



## **International Hydrological Programme**

17<sup>th</sup> session of the Intergovernmental Council  
(Paris, 3 – 7 July 2006)

# **COOPERATION BETWEEN IHP AND THE UN WORLD WATER ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME (WWAP)**

Item 14.3 of the provisional agenda

### **SUMMARY**

This document presents the contributions of IHP to WWAP in its 2<sup>nd</sup> phase (2003-2006) and information about the future of WWAP.

The Council may wish to note the report and comment on the development of WWAP. The IHP National Committees are invited to circulate information about the vacancy announcement of the WWAP Coordinator, annexed to this document, to qualified candidates.

## BACKGROUND

1. The UN system-wide World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), the coalition of 24 United Nations agencies contributing to and constituting it, is hosted and led by UNESCO. By the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the programme, WWAP has established itself as the UN reporting mechanism regarding the freshwater situation throughout the world. The first issue of the World Water Development Report (WWDR), the main output of WWAP, was launched in 2003 in Kyoto. As in the case of the first WWDR, the second issue (WWDR-2) was prepared by the WWAP Secretariat located in Paris within UNESCO's Division of Water Sciences as the third Section of the later, Section on Global Water Assessment, with support from the IHP Secretariat, and with contributions of other UN partner agencies and secretariats. The WWDR-2, entitled *Water, a shared responsibility*, was launched in the Fourth World Water Forum in Mexico City, Mexico, in March 2006 by the Director-General of UNESCO on behalf of the UN system.

## UNESCO'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SECOND PHASE OF WWAP

2. During the 2nd phase of WWAP (2003-2006), shortly WWAP-2, IHP was responsible and contributed to different chapters of the WWDR-2. This was agreed by UN-Water that acts as Steering Committee of WWAP.

3. IHP shared the responsibility for the preparation and the writing of WWDR-2's Chapter 4: *The State of the Resource* with WMO. The chapter focused on the availability and variability of surface and groundwater resources, human impacts on water resources and matching demands for water with supply. The International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) contributed importantly to the section of the chapter concerning groundwater.

4. IHP was the lead agency for WWDR-2's Chapter 11: *Sharing water*. A group of experts has contributed to the writing of this chapter. The findings of the PCCP (From Potential Conflicts to Cooperation Potential) and ISARM (Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management) initiatives were incorporated in that chapter.

5. Within the overall WWDR-2 theme of *Water, a shared responsibility*, in conformity with the relevant decisions of UN-Water, UNESCO continued to support WWAP-2 through the PCCP project within its mandate to develop tools for the promotion of peaceful and co-operative management of shared water resources. (The project was presented in detail to the 35th session of the IHP Bureau, ref: document IHP/Bur-XXXV/20.) On the basis of the outputs of PCCP's First Phase (more than 3000 pages of research and educational material both printed and available on the web) and with the contribution of different groups of trainers, PCCP has undertaken to adapt its training material to specific regions of the world. A 6-day pilot course was held in Ecuador for the LAC region. It was prepared by a group of 6 trainers. It brought together 18 mid-level professionals from around LAC with different disciplinary backgrounds to help them (a) enhance their understanding of co-operation building as well as their negotiation skills; (b) enhance their insights in Integrated Water Resources Management; and (c) strengthen regional water co-operation. The same process was launched in the Arab region as well as in South-East Europe.

6. PCCP has also supported the creation of the demo version of a computer game to teach the young generation the challenges of sharing water resources and benefits as well as coping with climate changes.

