Group of the Five Chairpersons has been followed up. A fact-finding mission was carried out in the Volga Caspian Basin in August 2001. The recommendations of the mission will be presented to the forthcoming session of the Steering Group in October 2001. The session was briefed on the Volga Caspian Basin Interdisciplinary Demonstration Project fact finding mission.

41. The Bureau welcomed the IHP-IOC joint activity to contribute to the evaluation of the horizontal water fluxes from the landmass to the ocean, and recommended the preparation of an inventory of zones where this process occurs.

42. The Bureau welcomed the co-operation established with the Division of Earth Sciences and IGCP.

6.6 Report on the Internal and External Evaluation Plans of IHP: Principles to be Followed

42. The Bureau took note of and endorsed the proposed programme for the internal and external evaluation of IHP-V. In addition, the Bureau recommended enhancing the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the evaluation and to involve the Bureau in the evaluation process.

43. The elements of the TOR have been modified to read as follows:

- review of the implementation of the IHP-V Plan;
- impacts on hydrological science, including dissemination of knowledge;
- impact on water resources management practices at various scales;
- effectiveness of the governing mechanism, including the IHP Bureau, the Council and National IHP Committees;
- contributions to human and institutional capacity building;
- impacts in the developing countries;
- dissemination by various means including publications, meetings, training material and sessions and the web;
- role of field offices;
- evaluation of partnerships including NGOs, IGOs, civil societies and other partners.

The Bureau recommended that the Secretariat formulate the draft TOR in co-operation with the relevant units of UNESCO, and finalize these in light of the above framework approved by the Bureau.

45. The Bureau wishes to take part in recommending, with sufficient anticipation, to the Director-General the composition of the External Evaluation Task Force for IHP-V. The Secretariat explained that there were specific central funds for the external

evaluation, thus the work of the Task Force would not entail a reduction of the programme's budget.

6.7 Progress Report on the Great Man-Made River International Water Prize

46. The Bureau was informed of the outstanding level of the nominations for the Prize submitted to the Secretariat. The Director-General will award the Prize on 19 October 2001 during the 31st session of the General Conference. The Director-General will send out the call for nominations in April 2002 for the Prize of the year 2003.

7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE IHP-VI IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

47. The Bureau has reviewed the results of the Questionnaire actions. It acknowledged the trends indicating that the majority of the responding IHP National Committees suggest a change in the implementation structure, notably the establishment of Theme Advisory Boards (TAB) and Expert Pools.

48. The Bureau adopted the proposed implementation policy, calling for strong scientific overview and advisory bodies. The TABs are to guide programme implementation throughout the 6th Phase of IHP, providing a flexible implementation support. It is foreseen that task forces and working groups (to be appointed for output-oriented activities for an appropriate time period) will be drawn from the Expert Pools. The Secretariat is instructed to invite nominations by IHP National Committees and scientific NGOs of candidates for membership in the TABs and in the IHP Expert Pools. The 32nd session of the Bureau in March 2002 will appoint the TABs and confirm memberships in the Expert Pools. The Bureau adopted an implementation policy concerning networking, *ad hoc* implementation and outsourcing as possible mechanisms. The Bureau entrusted the Secretariat with proposing the most efficient implementation mode. The Bureau also instructed the Secretariat to consider recommendations of the Questionnaire actions as far as proposed outputs are concerned. It was however emphasized that, in the transitional phase towards the widescale use of new information technologies, hardcopy publications and the existing IHP series are still essential.

49. The Bureau took note of the responses of the Questionnaire actions addressing global priorities within the five core themes of IHP. It was acknowledged that the minor differences in ranking do not warrant downscaling or deleting any of the 21 focal areas from IHP-VI. The Secretariat was entrusted with the formulation of the detailed Rolling Implementation Plan. The Bureau instructed the Secretariat to seek proper balance between the information provided, uniformity of approaches among the different themes, and flexibility. It is expected that the Implementation Plan for the first biennium will be presented to the next Bureau session. The Secretariat was requested to seek proposals for representation and input from its partner IGOs and scientific NGOs to be incorporated also into the Rolling Implementation Plan.

