



International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

20th session of the Intergovernmental Council
Paris, 4 – 7 June 2012

FINAL REPORT

UNESCO, Paris 2012

(SC-2012/WS/5)

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OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 20th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 4 to 7 June 2012. Delegates from thirty-four of the thirty-six Member States that are members of the IHP Intergovernmental Council attended the session. Forty-nine delegations from Member States that are not members of the IHP Council, two United Nations organizations, ten intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and nine category 2 water-related centres were represented as observers. The list of participants is attached as [Annex II](#).

Report of the outgoing Chairperson

2. The outgoing Chairperson, Mr Soontak Lee, opened the session and welcomed the delegates. He thanked the members of the Bureau for their cooperation and solidarity, which had led to the accomplishment of the challenging tasks entrusted to them. He further thanked the Council, the Bureau, the Secretariat and the various field officers and implementing partners at national, regional, and global levels for their work and for sustaining IHP's leadership in freshwater. He expressed his appreciation to the Director-General of UNESCO as well as to the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences for their support in maintaining the capacity of IHP, despite the financial difficulties currently faced by the Organization. Mr Lee expressed his satisfaction with the substantial amount of cutting-edge scientific outputs and publications, such as "Co-engineering and Participatory Water Management" through Cambridge University Press, produced by IHP, which not only demonstrates its significant contribution to hydrological sciences and water resources management regionally and worldwide, but also reiterates IHP's position at the leading edge of water sciences. He also noted the expansion of the activities carried out by IHP initiatives and networks.

3. Mr Lee highlighted the key accomplishments of IHP over the past two years, noting his personal participation and contribution to many activities. He emphasized the expansion of the network of IHP water-related centres resulting from the approval by the 36th session of the General Conference of four new centres in Kazakhstan, Kenya, Nigeria and Sudan. He noted that the Bureau endorsed four new proposals for the establishment of category 2 centres in the Republic of Korea, Serbia, Sweden and Uruguay, of which centres in the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay had been discussed during an out-of-session Bureau meeting held in Marseille in March 2012.

4. Mr Lee reported on the Bureau's continual engagement with IHP as demonstrated by the series of out-of-session meetings, conference calls, and email exchanges. He emphasized that some of the most important tasks of the Bureau during this period had included the monitoring of the evaluation of the Sixth Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002-2007) and the planning for the Eighth Phase (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021). He noted that the Bureau was now closely following the implementation of the Seventh Phase (IHP-VII, 2008-2013) and the financial situation of the Programme. Mr Lee also underlined that the Bureau had written a letter expressing the Bureau's solidarity with the IHP National Committee of Japan in the aftermath of the devastating tsunami, as well as a letter of appeal to the Director-General requesting her to work with the Executive Board and General Conference of UNESCO to ensure appropriate financial resources and sufficient staff levels were maintained within IHP.

5. Noting that the formulation of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of IHP was one of the most critical tasks of the Bureau, Mr Lee described the Bureau's involvement in the assessment of the Member States' consultation, while providing recommendations that reflected the results of regional consultations to the IHP-VIII Task Force. He highlighted that these reviews and consultations resulted in the endorsement of the theme of "Water Security" for IHP-VIII. Mr Lee further noted that celebrations for the 40th anniversary of IHP would take place in two years and that during the past four decades a significant difference had been made by the Programme to improve societies and the lives of its people.

Summary of the opening statement of the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences

6. The Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, Ms Gretchen Kalonji, welcomed the delegates. Ms Kalonji highlighted the importance of water for sustainable development. Noting that the Rio+20 Summit will re-envision the roadmap to a sustainable green economy, she highlighted UNESCO's belief that education, science, technology, gender equality and water should all be integral elements of this vision.

7. Ms Kalonji noted that IHP-VIII will be the first eight-year phase of IHP (2014 to 2021). Noting the overarching focus on "Water security: responses to local, regional, and global challenges", she emphasized that IHP-VIII themes, focusing on water-related disasters, groundwater, water scarcity, water quality, water for human settlements, ecohydrology for a sustainable world, and water education, are all essential to water security. She noted that these themes reflected critical water-related priorities for the era beyond the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Their early identification and adoption by IHP is evidence that IHP remains a leader in water-related issues.

8. Ms Kalonji expressed her satisfaction with the work carried out by IHP, highlighting its role in assisting Member States in enhancing resilience to water-related disasters. Ms Kalonji expressed her gratitude to the Government of Japan and the Flemish Community for their support to IHP projects on floods and droughts in Pakistan, Namibia and the Horn of Africa. Ms Kalonji acknowledged the concerns of the Member States about the possible effects of the current financial crisis on the Programme and assured her commitment to its success and sustainability.