7. With the support of the Government of Andorra, the project has prepared a Case Study on the status of co-operation in the Lake Titicaca. Several experts from each riparian country together with the Legal Office of FAO and PCCP, worked on the case which was finally reviewed by both Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

8. PCCP has developed a decision support system (DSS) capable of providing significant help in resolving conflicts related to sharing water between different kind of uses and interests: irrigation, drinking water supply, hydropower generation and flood protection. It has also contributed to the effort of ISARM in supporting the work of the UN International Law Commission, for the production of a draft convention on sharing ground water resources. The project has created a working group that concentrates on the development of conflict and co-operation indicators. PCCP has organized an international conference "Water a catalyst for peace; Alternative approaches for the management of shared water resources" in October 2004 in Zaragoza, Spain. As a new approach to Alternative Dispute Resolution participants took parts in role-plays that enhanced their capabilities to achieve sound and peaceful water management. Recently, the UN Information Office has selected PCCP as one of the "Ten stories the world should hear more about" (<http://www.un.org/events/tenstories/story.asp?storyID=2900>).

9. With respect to PCCP and ISARM the 39<sup>th</sup> session of the IHP Bureau also noted that the topic of shared water resources and water related conflict resolution should remain an important relevant component of the IHP plans. Therefore, UNESCO, through IHP, will continue contribute with PCCP and ISARM to WWAP-3 through research, capacity building and technical assistance.

10. UNESCO was also the lead agency for WWDR-2 Chapter 13: *Ensuring knowledge and capacity* through the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education. The chapter draws upon the capacity building expertise of UNESCO-IHE and covered issues of data availability, access to information and knowledge, as well as assessing capacity needs and enhancing existing capacities.

11. UNESCO Regional Offices also contributed to WWAP in its 2<sup>nd</sup> phase. UNESCO Beijing Office, in collaboration with WWAP and the Mongolian National IHP Committee, implemented a Case Study from Mongolia for WWDR-2. UNESCO New Delhi office organized a preparatory meeting for the *Sri Lanka Water Development Report*

12. The WWDR-2 was launched on the last day of the World Water Forum in Mexico City, 22 March 2006, by the Director-General of UNESCO. This day also corresponded to the celebrations of the *World Water Day* devoted at this time to *Water and Culture* with UNESCO as lead agency. A detailed description of the event is provided in document IHP/IC-XVII/13. WWDR-2 concluded, *inter alia*, that with fast changing socio-economic conditions occurring against the backdrop of unprecedented global environmental change, water crises in many parts of the world are becoming increasingly severe. The solution to many, if not most, water-related problems lies first and foremost in better governance. Regardless of the particular mix of characteristics within a society or policy, the principles of transparency and accountability should prevail. The report emphasized the importance of focusing more on the governance aspects of water management. Capacity needs to be enhanced across all sectors, and awareness-building needs to be increased so that citizens and policy-makers may be better informed about water issues in order to encourage responsible decision-making at all levels. These main conclusions certainly need to be considered when shaping the Seventh Phase of the International Hydrological Programme.

## **THE FUNDING OF THE SECOND PHASE OF WWAP**

13. UNESCO has significantly contributed both to the financial and human resources of the WWAP Secretariat. UNESCO has directly financed the posts of the WWAP Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator throughout the second phase of WWAP. The overwhelming majority of the rest of the WWAP staff, such as a programme officer, a liaison officer, a secretary, and supernumerary and fee contractors, were financed by the Japanese Trust Fund at UNESCO, making the Japanese Government the major provider of funding. Contributions to staff expenses were also received from Spain, the U.K., Denmark and France. Minor funding has been received from Germany and various countries have made in-kind contributions. UNESCO has provided premises and office equipment for the WWAP Secretariat.

## **THE FUTURE: THE THIRD PHASE (2006-20090) OF WWAP AND BEYOND**

14. In the first and second phases of WWAP the support of the Government of Japan, in particular through the Japanese Trust Fund of UNESCO, which has made up more than 80 percent of the funding, has been crucial for getting the programme started and operational. This support was foreseen to gradually decrease in six years as other countries were expected to join in to support WWAP both financially and human resources wise. Driven by the lack of indications as to the provision of additional resources at its 15<sup>th</sup> session in July 2002, the IHP Intergovernmental Council of IHP has adopted IGC Resolution XV-2. The intent of that resolution is to mobilize IHP National Committees to raise support through their respective governments.

