

## **International Hydrological Programme**

22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Intergovernmental Council  
(Paris, 13 – 17 June 2016)

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE 21<sup>ST</sup> SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF IHP**

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

#### Summary

The document presents a summary of actions taken in the implementation of the Resolutions adopted at the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, as of June 2016.

Action expected of the Council: The Council may wish to express its views and appreciation on the implementation of each one of the Resolutions adopted at the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council and to comment thereon.



**RESOLUTION XXI-1: Financial Support to the International Hydrological Programme**

“Requests the IHP Secretariat to (i) work closely with UNESCO’s top management to ensure that the budgetary prioritization conducted by the Governing Bodies of UNESCO is closely reflected in the human resources allocated to IHP; (ii) submit to the IHP Bureau at its 52nd session an information document on the IHP staffing situation, including in regional offices, and needs in terms of posts to meet its objectives”.

**RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

1. The total budget allocated by the 38<sup>th</sup> General Conference was 13.9 M with an increase of, around, 10% when compared to the 2014-2015 Regular Budget (USD 12.8 M).

2. The current staff situation within the Division is the following:

**Recruitment of existing posts:**

- Due to the retirement of Mr. Siegfried Demuth (end of September 2015), Chief of the Section on Hydrological Systems and Water Scarcity (SC/HYD/HSS), at P5 level, Mr. Abou Amani was recruited as of January 2016;
- A Programme Specialist at the Section on Groundwater Systems and Settlements (SC/HYD/GSS) at P4 level was recruited: Mr. Alexandros Makarigakis started in February 2016;
- Further to the move to the UNESCO Office in Montevideo of Mr. Miguel Doria, a Programme Specialist at P3 level at Section on Ecohydrology, Water Quality and Water Education (SC/HYD/EQE) was recruited: Mr. Youssef Filali-Meknassi started in February 2016;
- Associate Programme Specialist, Science Communication at P2 level is under recruitment at the Section SC/HYD/EQE;

**Transfers:**

- Assistant Programme Specialist at P2 level transferred to SC/HYD/EQE Section from the Division of Science Policy and Capacity-Building (SC/PCB): Ms. Nicole Webley;
- A P1/P2 post has been transferred from the Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences (SC/EES) to cover the post of the Young Professionals Programme (YPP) at SC/HYD/HSS Section, Ms. Gift was recruited and started in May 2016;
- A General Assistant post at G3 level, Ms. Sandrine Baron, was transferred to SC/EES;
- Assistant to Programme Specialist at G4 level, Ms. Natasha Lazic, was transferred to SC/HYD/EQE.

**New posts:**

- A new post at P5 level has been established for Chief of SC/HYD/EQE Section, and it is under recruitment.

**Abolishment of posts:**

- The post of the Assistant to Chief of Section at G5 level, Mrs. Georgette Gobina, was abolished after her Retirement (end of February 2016).

3. In the Field Offices, the Division of Water Sciences provides 16 professional and national professional officer posts in Africa (covering 5 - 70% of the post’s salary), 7 posts in the Arab States (funding 23 - 60% of the post’s salary), 13 posts in Asia Pacific (funding 7 - 55% of the post’s salary), 9 posts in Latin America and the Caribbean (covering 26 - 80% of the cost associated with the post) and 2 posts in Europe and North America (33% of the post’s salary). From this posts, 4 are fully covered with water ER funds to act as regional hydrologists from which 3 are at P5 Level (Jakarta, Cairo and Nairobi) and 1 at P4 level (Montevideo). The budget is used to cover a total of 47 posts partially compared to 26 posts during the 2014-2015 biennium.

4. To summarize, after working closely with the top management, from a total of 12 posts under Regular Budget (RB) at HQ (seven professional and 5 general staff), HYD currently has a total of 16 posts which are in general of higher rank, (12 Professionals and 4 general staff). Additionally, there are one Project Assignment (PA) and two secondments (one from Japan and one from K-Water Korea). At the regional level, the same number of regional hydrologists was maintained (a total of four located in Nairobi, Jakarta, Cairo, and LAC) working, most of them, part time on IHP. Additional officers at field units are now being covered from regular budget to support water programmes, which allows IHP to have a wider geographical coverage. Thus, the situation has improved the capacity to deliver IHP but still it is not enough to cover all Member states requests.