ELECTION OF THE INCOMING CHAIRPERSON

9. The delegate of the Netherlands nominated Mr Johannes Cullmann (Germany, Group I) as Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the science of hydrology. A majority of the members of the Council seconded Mr Cullmann's nomination and no other candidate was proposed. Mr Cullmann was then unanimously elected as the new Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council.

10. The elected Chairperson took the floor to accept his nomination and election and thanked the Council members for their vote of confidence. Mr Cullmann assured the Council that he would do his utmost to ensure the success of the IHP programme. He further emphasized that the IHP is a collective programme, which does not depend on one person but rather is characterized by a spirit of cooperation and relies on the contribution of all its members.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

11. The Council elected the following Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Jovan Despotovic (Serbia, Group II), Mr Polioptro F. Martinez Austria (Mexico, Group III), Mr Juma Chrispine Omondi (Kenya, Group Va) and Mr Mohamed Elhassan Eltayeb Elhag (Sudan, Group Vb). A large majority of delegates seconded the nominations of each Vice-Chairperson, who were all elected unanimously.

12. The Council noted that, in conformity with its Statutes, the IHP Bureau is composed of the elected Chairperson, four newly elected Vice-Chairpersons and the outgoing Chairperson, Mr. Soontak Lee (Republic of Korea, Group IV) as ex-officio member.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

13. The Council adopted the agenda for its 20th session, which is reproduced in [Annex I](#) of this report. The documents made available for the session are listed in [Annex III](#).

DETERMINATION OF THE COUNCIL'S METHOD OF WORK

14. The Council took note of the Rules of Procedure of the IHP Intergovernmental Council and of the guidelines and admissibility revisions on the submission of Draft Resolutions as outlined in the "Admissibility criteria, guidelines and rules of procedure for the preparation and consideration of Draft Resolutions (DRs) at the Intergovernmental Council of IHP (revised version, 5 June 2009)", as recommended by the 43rd session of the IHP Bureau (IHP/Bur-XLIII/3, Annex IV).

15. The Council elected the following members to the Resolutions Drafting Committee: Mr Matthew Carl Larsen (USA, Group I), Mr Maciej Zalewski (Poland, Group II), Mr Evens Emmanuel (Haiti, Group III), Mr Mohmmadreza Attarzadeh (Iran, Group IV), Mr Olusanjo A. Bamgboye (Nigeria, Group Va) and Mr Mohamed Al-Kharbi (Yemen, Group Vb). The Committee elected Mr Larsen to serve as its Chairperson.

16. The Council elected three new members to the Finance Committee: Mr Michael van der Valk (Netherlands, Region I), Mr Muhammad Al-Shatti (Kuwait, Region Vb) and Mr Kaoru Takara (Japan, Region IV). The Council also noted the continued membership of Ms Olga Gorelits (Russia, Group II), Mr Nilo Dytz Filho, replacing Mr Alexandre Brasil da Silva (Brazil, Group III) and Mr Mbangiseni P. Nephumbada (South Africa, Group Va). The Committee elected Mr Dytz Filho to serve as its Chairperson.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AT UNESCO

Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and the Division of Water Sciences following the 36th session of the General Conference and the 185th to the 189th sessions of the Executive Board, including the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5): Issues, Challenges and Opportunities

17. Council members took note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding institutional developments and the decisions of the 185th to the 189th sessions of the Executive Board and the 36th session of the UNESCO General Conference, having particular importance to IHP.

Evaluation of the Sixth Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002 – 2007)

18. The Secretariat reported on the process undertaken to evaluate the Sixth Phase of IHP with particular reference to the road map from the 18th session of the IHP Council in 2008 and following steps up to May 2012 when the evaluation report was submitted by the Secretariat to the Internal Oversight Service (IOS).

19. Mr Dipak Gyawali, chairperson of the IHP-VI evaluation team stressed the fact that the evaluation had been initiated once IHP-VII had already passed the half-way mark. The review looked at IHP-VI through seven perspectives of Relevance, Impact, 'Additionality', Efficiency, Sustainability, Coherence and Transparency, taking into consideration constraints in terms of resources and time. He summarized five general lessons: a) maintenance of the high-brand value of the programme; b) strengthening of IHP National Committees; c) inter-disciplinarity both in structure and expertise, from IHP Secretariat to National Committees; d) improved logical frame and synthesizing procedures; and e) enhancement of IHP's unique niche as the only programme able to combine science diplomacy and water management.

20. The Council encouraged the establishment of benchmarks and performance indicators for the implementation of IHP-VIII taking into account the recommendations. The representative of IOS informed the Council that IOS has requested a management response and an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the evaluation report, to be submitted by mid-June 2012.