50. It was also acknowledged that it would be unlikely to receive reliable financial estimates from the IHP National Committees. Thus, the Bureau agreed to prepare the Rolling Implementation Plan without budgetary information.

8. OVERVIEW OF NEW IHP PROJECTS

8.1 Hydrology for Environment, Life And Policy (HELP)

51. The Bureau expressed satisfaction at the progress made in HELP and strongly welcomed the support and closer links with GEWEX.

8.2 Joint International Isotopes in Hydrology Programme (JIIHP)

52. The Bureau took note of the progress made in implementing Resolution XIV-8. It recommended that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be submitted to the 163rd session of the UNESCO Executive Board. In order to give IHP National Committees the time to assign focal points for JIIHP activities, the Bureau recommended that the invitation to participate in the 1st JIIHP Steering Committee Meeting, which will be organized in parallel to the 15th session of the IHP Council, be dispatched by end December 2001.

8.3 International Groundwater Resources Assessment Center (IGRAC)

53. The Bureau recommended to the Secretariat to develop, jointly with WMO, an operation plan for IGRAC to be submitted for approval to the 163rd session of the Executive Board.

8.4 Internationally-Shared Aquifer Resources Management (ISARM)

54. The Bureau took note of the activities developed in co-operation with FAO, IAH and UN/ECE. The Bureau also advised the Secretariat to involve the IHP National Committees in the preparation of a worldwide inventory of existing transboundary aquifer systems. It welcomed the proposal to prepare thematic maps on regional transboundary aquifer systems during IHP-VI.

8.5 From Potential Water Conflicts to Co-operation Potential (PCCP)

55. The Bureau was informed about this recently launched project. PCCP is a major and distinctive contribution by UNESCO to WWAP. It is based on extrabudgetary funding. PCCP focuses on the strengthening of the co-operation potential of water management to mitigate the risk that potential water conflicts turn to real ones. PCCP evolves from IHP-V Theme 4 and will be very closely linked to IHP-VI Theme 4, Focal Area 4.3. Bureau members emphasized in the debate that Focal Area 4.1 and the proposed multi-volume water history series should be strongly supported financially to enhance the momentum generated by IWHA. The need for extrabudgetary funding was emphasized. Apart from the PCCP links, WWAP also has strong direct ties with Theme 1. The Bureau expressed appreciation of the synergy and mutual strengthening between WWAP and IHP. It is acknowledged that through this close co-operation and co-implementation IHP is responding directly to society's needs.

8.6 Proposal for the Establishment of a Regional Center for Ecohydrology in Warsaw (Poland) Under the Auspices of UNESCO

56. The Bureau warmly welcomed and fully endorsed the initiative and recommended that the 15th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council endorse the establishment of the Regional Centre for Ecohydrology in Warsaw. It invited the IHP

National Committee of Poland to prepare, in co-operation with the Secretariat, the necessary documentation needed for submission to the governing bodies of UNESCO.

57. It was also noted that a training module on groundwater and related ecosystems would be prepared with the co-operation of the IHP National Committee of Australia and the University of Technology of Sydney.

9. CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

9.1 Co-operation with WMO in the Field of Hydrology and Water Resources

58. The Secretariat reported on current co-operative activities and on areas of potential collaboration reflecting the discussions of the ongoing session of the Advisory Working Group of WMO's Commission of Hydrology. The Bureau took note and expressed satisfaction at the continued co-operation of the two organizations; it also encouraged its sustainability and enhancement whenever possible.

9.2 Report on the 20th Session of the ACC Sub-Committee on Water Resources

59. The Bureau took note of the issues related to IHP within the 21st session of the Sub-committee on Water Resources of the UN Administrative Co-ordination Committee (ACC), held in Bangkok, Thailand in October 2000. It also noted and welcomed that for the first time over 20 UN agencies agree to work together in a joint programme, the WWAP, which is hosted and co-ordinated by UNESCO.