5. The staff situation within the other 2 Divisions of the Natural Science Sector in headquarters is as follows: Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences (SC/EES): 14 Regular Programme (RP) posts, one Funds-in-Trust Overhead Costs Account (FITOCA), two Project Assignments (PA), one secondment and one Associate Expert (AEX), for a total of 19 posts; Division of Science Policy and Capacity Building (SC/PCB): 20 RP posts, 5 PAs, 1 Extraudgetary Programme (EXB), for a total of 26 posts.

#### **RESOLUTION XXI-2: Implementation of a Communication and Outreach Strategy**

**“Requests** the Secretariat to develop and implement, in consultation with the Communication and Outreach Committee, a communication and outreach strategy in line with UNESCO’s overall communication strategy:

- The target groups of this outreach endeavor are primarily stakeholders from governments,
- knowledge institutions, the private sector, NGOs and the general public with special emphasis on youth;
- The aim of this outreach endeavor is to increase public recognition, strengthen the engagement of IHP and other stakeholders through collaborative communication and enhance the outreach of IHP’s messages and their relevance to actual and mounting global challenges;
- The means to reach this aim should include inter alia the use of social media and a more accessible and user-oriented website about IHP and its strategy;”

#### **RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

6. The Secretariat continued the implementation of the Communication and Outreach Strategy as reported in IHP/IC-XXII/6 on Institutional developments at UNESCO, under sub-item 4.9.

#### **RESOLUTION XXI-3: Proposal for the Establishment of the World’s Large Rivers Initiative (WLRI)**

**“Requests** the IHP Secretariat to assist in the establishment and implementation of the Initiative and to report to the 22nd session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council the progress achieved in this regard;

**Decides** that the 23rd session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council shall review the performance of this Initiative and consider its integration in IHP’s workplan, beyond the aforesaid session”

## **RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

7. World's Large Rivers Initiative (WLRI) 1<sup>st</sup> Working Group Meeting was held in Vienna from 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The meeting discussed the knowledge base required for a holistic scientific assessment of the status of the WLRs and to promote their integrated and sustainable management. Participants were divided into 4 thematic group: Hydrology & Hydraulics; Sediment Transport & Morphodynamics; Water Quality & Ecology and River Management & Socioeconomics. The meeting nominated Mr. Helmut Habersack, UNESCO Chair on Integrated River Research and Management as the Coordinator for the WLRI. Thematic coordinators we also appointed, as follows: Mr. Francis Chiew, Hydrology & Hydraulics; Mr. Edgardo Latrubesse; Sediment Transport & Morphodynamics; Mr. Marnik Vanclooster, Water Quality and Ecology; and Ms. Luna Bharati, as River Management and Socio-Economics. The Second Working Group Meeting of WLRI is planned for 27 to 28 June 2016 in Vienna, Austria.

### **RESOLUTION XXI-4: Proposal for the Establishment of Water-Related Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO (Category 2)**

**“Requests** the assistance of the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the governing bodies of UNESCO toward the creation of the centres in conformity with the IHP strategy for UNESCO category 2 water-related centres and the Integrated Comprehensive Strategy for Category 2 Institutes and Centres (document 37 C/18 Part I and Annexes), as approved by the 37th session of the General Conference (37 C/Resolution 93)”

## **RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

8. The 21<sup>st</sup> session of the IHP Council endorsed the following proposals for category 2 water-related centres:

- the African Regional Centre for Ecohydrology (ARCE), Addis Ababa Ethiopia;
- the Central Laboratory for Environmental Monitoring (CLEQM), El-Qanater, Egypt;
- the Integrated and Multi-Disciplinary Water Resources Management Centre at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece;
- the Water Research Centre at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait City, Kuwait;
- the International Centre for the Integrated Management of Watershed and Bio-resources in Arid and Semi-Arid Regions, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran; and
- the Regional Water Research Centre (RWRC) at the COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Abbottabad, Pakistan.

9. The Secretariat undertook the required fact-finding missions to assess the feasibility of each centre. The feasibility studies found that the centres could make contributions to UNESCO and to IHP and that their establishment would be in line with the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres, under the auspices of UNESCO, as approved by the General Conference in 37 C/Resolution 93. It was also determined that each of the host governments demonstrated the commitment to support the proposed centre and the capacity to carry out the proposed activities.