IHP-related extrabudgetary activities

21. The Secretariat reported on the extrabudgetary activities. The members of the Council expressed appreciation for the current portfolio and the success in raising extrabudgetary funding.

22. The Council congratulated IHP on the activities conducted in Pakistan during the floods that devastated the country in 2010.

23. Delegates commented on the close cooperation established with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and made an appeal to all those IHP Council members who are also members of the GEF Council to support UNESCO's application to become a GEF agency. Delegates made mention of the GEF Groundwater Governance Project and the Regional Consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in Montevideo (April 2012), underlining this opportunity for the LAC region to create an effective framework to better manage its groundwater resources and move towards Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

24. The delegate of Kenya highlighted the importance of the extrabudgetary funds mobilized by IHP for the Groundwater Resources Investigation for Drought Mitigation in Africa Programme (GRIDMAP) beginning in the Horn of Africa (Intergovernmental Authority on Development – IGAD region).

25. The Council noted with appreciation the major donors for IHP extrabudgetary funding during the last biennium which include the Flemish Community, Germany, Italy, Japan and Spain. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed its willingness to support the work in the Horn of Africa within the framework of the International Drought Initiative (IDI).

Report of the IHP Finance Committee

26. The IHP Finance Committee reported on the current funding shortfall, which poses a major challenge to the delivery of IHP-VII activities planned for the 2012-2013 biennium. Several Member States highlighted the key role of IHP in delivering freshwater programmes to secure this key resource for human health, prosperity and security and emphasized that it should be maintained as a priority area by UNESCO. The delegates stressed the need to work closely with the Secretariat to find new ways to finance IHP activities. Mechanisms, such as a fund-raising committee with a four-year mandate, were proposed to raise extrabudgetary resources. The role of field offices in implementing IHP programmes was highlighted and a request was made to find funding mechanisms specific to the regions. The IHP Council took note of the Finance Committee report and, while acknowledging the financial challenges UNESCO is currently facing, proposed a resolution to invite the Executive Board to urgently look into appropriate staffing levels, regular programme funds and extrabudgetary mechanisms to support IHP. The Council considered the proposal and approved [Resolution XX-1](#) (see [Annex IV – Adopted Resolutions](#)).

Report of the IHP Publication and Communication Committee

27. The Council was informed of recent developments on publication and communication-related issues. The Secretariat and the Chairperson of the *ad hoc* Publication and Communication Committee (PCC) presented the Committee's report, stressing the need to develop strategies and procedures to raise the profile of the Programme. It was highlighted that the Committee had not been able to meet since it had been announced at the end of the last IHP Council session in 2010. The Secretariat informed the Council of the difficulties raised due to the current financial situation at UNESCO, which had resulted in the introduction of new internal procedures for publications in UNESCO. The Chairperson of the PCC and several delegates expressed their support for the continuation of the PCC to accomplish its envisaged tasks established during the 19th session of

the IHP Council. The IHP Council decided to continue the work of the PCC and requested nominations from the Member States for this Committee.

28. The Council elected the following members to the IHP Publication and Communication Committee: Mr Michael van der Valk (Netherlands, Group I), Ms Jeanna Balonishnikova (Russian Federation, Group II), Mr Jorge Rucks (Uruguay, Group III), Mr Trevor Daniell (Australia, Group IV), Mr Philip Odida (Uganda, Group Va) and Mr Abdalla Abdelsalam Ahmed (Sudan, Group Vb). The Committee elected Mr van der Valk as its Chairperson.

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE 19TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF IHP

29. The Secretariat informed the Council on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the 19th session of the IHP Council. The Council took note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the implementation of the resolutions and congratulated it on the accomplishments made thus far. With regard to Resolution XIX-5, and in reference to the support from the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences to the *Ius Promovendi* of UNESCO-IHE, as stated in document IHP/IC-XX/Inf.3, the representative of the Netherlands noted that, while his country is looking into this as a possibility, the sentence does not fully reflect the current state of affairs, as promotion rights are still exclusive to universities. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE supported this statement, noting that the language of the document had inadvertently been changed during its preparation.

STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE EIGHTH PHASE OF IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014 – 2021)

30. The Secretariat reported on the thorough process established by the IHP Council in the preparation of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021). This had involved detailed consultations with Member States, in particular via IHP National Committees, the IHP Intergovernmental Council and the IHP Bureau. Ms Maria Donoso, coordinator of the Strategic Plan Task Force, presented the draft Strategic Plan for IHP-VIII to the Council.