60. The Bureau also welcomed that groundwater has been selected as an issue of common interest between many members of the Subcommittee. The Bureau recommended that this should be, as far as possible, accommodated under the IGRAC initiative.

9.3 Report on the Preparation of the World Water Development Report

61. The first publication of the World Water Development Report, the main output of the WWAP, will be issued in time for the 3rd World Water Forum (Kyoto, Japan, March 2003). This volume will review the follow-up process and implementation of Chapter 18 of Agenda 21. It will summarize the methodology developed and present the results of the initial case studies.

9.4 Report on IHP's Participation in the Process of Preparing the World Summit on Sustainable Development

62. The Bureau took note of the preparatory process of the Johannesburg Summit and recalled that it is a very important political meeting that could no doubt influence future global direction and support to science, including the hydrological sciences. The Bureau therefore recommended that the Secretariat inform the IHP National Committees on the important crucial issues and to invite them to contact their respective National Committees on Sustainable Development to ensure that water science issues are given due consideration.

9.5 Co-operation with the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)

63. The representative of IAHS informed the meeting on current and planned activities. He pointed out the existence of a task force on developing countries and of various working groups, having cross-cutting activities, citing the group on GEWEX, on Theoretical Hydrology and the newly-established Hydrology 2020 group. He highlighted the initiative on ungauged basins and reported on the process leading to the IUGG Assembly (Sapporo, Japan, 2003). IAHS expressed their support for the creation of a joint IAHS-IHP Internet 'chat' site to discuss relevant hydrological science topics. The Bureau appreciated IHP's involvement in the 'ungauged basins' initiative, proposing a close collaboration especially with HELP and IHP-VI Theme 1.3, and the creation of the joint 'chat' site, requesting that IAHS nominate a moderator.

64. The meeting underlined the importance of involving IGBP in activities of IHP and IAHS and of encouraging the participation of young scientists. IAHS was requested to provide advance information on the organization of its assembly to facilitate the planning of IHP's inputs. Likewise, IHP would appreciate the assistance of IAHS in the organization of the Kovacs Colloquium.

10. MATTERS RELATED TO THE 15TH SESSION OF THE IHP COUNCIL

10.1 Establishment of the Agenda, Date and Place of the 15th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP

65. The provisional agenda for the 15th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP was discussed and approved by the Bureau (see Annex V). The session will be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 17 to 22 June 2002.

10.2 Major Issues Recommended for Consideration by the 15th Session of the Council

66. The possible issues were discussed under item 10.1.

11. NEXT SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU

67. The Bureau decided to hold its 32nd session from 4-5 March 2002 in Paris, having as its main agenda item the nomination of members to the TABs, consisting of one core team for each IHP-VI theme, with 6 members in each team. Membership to serve on Expert Pools will also be considered. The Secretariat will request nominations from the IHP National Committees and key NGO partners, to be received not later than 15 February 2002.

12. OTHER MATTERS

12.1 IHP Secretariat Staff Situation

68. The Bureau expressed its appreciation of the additional funding to be assigned to IHP in accordance with the highest priority status of 'water and supporting ecosystems'. At the same time, the Bureau expressed concern on the staff situation of the IHP Secretariat. It strongly recommended urgent strengthening in order to ensure the appropriate delivery capacity required during the 31 C/4 period.

12.2 3rd World Water Forum

69. Mr. Takeuchi brought to the attention of the meeting that the organizers of the 3rd World Water Forum (Kyoto, Japan, March 2003) would like to see more of the water science issues being presented at the Forum. This call was welcomed by the Bureau, which encouraged IHP participation.