15. In responding to this call, the Italian IHP National Committee has flagged interest early 2004 that there may be an interest on their side to provide significant assistance to WWAP both with respect to its funding, including human resources, and its premises. The representative of the Italian Government first expressed their interest to host and fund the Secretariat of WWAP during the 172<sup>nd</sup> session of the Executive Board of UNESCO in September 2005 and then again in the general political debate of the the 33<sup>th</sup> session of the General Conference of UNESCO in October 2005. The intention has been reconfirmed during the debate of Commission III of the 33<sup>rd</sup> session of the General Conference. Italy officially announced her formal offer in a joint letter by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Environment, respectively, to the Director-General of UNESCO for hosting and funding the Secretariat of WWAP in Perugia, Italy, in cooperation with the region of Umbria. The initial offer is 2.5 million euros annually for three years with the possibility of extension beyond WWAP-3. The proposal also contains elements that indicate that Italy is also willing to support actual field projects linked to WWAP. This offer has been made public in Mexico City at the closing ceremony of the Fourth World Water Forum, thus providing the opportunity to continue WWAP into its third phase and into the development of the WWDR-3 (174 EX/INF.12).

16. UN-Water has been notified well in time of the pending proposal and changes and, while thanking the generous offer of the Government of Italy, expressed its full endorsement. In the mean time the Government of Japan has also indicated its readiness to continue support WWAP while in Italy. The negotiations are being conducted between UNESCO and the Government of Italy concerning the details of WWAP Secretariat's relocation to Perugia, Italy.

17. This includes a feasibility study with respect to the place to be selected. Currently three facilities are being considered: an 11<sup>th</sup> Century fortress (Castello di Casalina), a 16<sup>th</sup> Century palazzo under reconstruction (Rocca di Casalina) and a 19<sup>th</sup> Century mansion (Villa Colombella). A Joint Task Force has been set up by the Director-General and the Italian authorities to work out the details and recommendations.

18. In the mean time a staffing table is being established with respect to the human resources needs of the WWAP Secretariat. It is being contemplated that permanent professional staff positions be established instead of the system of supernumeraries and fee contractors that was the case during the first two phases. It is understood that the Secretariat of WWAP will remain a part of UNESCO's Division of Water Sciences as was the case during the first two phases.

19. Following the retirement of the current coordinator of WWAP Mr. G. Young, in July 2006, a process has been initiated for recruitment of a new coordinator. Annex 1 contains the Vacancy Notice for the new coordinator. It is expected that the WWAP Secretariat will start its relocation process in October 2006 with a view towards completing the first cycle of recruitment by March 2007 in order to provide sufficient time for the new team to start preparing WWDR-3 early next year as to minimize loss of time due to the transfer process.

20. At the 39<sup>th</sup> session of the IHP Bureau the representative of the IHP National Committee for Italy, currently also serving as the Chairperson of the IHP Finance Committee, conveyed the Italian government's (and the Umbria region's) enthusiasm for the establishment of the WWAP Secretariat in Perugia, Italy. The Bureau warmly welcomed and thanked Italy and the Umbria region for their generous offer and considered the proposal as an outstanding practical follow up to IHP IGC Resolution XV-2 "IHP Contribution to WWAP/WWDR" in which the Council had invited IHP National Committees "to actively solicit their respective governments to provide financial support to WWAP activities".

21. The Bureau expressed its appreciation to the Italian IHP National Committee for their excellent initiative and active support towards the implementation of WWAP. The Bureau noted that the process was absolutely open and transparent as all the National Committees and/or Member States had the opportunity and time to prepare proposals with respect to the follow up of Resolution XV-2. All the more so the Italian initiative needs to be appreciated. The Bureau also noted the unanimous endorsement of UN-Water with respect to the relocation of the WWAP Secretariat to Perugia. The Bureau repeated the call of Resolution XV-2 by further inviting the IHP National Committees to actively solicit their respective governments to provide additional financial support to WWAP activities. It is expected that during the debate of this particular item on the Agenda Council members may wish to propose further support to the WWAP Secretariat to be established in Perugia, Italy, either by the secondment of experts or by direct financial contributions.