31. Council members congratulated the Task Force on its excellent work in the preparation of the draft Strategic Plan and expressed their gratitude for the support provided by the Bureau and the IHP Secretariat during the drafting process. Member States stressed that the major water-related issues and priorities had been covered in the document, which presents water security as the overarching theme. However, some Member States indicated areas in the Strategic Plan that require further attention. These include the water-energy nexus, water harvesting, droughts, sedimentation, water education in schools, the concept of living with floods, remote sensing, vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies for climate change.

32. Delegates also noted the need for greater awareness raising within the general public, in particular amongst young people. Similar concerns were raised regarding issues related to water and society including the economy, irrigation and rural water. Finally, Member States also noted the following as areas requiring further attention: water cooperation within the specific context of climate change, the sharing of data, transboundary waters, water and peace, the development of hydrological sciences, interactions with the social sciences, training of specialists, as well as water quality and pollution. The last point was emphasized with special focus on the African region. As follow up to the discussion, the Council later approved [Resolution XX-2](#), [Resolution XX-3](#) and [Resolution XX-4](#) to address these areas of concern.

33. The need to reinforce the synergies between different topics was also raised by several Member States, with particular reference to issues pertaining to knowledge management, legal aspects and transboundary issues. The need for a specific goal on adaptation to climate change under Focal Area 1.1 was raised. It was noted that linkages between IHP and other programmes of

the Natural Sciences Sector, such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, need to be highlighted in the Strategic Plan. Member States also emphasized that cooperation between countries, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, with special reference to regional bodies, is essential for managing water resources. Furthermore, communicating knowledge about water resources to decision-makers and the general public should be emphasized.

34. The Council unanimously endorsed the Strategic Plan for IHP-VIII, and requested the Secretariat to incorporate the points raised in the previous paragraph. In this regard, the Council adopted [Resolution XX-5](#).

35. The Chairperson of the IHP Council highlighted the importance of the development of an effective implementation plan for IHP-VIII. He appealed for greater participation from Member States, in particular through the IHP National Committees, category 2 centres and water-related UNESCO Chairs. The Chairperson noted the difficult situation currently being faced by the Secretariat with regard to finances and human resources, which may affect the implementation of such an ambitious strategic plan. Following the remark of the Chairperson, numerous Member States agreed on the importance of an implementation plan that is prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with Member States. Given the situation regarding finances and human resources, some Member States stressed that the implementation plan needs to define niche areas in order to further differentiate the programme delivery from those of other United Nations bodies. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE congratulated IHP and the Task Force on the draft Strategic Plan and expressed the strong support of the Institute to IHP-VIII, particularly to its theme on water education and to its work on transboundary waters, an area where UNESCO-IHE is working jointly with IHP.

36. The Council established a working group with the aims of identifying a suitable implementation strategy based on Member States' inputs and catalyzing the participation of Member States in the development of the implementation plan for IHP-VIII. The Chairperson also called on Member States to take an active leading role in the thematic areas which are of relevance to their respective State. Several Member States supported this proposal and offered to take an active part in the working group on the implementation of IHP-VIII through their IHP National Committees, category 2 centres and UNESCO Chairs. The Chairperson clarified that the working group would not attempt micromanagement. It was also noted that countries may have specific needs and this must be taken into consideration in the implementation plan. The representatives of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and several observers recognized the importance of the strategic document and expressed their commitment to its implementation. The Chairperson requested Member States to communicate their interest through the Secretary of IHP in participating in the implementation working group.

UNESCO'S WATER-RELATED INSTITUTE AND CENTRES (CATEGORY 1 AND CATEGORY 2)

Proposed category 2 water-related centres

37. The Secretariat gave brief summaries of three category 2 centres proposed by the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay. These had been examined by the Bureau during its out-of-session meeting in Marseille in March 2012 and subsequently endorsed at its 47th session in June 2012. Noting that these proposals were prepared in accordance with the IHP strategy for category 1 and category 2 water-related centres (IHP/Bur-XL/8 rev. Consolidated) and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (35 C/22), the Council unanimously endorsed the following three proposed centres: International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management at the K-water Institute, Republic of Korea; the International Centre for Water Cooperation, in Sweden; and the Regional Centre on Groundwater Management, in Uruguay. In this regard, the Council approved [Resolution XX-6](#).

38. With respect to the proposed centre on Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change, in Serbia, the Secretariat explained that the 36th session of the General Conference, through 36 C/Resolution 29, had taken note of the endorsement by the 46th session of the IHP Bureau and requested that the IHP Council, at its 20th session, carry out a comprehensive review for endorsement to the Executive Board for its decision on behalf of the General Conference. Some delegates expressed their concern regarding the unusual procedure followed by this proposed centre and stressed the need for all proposed centres to follow the IHP strategy for category 1 and category 2 water-related centres. It was also emphasized that without compelling reason, such practice should be avoided. The IHP Council adopted **Resolution XX-7** endorsing the centre to the 190th session of the Executive Board for its decision, with the requirement that the Council receive at its 21st session a comprehensive report on the progress of the centre.