13. APPROVAL OF THE FINAL REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

70. The Bureau reviewed and approved the final report of the 31st session of the Bureau. Mr. Feddes, the Chairperson of the IHP Intergovernmental Council, thanked the members of the Bureau and observers for their participation and congratulated the Secretariat on the efficient preparation and support for the meeting, including the finalization of the report. He then brought the meeting to a close at 2:00 PM on 21 September 2001.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE 160TH AND 161ST SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO**
 - 3.1 REPORT ON “WATER RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS” AS PRINCIPAL PRIORITY OF MAJOR PROGRAMME II – NATURAL SCIENCES
 - 3.2 OVERVIEW OF THE DRAFT C/4 MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY (2002-2007)
 - 3.3 OVERVIEW OF THE DRAFT 31 C/5 PROGRAMME AND BUDGET (2002-2003)
 - 3.4 REPORT ON THE PLANNED UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE OF WATER EDUCATION
 - 3.5 REPORT ON OTHER WATER-RELATED CENTERS
 - 3.6 REPORT OF THE *AD HOC* IHP GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
 - 3.7 REPORT OF THE IHP FINANCE COMMITTEE
 - 3.8 REPORT ON IHP’S INVOLVEMENT IN THE WORLD WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (WWAP) AND THE WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORT (WWDR)
 - 3.9 REPORT ON THE IHP ACTIVITIES PURSUANT TO UN-GA RESOLUTION A/RES/55/196 PROCLAIMING 2003 AS “INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FRESHWATER”
 - 3.10 OTHER REVELANT DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
- 4. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 14TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IHP**
 - 4.1 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
 - 4.2 REPORT ON THE IHP COMMUNICATION STRATEGY AND THE RELATED UNESCO WEB PORTAL PROJECT
- 5. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 30TH SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU**
 - 5.1 REVIEW OF THE THEME OF THE 6TH KOVACS COLLOQUIUM
 - 5.2 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF THE PAN-AFRICAN CONFERENCE
- 6. REVIEW OF IHP-V ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO**
 - 6.1 REVIEW OF IHP-V PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
 - 6.2 REPORT ON THE IHP-RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME
 - 6.3 REPORT ON EXTRA-BUDGETARY ACTIVITIES
 - 6.4 SUMMARY REPORT ON THE REGIONAL IHP MEETINGS

- 6.5 REPORT ON CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER UNESCO ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES
 - 6.6 REPORT ON THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL EVALUATION PLANS OF IHP: PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED
 - 6.7 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE GREAT MAN-MADE RIVER INTERNATIONAL WATER PRIZE
- 7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE IHP-VI IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**
- 8. OVERVIEW OF NEW IHP PROJECTS**
 - 8.1 HYDROLOGY FOR ENVIRONMENT, LIFE AND POLICY (HELP)
 - 8.2 JOINT INTERNATIONAL ISOTOPES IN HYDROLOGY PROGRAMME (JIIHP)
 - 8.3 INTERNATIONAL GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENT CENTER (IGRAC)
 - 8.4 INTERNATIONALLY-SHARED AQUIFER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (ISARM)
 - 8.5 FROM POTENTIAL WATER CONFLICTS TO CO-OPERATION POTENTIAL (PCCP)
 - 8.6 PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL CENTER FOR ECOHYDROLOGY IN WARSAW (POLAND) UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO
- 9. CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**
 - 9.1 CO-OPERATION WITH WMO IN THE FIELD OF HYDROLOGY AND WATER RESOURCES
 - 9.2 REPORT ON THE 20TH SESSION OF THE ACC SUB-COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
 - 9.3 REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF THE WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORT
 - 9.4 REPORT ON IHP'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
 - 9.5 CO-OPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES (IAHS)
- 10. MATTERS RELATED TO THE 15TH SESSION OF THE IHP COUNCIL**
 - 10.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AGENDA, DATE AND PLACE OF THE 15TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IHP
 - 10.2 MAJOR ISSUES RECOMMENDED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE 15TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
- 11. NEXT SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU**
 - 12. OTHER MATTERS**
 - 13. APPROVAL OF THE FINAL REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

ANNEX II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

(all documents in English only)