22. During the said session of the IHP Bureau the representative of WMO suggested that the move to Italy provided an excellent opportunity to take a fresh look at WWAP, and that a UN-Water meeting be held in Perugia to review WWAP's mandate. He further suggested that other UN agencies could contribute to WWAP through either funding or human resources. In this regard the Bureau again encouraged other Member States to contribute towards WWAP and also suggested that a technical/scientific advisory board for WWAP be established at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase of WWAP.



## United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

# Coordinator (D-1) UN World Water Assessment Programme Perugia (Italy)

### Main responsibilities

Under the overall authority of the Director-General and in close consultation with the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, and under the supervision of the Director of the Division of Water Sciences of UNESCO, in agreement with relevant recommendations of UN-Water, the Coordinator of the UN World Water Assessment Programme will be in charge of the management of the activities of the United Nations system-wide *World Water Assessment Programme* (WWAP), particularly the production of the *World Water Development Report* (WWDR). In carrying out these functions, the Coordinator will lead the WWAP Secretariat, located in Perugia, Italy. The Coordinator will manage the development of overall strategies and work plans for WWAP, including the development of WWDRs and an overall communication strategy; coordinate all activities of UN partner organizations and external partners, through appropriate and effective channels, leading to the timely production of the periodic WWDRs; promotion of the WWAP and the WWDR as activities

and products of UN-Water through the media and presentations as well as the preparation of detailed implementation plans, including work plans and budget, for all components of the WWAP. This will also include the: management and supervision of the WWAP Secretariat, i.e. approximately 20 technical and administrative staff; the administration, financial operations and security requirements, in line with the Organization's policies and procedures, including effective internal controls. The tasks will also include developing and maintaining relations with the international and local water research community and relevant administrative authorities of the host country; preparation of an annual progress report for consideration by UN-Water and as required by the donor community; as well as coordination with the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO concerning the Conflict Resolution component of the WWAP. The incumbent will maintain close consultative relations with the Chairperson of UN-Water.

### Qualifications and experience

PhD or equivalent in engineering/geography/environmental/health/social sciences with specialization in water.

- At least 10 years' experience in water policy and strategy formulation and project management in a collaborative context and experience in the formulation and management of research or development projects.
- Living and working experience in both the developed and developing world.

- Excellent command of written and spoken English; working knowledge of French and good proficiency in one or more of the other official languages of the United Nations system (Spanish, Chinese, Russian and Arabic) will be an asset.
- Basic computer skills including the use of georeferenced databases and process models.

### Competencies

The successful candidate should be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- Demonstrated strong relations with extensive international networks of professionals in the field of freshwater; recognized international standing in the field of water.

- Proven leadership qualities and excellent capabilities to lead a demanding multidisciplinary work programme.
- Proven experience in editing major scientific works.
- Demonstrated superior skills in communication, advocacy, analytical and writing skills as well as team and consensus building across institutional boundaries.

### Terms and conditions

The post is at grade D-1 common to the United Nations system, with a salary composed of base salary and post adjustment, which, at the present dollar exchange rate, totals approximately US \$138,260 (with dependants) or US \$127,800 (without dependants) per annum, exempt from taxation. In

addition, UNESCO offers an attractive benefit package, including 30 days annual vacation, home travel, education grant for dependent children, pension plan and medical insurance. Please note that UNESCO is a non-smoking Organization.

### How to apply:

Candidates wishing to apply for this post should do so through the following website: <http://www.unesco.org/employment>

Candidates without easy access to the Internet may, exceptionally, apply by mail, by sending a full curriculum vitae in English or French, preferably on the official UNESCO curriculum vitae form, showing their nationality, date of birth and gender, to:

Chief, Recruitment and Staffing Section, Bureau of Human Resources Management,  
UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenay 75352 Paris 07-SP, France.

Applications should reach UNESCO before **1 August 2006**. Please quote post number **SC-938**