Recent developments on category 2 water-related centres

39. The IHP Secretariat reported on the establishment of the following four category 2 water-related centres, subsequent to their approval at the 36th session of the UNESCO General Conference: Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), Nigeria, (36 C/Resolution 23, the agreement was signed on 12 March 2012); Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research for East Africa, Kenya (36 C/Resolution 24); Regional Centre on Capacity Development and Research in Water Harvesting, Sudan (36 C/Resolution 28); and Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre, Republic of Kazakhstan (36 C/Resolution 22, the agreement was signed on 29 May 2012). The Secretariat also reported on the review and evaluation of the following centres: International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures (ICQHS), Islamic Republic of Iran; International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM), Japan; IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, Scotland, UK; and International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES), China. The Secretariat noted that there may be a need for the governing bodies of UNESCO to grant a transition period up to December 2014, to allow existing water centres whose agreements have expired to carry out formal evaluations and to prepare new agreements covering the new eight-year duration of the Medium-Term Strategy. In this regard, the Council adopted **Resolution XX-8**.

40. The Council noted with satisfaction the strong contributions of the network of category 2 water-related centres towards the effective implementation of the IHP Strategic Plan in the regions and the need to strengthen networking between the centres. The Council was briefed on the key recommendations of the meeting on water-related centres, held during the current session of the Council, which read as follows: to hold global and regional networking meetings for centres; and to develop digital communication mechanisms between centres. UNESCO-IHE offered to hold a meeting for water-related centres, in order to contribute collectively to the development of the implementation plan for IHP-VIII. The Council requested the Secretariat to develop a database for exchanges between the centres. The Council also requested that the Secretariat promote networking, including in-depth meetings between centres. The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran renewed the offer from his government to host a meeting for this purpose.

UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (category 1)

41. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE reported on recent developments at the Institute and on its collaboration with IHP. The delegate of the Netherlands noted that his country holds UNESCO-IHE and its staff in high regard. The Council has expressed its support to the concept of a UNESCO-IHE global campus in order to increase efficiency and the geographic coverage of water education programmes and took note of the relevant plans of the Governing Board of the Institute. Several delegates of LAC Member States expressed their support for the establishment of a UNESCO-IHE global campus, and emphasized the need for courses to be delivered in Spanish and Portuguese, as well as a focus on the needs of the LAC region. Other Council members noted that links with

IHP-VIII should be reinforced and enquired on the process to establish regional institutes as part of the global campus. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE thanked the Council for its strong support for the global campus and noted that the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE recommended an organic approach, which requires strong government support. If the Executive Board endorses the concept of a global campus, a call for proposals will be announced and the process will be similar to that for the establishment of category 1 institutes. The Council noted with appreciation the intention expressed by the observer of the Republic of South Africa regarding the establishment of a category 1 institute in South Africa connected with the UNESCO-IHE global campus.

Nominations for office bearers in various boards of category 1 and category 2 centres

42. Following the review by the IHP Bureau of the nominations received from Member States for office bearers for the Advisory and Governing Boards of the category 1 institute and three category 2 centres, as well as the regional consultations corresponding to the electoral groups where such appointments were necessary, the Council unanimously designated the IHP representatives as follows:

- to the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE:
 - Region II: Ms Iwona Wagner (Poland)
 - Region III: Mr Benedito Braga (Brazil)
 - Region Va: Mr Gabriel Ebosele Oteze (Nigeria)

- to the Governing Board of the HidroEx International Centre for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water:
 - Region I: Mr Luis Chicharo (Portugal)
 - Region III: Mr Francisco Rodriguez (Dominican Republic)
 - Region Va: Mr Roda Nuvunga Luis (Mozambique)

- to the Governing Board of the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), in Nigeria, three IHP representatives of Member States of UNESCO from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS):
 - Mr Kwabena Kankam-Yeboah (Ghana)
 - Mr Patrice Jourda (Côte d'Ivoire)
 - Mr Michel Papaoba Sedogo (Burkina Faso), to alternate with a representative from Senegal after two years.

43. The Secretariat noted that nominations for the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) have not yet been processed. This was on the request of the Government of Japan as the centre is currently renewing its agreement.