WORKING DOCUMENTS		
Document Code (IHP/Bur-XXXI/...)	Title	Agenda item
1 prov.	Provisional Agenda	1 - 13
1 Add. prov.	Provisional Timetable	1 – 13
2 prov.	Provisional Annotated Agenda	1 – 13
3 prov.	Draft Summary Report	1 – 13
4 prov.	Provisional List of Documents	-
5 prov.	Provisional List of Participants	-
6	Report by the Secretariat on the 160 th and 161 st Sessions of the Executive Board of UNESCO	3
7	Report on the Implementation of the Major Decisions and Resolutions Adopted by the 14 th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP	4
8	Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the 30 th Session of the IHP Bureau	5
9	Report of the Secretariat on the Implementation of the Fifth Phase of the IHP	6
10	Report on the IHP-VI Implementation Plan	7
10 Add.	Additional Information to the Report on the IHP-VI Implementation Plan	7
11	Report on the Implementation of the New IHP Projects	8
12	Report on Co-operation with the United Nations and Non-Governmental Organizations	9
13	Draft Provisional Agenda of the 15 th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP	10
14	Proposal for the Establishment of a Regional Center for Ecohydrology in Warsaw (Poland) under the Auspices of UNESCO	8.6

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS		
Document Code (IHP/Bur-XXXI/...)	Title	Agenda item
Inf. 1	Report on the Planned UNESCO-IHE Institute of Water Education	3.4
Inf. 2	Report on Various Initiatives Linked to the Establishment of Water-Related Centers	3.5
Inf. 3	Report of the ad hoc IHP Governance Committee	3.6
Inf. 4	Report of the IHP Finance Committee	3.7
Inf. 5	Report on IHP's Involvement in the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and the World Water Development Report (WWDR)	3.8
Inf. 6	Report on the Planned IHP Activities Pursuant to UN-GA Resolution A/RES/55/196 Proclaiming 2003 as International Year of Freshwater	3.9
Inf. 7	Additional Background Information on the Implementation of the Resolutions and Other Recommendations Adopted by the 14 th Session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council	4.1
Inf. 8	Report on the IHP Communication Strategy and the Related UNESCO Web Portal Project	4.2
Inf. 9	Report on the Preparation of the 6 th Kovacs Colloquium	5.1
Inf. 10	Progress Report on the Preparation of the Pan-African Conference	5.2
Inf. 11	Status of Implementation of IHP-V Projects (as at 15 July 2001)	6.1
Inf. 12	List of Publications Released since the 14 th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP	6.1
Inf. 13	List of Planned Publications	6.1

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS		
Document Code (IHP/Bur-XXXI/...)	Title	Agenda item
Inf. 14	List of IHP-Supported Meetings and Training Activities Held Since the 14 th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP	6.1
Inf. 15	List of Planned Meetings	6.1
Inf. 16	Report on the IHP-related Activities of the Participation Programme	6.2
Inf. 17	Report on the IHP-related Extrabudgetary Activities	6.3
Inf. 18	Report on the Regional IHP Meetings	6.4
Inf. 19	Report on Co-operation with Other UNESCO Environmental Programmes	6.5
Inf. 20	Report on the Internal and External Evaluation Plans of IHP: Principles to be Followed	6.6
Inf. 21	Progress Report on the Great Man-Made River International Water Prize	6.7
Inf. 22	Report on the Hydrology for Environment, Life and Policy (HELP) Project	8.1
Inf. 23	Report on the Joint International Isotopes in Hydrology Programme (JIHP)	8.2
Inf. 24	Report on the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Center (IGRAC)	8.3
Inf. 25	Report on the Internationally-Shared Aquifer Resources Management (ISARM) Project	8.4
Inf. 26	Report on the From Potential Water Conflicts to Co-operation Potential (PCCP) Project	8.5
Inf. 27	Co-operation of WMO with the IHP of UNESCO	9.1
Inf. 28	Report on the 20 th Session of the ACC Sub-Committee on Water Resources	9.2