10. The Director-General presented her report to the 197<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Board (September 2015) on the evaluation of the feasibility of establishing the proposed water-related Centres. The Executive Board endorsed all six centres and recommended that the General Conference (GC), at its 38<sup>th</sup> session (November 2015), approved the centres and authorized the Director-General to sign their corresponding agreements. The 38<sup>th</sup> GC approved the establishment of all six proposed centres and authorized the Director-General to sign their corresponding agreements. The IHP Secretariat has informed the centres of the General Conference's decisions.

**RESOLUTION XXI-5: Proposal for the Establishment of UNESCO-HIDROEX International Institute for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research as a UNESCO Category 1 Institute**

“After due consideration of the proposal, endorses the programmatic components related to the establishment of UNESCO-HIDROEX International Institute for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water, in the State of Minas Gerais, Federative Republic of Brazil, as a category 1 UNESCO Institute;

**Requests** the assistance of the UNESCO Water Family in working with the Government of Brazil and the UNESCO Secretariat in further defining the institutional components of the proposal and to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the governing bodies of UNESCO toward the creation of the Institute in conformity with principles and guidelines for the establishment and functioning of category 1 UNESCO institutes and centres (33 C/19)”

**RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

11. The Secretariat provided information on the procedure to set up a Category 1 Institute/Centre (document 33 C/19 on category 1 Institutes) to HidroEx for the proposed Centre. No further communication was received.

**RESOLUTION XXI-6: Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals**

“Invites the IHP Secretariat to cooperate in the framework of UN-Water with other relevant UN Organizations such as FAO, UNEP, UN-Habitat, WHO and WMO, with a view to maintain and further enhance cohesion and coherence with the UN System on the development of potential indicators and monitoring for the future SDG on water and sanitation;

**Requests** the IHP Secretariat to facilitate and support regional consultations of IHP National Committees on the role of water and its monitoring in the post-2015 SDG framework, with particular focus on water security”

**RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

12. Several activities were implemented during the time period of 2014-2015, by HQ, FO and UNESCO water family to facilitate and support the role of water and its monitoring in the post-2015 framework with particular focus on water security, some of which are presented below (more details can be consulted in SISTER: <http://sister.hq.int.unesco.org/>)

13. During the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) held in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, IHP in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) organized a working session on “Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)”, which helped introducing IWRM as an underlying factor for strengthening resilience from water related disasters.

14. A declaration was issued at the WWF7 (7th World Water Forum) in 2015 with the purpose of supporting the production of a SDG goal only dedicated to water on the 2030 Agenda. IHP, water-related Centres and chairs and the IHP National Committees were responsible for the organisation of 30 thematic sessions, 8 science and technology process sessions, 5 regional process sessions, 10 side events and 3 special sessions at the WWF7 in Korea on: (a) Enough Safe Water for All; (b) Adapting to Change: Managing Risk and Uncertainty for Resilience and Disaster Preparedness; (d) Ensuring Water Quality from Ridge to Reef; (e) SMART Implementation of IWRM; (f) Cooperation for Reducing Conflict and Improving Transboundary Water Management; (g) Water Cultures, Justice and Equity;

and, (g) Enhancing Education and Capacity Building. All these events contributed to strengthen the science-policy interface and to promote water security at local, national, regional and international levels. UNESCO-IHE and WWAP also contributed to these events.

15. In September 2015, heads of state from all around the world gathered in New York to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, an ambitious “plan of action for people, planet and prosperity,” comprised of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. The 2030 Agenda includes a dedicated goal on water and sanitation (SDG 6) that sets out to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Besides this goal, there are many other related to water, and notably Goal 11 target 5 refers to the impacts of water related disasters.

16. During the 21st COP, held in December 2015, in Paris, France, IHP organized 13 events with the participation of 25 C2C and chairs, where the 2030 agenda implementation was discussed.

17. IHP supported the overall process of establishing targets and indicators for the implementation and monitoring of SDG 6 on water and sanitation and developed a methodology on monitoring indicator 6.5.2 on International Cooperation on transboundary water resources along with UNECE. WWAP provides technical guidance to UN-Water on IWRM monitoring and disaggregation of SDG 6 indicators within the framework of GEMI (Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets) project. It needs to be noted that the International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change, a UNESCO’s Category 2 Centre, working with the water programs and network of UNEP, UNESCO-IHP and WMO, contributes to the agenda 2030 and SDG’s by establishing a water quality data base and developing global water quality products and indicators supporting decision-making for water management and policies.