REVIEW OF IHP-VII ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO

Major achievements of IHP-VII projects since the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council

44. The Secretariat informed the IHP Council on progress and results during the implementation of IHP-VII since the 19th session of the Council, highlighting major achievements and activities. Several Member States praised the work of the Secretariat for the implementation of IHP and for the succinct presentation format adopted for the report. Some delegates highlighted the need for IHP National Committees to enhance their involvement with the Programme and to submit their reports to the Council. Several delegations stressed the relevance of water education for children and youth. In response to a question on how the impact of IHP training programmes was evaluated, the Secretariat replied that multiple approaches are used depending on the nature of the programme, ranging from questionnaires to detailed evaluations published in academic journals. It was also noted that in-depth evaluation of educational programmes was a complex

process and that IHP had collaborated with the work of the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005-2014) Secretariat on similar issues. The delegate of Japan highlighted the upcoming 22nd IHP Training Course in Nagoya. The Vice-Chair from Region Va emphasized the importance of strengthening IHP activities on water quality in Africa, noting the outcomes of the UNESCO workshop "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa". The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran underlined the need to pay attention to issues related to women and youth in the context of water management and water education. One delegate noted the need for specific performance indicators when evaluating IHP-VIII activities. The delegate of Poland informed the Council about the European Regional Centre for Echohydrology (ERCE) cooperation with Ethiopia to establish a category 2 centre and about related publications. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE noted the close collaboration between the Institute and IHP and appealed to Member States to contribute to the IHP grants programme.

Cooperation with other UNESCO environmental programmes

45. The Secretariat updated the Council on specific activities of cooperation with other UNESCO environmental programmes as well as activities involving intersectoral cooperation. Representatives of MAB, IOC and the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) gave brief outlines of their cooperation with IHP. Several delegates highlighted joint IHP and MAB activities undertaken in their respective Member States.

IHP contribution to the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

46. The Secretariat reported on the status of the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and IHP's contribution. The WWAP Coordinator presented a summary of the key elements of the fourth World Water Development Report (WWDR4). The delegate of Japan highlighted the important contributions made to WWAP.

IHP involvement in the 6th World Water Forum

47. The Secretariat reported on the involvement of IHP in the 6th World Water Forum (Marseille, March 2012), which included significant contributions to the promotion of the Programme and dissemination of results of IHP activities. The Council commended the Secretariat for its effective engagement in the preparation of and successful participation in the Forum. Council members encouraged the Secretariat to continue playing an active role in the 7th World Water Forum, to be held in the Republic of Korea in 2015.

RELATIONS WITH UNITED NATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

48. The Secretariat reported on its cooperation with the UN System on freshwater issues. This included reports on cooperation with UN-Water at the international level and in Africa, as well as on bilateral cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations University (UNU). The representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) informed the Council of its mandate related to the promotion of innovation and intellectual property. She highlighted that WIPO was interested in developing cooperation with IHP on capacity-building and technical assistance. The representative of the WMO informed the Council on its water-related activities, in particular those where it cooperates with UNESCO, including the International Flood Initiative (IFI), drought management, the Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW), the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) and the Hydrological Cycle Observing System (HYCOS). He highlighted the need for synergy and alignment between IHP-VIII and WMO plans and reiterated the readiness of WMO to strengthen the cooperation between the two organizations. The delegate

of the Russian Federation drew attention to the need for closer coordination between IHP and WMO, given that they both deal with parallel issues.

Cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

49. The Secretariat reported on cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The representative of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) briefed the Council on recent joint activities and highlighted areas for the potential strengthening of cooperation, such as the area of water scarcity under climate change and variability. The representative of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) highlighted that IHP's work on transboundary water management, training programmes for technical experts, and the social dimension of water, as well as the other themes of IHP-VIII, are all highly relevant to the organization and affirmed the interest of the Authority in contributing towards the implementation of IHP-VIII. The representative of the Ramsar Convention expressed the Convention's interest in potential cooperation with IHP, for example through the Ecohydrology Programme (EHP), and indicated the readiness of the Convention to strengthen such cooperation. Representatives of non-governmental organizations, the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), informed the Council of their respective cooperation with IHP, reaffirming this cooperation.

IHP's role in Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

50. The Secretariat informed the Council of IHP's involvement in the preparatory processes for Rio+20 and presented the water-related events in which UNESCO is involved before and during the Conference. The observer from Brazil presented additional information regarding an IHP event for the IHP National Committees and Focal Points of LAC in Rio+20, to be chaired by the IHP National Committee of Brazil. Several delegates expressed satisfaction with the IHP involvement in the preparation for Rio+20. The delegate of Japan pledged his country's support to the process and confirmed Japan's involvement in the organization of a side event. The delegate of Cuba underlined the importance of raising the attention of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to water as a critical resource.