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS		
Document Code	Title	Agenda item
160 EX/Decisions	Decisions Adopted by the Executive Board at its 160 th Session (Paris, 9-25 October 2000)	3.1
31 C/4 (draft)	Medium Term Strategy (2002-2007) – Excerpts from Major Programme II	3.2
31 C/5 (draft)	Programme and Budget (2002-2003) - Excerpts from Major Programme II	3.3
161 EX/10	Proposed Establishment of the UNESCO-IHE Institute For Water Education	3.4
161 EX/11	Proposed Establishment of the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management in Teheran under the Auspices of UNESCO	3.5
IHP-V	Hydrology and Water Resources Development in a Vulnerable Environment – Detailed Plan of the Fifth Phase of IHP (1996-2001)	6
JC/2001	Joint Communication of the Chairpersons of the Five Scientific Programmes of UNESCO	6.5
IHP/IC-XIV/11	Report on the Status of Preparation of the IHP-VI Draft Plan	7
31 C/REP.13	Report by the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme on its Activities (2000-2001)	-
IHP-VI Questionnaire	Questionnaire for Formulating the IHP-VI Implementation Plan	7
31 C/47	Proposed Establishment of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education	3.4

ANNEX IV

TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE
UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE FOR WATER EDUCATION

WHEREAS the Executive Board of UNESCO decided at its 161st session to adopt the decision contained in document 161 EX/10, item 3.3.2, which recommends to the General Conference to approve at its 31st session the establishment of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and to further examine, amend as appropriate, and approve its Statutes;

WHEREAS the Article IV, paragraph 2 of the proposed Statutes provide that out of the 13 members of the Governing Board of the Institute, six (6) shall be elected by the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrology Programme, one for each electoral group of UNESCO;

The Terms of Reference for the election of these six (6) members of the Governing Board of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education shall be as follows:

I. A member of the Governing Board elected by the IHP Council shall fulfil the following requirements:

- A. Ph.D. or equivalent academic qualification in a field relevant to the mandate of the Institute.
- B. Excellent national and international reputation for at least two of the following criteria:
 - i) scientific achievement
 - ii) educational excellence
 - iii) leadership capabilities demonstrated by successful visionary initiatives in a field relevant to the mandate of the Institute
 - iv) longstanding experience in management
 - a) of water resources; or
 - b) of administrations / ministries; or
 - c) of universities / research institutes.

II. Election Procedure

The pertinent provisions in the proposed Statutes are Article IV and Article XIII, paragraph 4. The latter reads:

"At the next meeting of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrology Programme [read: after the adoption of the Statutes] six (6) persons will be elected for a seat on the Institute's Board. By draw of lot, three (3) of these persons will be appointed for a period of two years. Three (3) of the persons of the Board designated by the Director-General shall also serve a term of two (2) years."

At every IHP Bureau meeting preceding an IHP Council meeting during which an election takes place, the Bureau shall discuss and adopt a list of candidates. This list shall be presented to the Council for its consideration.

ANNEX V

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE 15TH SESSION
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF IHP**

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**
 - 1.1 REPORT OF THE OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON
 - 1.2 ADDRESS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO
- 2. ELECTION OF THE INCOMING CHAIRPERSON**
- 3. ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRPERSONS**
- 4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 5. DETERMINATION OF THE COUNCIL'S METHOD OF WORK**
- 6. REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE 160TH TO THE 163RD SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO**
 - 6.1 REPORT ON "WATER RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS" AS PRINCIPAL PRIORITY OF MAJOR PROGRAMME II – NATURAL SCIENCES
 - 6.2 OVERVIEW OF THE DRAFT C/4 MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY (2002-2007)
 - 6.3 OVERVIEW OF THE DRAFT 31 C/5 PROGRAMME AND BUDGET (2002-2003)
 - 6.4 REPORT ON THE UNESCO-IHE INSTITUTE OF WATER EDUCATION
 - 6.5 REPORT ON OTHER WATER RELATED CENTERS
 - 6.6 REPORT OF THE *AD HOC* IHP GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
 - 6.7 REPORT OF THE IHP FINANCE COMMITTEE
 - 6.8 REPORT OF IHP'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE WORLD WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (WWAP) AND THE WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORT (WWDR)
 - 6.9 REPORT ON THE IHP ACTIVITIES PURSUANT TO UN-GA RESOLUTION A/RES/55/196 PROCLAIMING 2003 AS "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FRESHWATER"
 - 6.10 OTHER RELEVANT DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
- 7. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 14TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE IHP**
 - 7.1 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS
 - 7.2 SUMMARY REPORT ON THE REGIONAL IHP MEETINGS
 - 7.3 REPORT ON THE IHP COMMUNICATION STRATEGY AND THE RELATED IHP WEB PORTAL PROJECT
- 8. REVIEW OF THE MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 31ST SESSION OF THE IHP BUREAU**