18. A number of activities took place at regional level. In Africa for example, IHP was one of the co-organizers of the 5<sup>th</sup> Africa water week 2014 where various sessions were organized including a session on better measurement for better management under the sub-theme Water and Disaster Risk Management and a session on water quality issues. Similarly UNESCO IHP had an active role at the 1<sup>st</sup> Africa Water Forum held in June 2014 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

#### **RESOLUTION XXI-7: Monitoring of Water-Related Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 Agenda**

“**Requests** the IHP Secretariat to identify and develop scientifically sound indicators, and information systems that will support the implementation and monitoring of water-related goals and targets in the SDG framework”

#### **RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

19. UNESCO supported the overall process of establishing targets and indicators for the implementation and monitoring of SDG 6 on water and sanitation and developed a methodology on monitoring indicator 6.5.2 on International Cooperation on transboundary water resources along with UNECE. WWAP provides technical guidance to UN-Water on IWRM monitoring and disaggregation of SDG 6 indicators within the framework of GEMI (Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets) project. It needs to be noted that the International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change, a UNESCO’s Category 2 Centre, working with the water programs and network of UNEP, UNESCO-IHP and WMO, contributes to the agenda 2030 and SDG’s by establishing a water quality data base and developing global water quality products and indicators supporting decision-making for water management and policies.

20. In order to respond to the monitoring needs of SDG 6 relating to on water and sanitation, an Inter-Agency Initiative was established in 2014 under the UN-Water umbrella. The objective of the Initiative called 'Integrated Monitoring of Water and Sanitation Related SDG Targets' (GEMI), is to develop coherent methodologies for monitoring. The GEMI Steering Committee consists of seven United Nations Agencies working under the coordination of UN-WATER. UNESCO is one of the seven Steering Committee members of this Initiative, together with UNEP, UN-HABITAT, WHO, FAO, UNICEF and WMO.

21. Six Proof of Concept (PoC) countries have volunteered to test developed, by the aforementioned Agencies, methodologies to monitor targets 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 in order to fine tune them prior to a global roll out. Three inception meetings have been held thus far, in Dakar, Senegal (25-26 April 2016), Amman, Jordan (22-23 May) and Lima, Peru (30-31 May 2016) whereas a fourth one is taking place in a few days in Kampala, Uganda (15-16 June, 2016). UNESCO co-led along with UN HABITAT the inception workshop in Jordan, which successfully discussed the methodologies and prepared a roadmap / timetable for the way forward in testing them. UNESCO will further be the lead UN Agency in the GEMI inception meeting scheduled for September 2016 in the Netherlands.

#### **RESOLUTION XXI-8: Reviewing and Monitoring of IHP's Programmes**

"Invites the Working Group for the implementation of IHP-VIII to suggest a framework aimed at implementing roadmaps for programmatic activities, including recommendations for lead institutions, Chairs and centres which will be responsible for coordinating specific parts of IHP-VIII and present the proposed framework to the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the IHP Council"

#### **RESULTS / ACTIONS TAKEN**

22. At the 52<sup>nd</sup> IHP Bureau meeting was reported that IHP's cross-cutting (FRIEND and HELP) and associated (GRAPHIC, G-WADI, IFI, IDI, ISARM, MAR, JIIHP, PCCP, UWMP, WHYMAP and IIWQ) programmes were assigned to specific themes of IHP-VIII during the elaboration of 38 C/5. This option strengthens the linkages with IHP expected results and objectives with the C/4 and SDGs avoiding the propagation of workplan elements. Additionally, this structure can be used to inform periodic reviews of the Programmes. The suggestion for a framework aimed at implementing roadmaps would rely on availability of extrabudgetary resources.

23. At its 53<sup>rd</sup> session the Bureau sought an update on progress in the development of a framework (methodology) for the evaluation of IHP programmes and their actual evaluation, in view of its submission for consideration by the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the IHP Council. For the former the Secretariat requested the support of IOS and have developed a framework presented as reference document IHP/IGC-XXII/Ref. 4 for the approval of the Council. The actual evaluation of the programmes was not possible due to lack of human resources.