IHP's role in the 2013 International Year of Water Cooperation

51. The Secretariat reported that the UNGA declared 2013 as the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation (A/RES/65/154) and that UNESCO had been appointed by UN-Water to lead the preparations for this International Year, in cooperation with UNECE and with the support of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC). The Council took note with satisfaction of the proposal by the delegate of the Netherlands to host official celebrations for World Water Day 2013. The delegate of Sudan, supported by Yemen, suggested organizing a conference on water cooperation in the Arab region during the International Year.

IHP's role in the International Decade for Action – Water for Life (2005-2015)

52. The Council took note of collaboration between IHP, UNW-DPC and UNW-DPAC in the context of the International Decade of Action - Water for Life (2005-2015).

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF IHP IN UNESCO

53. In conjunction with the preparation for the 40th anniversary of IHP, the Secretary recalled that water studies in UNESCO began in 1948 but were consolidated in 1956, with the arid zone project, which was duly followed by the International Hydrological Decade between 1965 and 1974. It was noted that IHP began its work in 1975, with the First Phase (1975-1980) of the Programme. The Chairperson of the Council encouraged all Member States to make efforts to try and secure funds for initiatives in the near future and asked the Secretariat to possibly coordinate these ideas.

OTHER MATTERS

54. The Council took note of the World Large Rivers Initiative, proposed by the observer from Austria. The concept of the initiative received support from some Council members, who noted that issues related to large rivers are of importance to their respective countries and regions. Several Council members expressed interest in the initiative but also expressed reservations related to potential regulatory activities, and requested a clear proposal document. The Council asked the delegation of Austria to work with the Secretariat and the Bureau towards the establishment of a task force to further refine the initiative to better align it with the priorities of IHP. The Council encouraged the submission of a full proposal for consideration by the Bureau and subsequently by the 21st session of the Council. Members of the Council stressed that there were elements of the initiative that could be incorporated into the implementation of IHP-VII and IHP-VIII and that some amount of collaboration could already begin to take place within this context.

55. The Chairperson of the IHP Finance Committee reported on the drastic reduction in the budget for activities. The Committee proposed that an appeal be made to reinstate, in the short-term, the IHP budget as foreseen in document 36 C/5. The Committee stressed the need for all members to abide by their regular contribution obligations to UNESCO. The Committee invited the members to contribute with extrabudgetary funds to IHP activities in line with the programme priorities. The Committee recommended an enhanced involvement of the UNESCO Water Family and other partners, including the private sector, in finding ways to provide the Programme with the appropriate means. The Committee also proposed that the Council mandate the Committee to develop a proposal for the establishment of a permanent committee to raise and mobilize resources for IHP. The Council agreed to mandate the Committee to develop such a proposal and submit it to the IHP Bureau.

56. The IHP Publication and Communication Committee reported on the need to develop a dynamic strategy involving the use of social media tools. He emphasized the importance of appropriate language to appeal to a younger demographic audience. It was stated that there was a need to learn from the approach being adopted by the water-related centres, in particular the category 2 centre in Dundee. As language has previously been a barrier, he appealed to Member States to contribute towards the translation of IHP products. It was suggested that a communication strategy for IHP should be developed.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

57. The Council reviewed and adopted the report of the meeting, as amended.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

58. Several delegates expressed their satisfaction for the work accomplished at this session of the Council. The Chair agreed and thanked the members of the Council, observers, the interpreters and the Secretariat for a job well done. He encouraged all Member States of IHP to contribute to both the formulation of the implementation plan for IHP-VIII and to the activities of the

ongoing phase of the Programme. Several delegates agreed with the Chair and congratulated him for a most efficient session of the Council.

59. The Secretary of IHP thanked the Council and Bureau for their support as well as countries that provided support to side events. He also highlighted the dedicated work of members of the Secretariat and assured the Council of their commitment to the success of IHP.

60. The 20th session of the IHP Council was closed at 16:00 hours on 7 June 2012.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