- 9. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE IHP-V ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO**
 - 9.1 REVIEW OF IHP-V PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
 - 9.2 REPORT OF THE IHP-RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME
 - 9.3 REPORT ON EXTRA-BUDGETARY ACTIVITIES
 - 9.4 REPORT ON CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER UNESCO ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES
 - 9.5 REPORT ON THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL EVALUATION PLANS OF IHP: PRINCIPLES TO BE FOLLOWED
 - 9.6 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE GREAT MAN-MADE RIVER INTERNATIONAL WATER PRIZE
- 10. REVIEW AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE IHP-VI IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**
- 11. OVERVIEW OF NEW IHP PROJECTS**
 - 11.1 HYDROLOGY FOR ENVIRONMENT, LIFE AND POLICY (HELP)
 - 11.2 JOINT INTERNATIONAL ISOTOPES IN HYDROLOGY PROGRAMME (JIHP)
 - 11.3 INTERNATIONAL GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENT CENTER (IGRAC)
 - 11.4 INTERNATIONALLY-SHARED AQUIFER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (ISARM)
 - 11.5 FROM POTENTIAL WATER CONFLICTS TO CO-OPERATION POTENTIAL (PCCP)
- 12. CO-OPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**
 - 12.1 CO-OPERATION WITH WMO IN THE FIELD OF HYDROLOGY AND WATER RESOURCES
 - 12.2 REPORT ON THE 20TH, 21ST and 22ND SESSIONS OF THE ACC SUB-COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
 - 12.3 REPORT ON THE WORLD WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (WWAP)
 - 12.4 REPORT ON IHP'S PARTICIPATION ON THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
 - 12.5 CO-OPERATION WITH SCIENTIFIC NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
 - 12.6 REPORT ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF IHP IN THE THIRD WORLD WATER FORUM
- 13. REPORT ON CO-OPERATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE IHP NATIONAL COMMITTEES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROGRAMME**
- 14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**
- 15. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

ANNEX VI

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND SPECIAL TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

ACC	Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (UN)
ECE	UN Economic Commission for Europe
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FRIEND	Flow Regimes from International Experimental and Network Data (IHP project)
GA	General Assembly (of the United Nations)
GEWEX	Global Energy and Water Experiment
HELP	Hydrology for Environment, Life and Policy
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAH	International Association of Hydrogeologists
IAHS	International Association of Hydrological Sciences
IDEAM	Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (of Colombia)
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme
IGCP	International Geological Correlation Programme (of UNESCO and ICSU)
IGO	Inter-Governmental Organization
IGRAC	International Groundwater Resources Assessment Center
IHE	International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (Delft, The Netherlands)
IHP	International Hydrological Programme (of UNESCO)
IHP-V	Fifth Phase of IHP
IHP-VI	Sixth Phase of IHP
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (of UNESCO)
ISARM	Internationally-Shared Aquifer Resources Management
IUGG	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
IWHA	International Water History Association
IIHP	IAEA/UNESCO Joint International Isotopes in Hydrology Programme
MAB	Man and the Biosphere Programme (of UNESCO)
MLA	Main Line of Action
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PCCP	From Potential Water Conflicts to Co-operation Potential project
TAB	Theme Advisory Board
TARM	Transboundary Aquifer Resources Management
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWAP	World Water Assessment Programme
WWDR	World Water Development Report