1. Opening of the session
 - 1.1 Report of the outgoing Chairperson
 - 1.2 Address by the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences of UNESCO
2. Election of the incoming Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons
3. Adoption of the agenda and determination of the Council's method of work
4. Institutional developments at UNESCO
 - 4.1 Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and the Division of Water Sciences following the 36th session of the General Conference and the 185th to the 189th sessions of the Executive Board, including the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5): Issues, Challenges and Opportunities
 - 4.2 Evaluation of the Sixth Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002 – 2007)
 - 4.3 IHP-related extrabudgetary activities
 - 4.4 Report of the IHP Finance Committee
 - 4.5 Report of the IHP Publication and Communication Committee
5. Report on the implementation of the resolutions and decisions adopted at the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council
6. Strategic Plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014 – 2021)
7. UNESCO's water-related institute and centres (category 1 and category 2)
 - 7.1 Proposed category 2 water-related centres
 - 7.2 Recent developments on category 2 water-related centres
 - 7.3 UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (category 1)
 - 7.4 Nominations for office bearers in various boards of category 1 and category 2 centres
8. Review of IHP-VII activities and related activities of UNESCO
 - 8.1 Major Achievements of IHP-VII projects since the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council
 - 8.2 Cooperation with other UNESCO environmental programmes
 - 8.3 IHP contribution to the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)
 - 8.4 IHP involvement in the 6th World Water Forum
9. Relations with United Nations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations
 - 9.1 Cooperation with UN System on freshwater issues
 - 9.2 Cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations
 - 9.3 IHP's role in Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
 - 9.4 IHP role in the 2013 International Year of Water Cooperation
 - 9.5 IHP's role in the International Decade for Action – Water for Life (2005-2015)

10. 40th anniversary of IHP in UNESCO
11. Other matters
12. Adoption of the report
13. Closure of the session

ANNEX II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**I. MEMBER STATES, MEMBERS OF THE
IHP INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL**

Australia

Head of Delegation

Mr Trevor Maurice Daniell
Associate Professor, School of Civil Environmental
and Mining Engineering
Faculty of Engineering, Computer and
Mathematical Sciences, University of Adelaide
Adelaide, South Australia 5005
Tel: +61 88 303 5454
Fax: +61 88 303 4359
Email: trevord@civeng.adelaide.edu.au

Member

Ms Anne Siwicki
Policy Officer, Australian Permanent Delegation to
UNESCO
4 rue Jean Rey, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 40 59 33 44
Fax: +33 1 40 59 33 53
Email: anne.siwicki@dfat.gov.au

Azerbaijan

Mr Rza Mahmudov
Acting Director, National Hydrometeorological
Department
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
50 Heydar Aliyev Avenue
AZ 1154 Baku
Tel: +994 12 566 50 34
Fax: +994 12 566 50 34
Email: rza_mahmudov@rambler.ru

Chile

Mr Guillermo Madariaga Meza
Deputy Director, Water General Directorate
Morande 59 piso 8
Santiago
Tel: +56 2 449 3752
Fax: +56 2 449 3816
Email: guillermo.madariaga@mop.gov.cl

Côte d'Ivoire

Mr Jourda Jean Patrice Roger
Professor, Université de Cocody
22 BP 582, Abidjan 22
Tel: +337 62 21 16 44
Email: jourda_patrice@yahoo.fr

Cuba

Mr Jorge Mario Garcia Fernandez
Chair of the IHP National Committee of Cuba
Director of Watershed, National Institute of Water
Resources
Humboldt No 106 esq a P Vedado
Plaza de la Revolución
La Habana
Tel: +53 7 386 34 49
Fax: +53 7 836 44 71
Email: jorgem@hidro.cu

Dominican Republic

Head of Delegation

Mr Francisco T. Rodríguez
Executive Director of National Institute of Hydraulic
Resources of Dominican Republic (INDRHI)
Av. Juan de Dios Ventura Simo Eso Av. E. Jimenez
Moya Centro de Los Heroes, Santo Domingo
Tel: +809 532 3271 Ext. 3273
Email: ftrodriguez@codetel.net

Members

Mr José Raúl Perez Durán
Planning Manager, National Institute of Hydraulic
Resources (INDRHI)
Av. Juan de Dios Ventura Simo Eso Av. E. Jimenez
Moya Centro de Los Heroes, Santo Domingo
Tel: +809 532 3271 Ext. 3201
Email: jraulperezd@yahoo.com

Ms Ana Lisa Mena
Adviser, National Institute of Hydraulic Resources
of Dominican Republic (INDRHI)
Av. Juan de Dios Ventura Simo Eso Av. Jimenez
Moya Centro de Los Heroes, Santo Domingo
Tel: +809 532 3271 Ext. 3273
Email: ftrodriguez@codetel.net.do

Ms Elsa Dominguez Brito
Minister Counsellor (Education, Natural Sciences,
Communication), Permanent Delegation of the
Dominican Republic to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 27 08
Fax: +33 1 42 73 24 66
Email: e.dominguez-brito.do@unesco-
delegations.org
Email2: dl.dominican-republic@unesco-
delegations.org

Germany

Head of Delegation

Ms Martina Nibbeling-Wrießnig
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Germany to
UNESCO
Embassy of Germany
13/15 avenue Franklin D. Roosevelt
75008 Paris
Tel: + 33 1 53 83 46 63
Fax: + 33 1 53 83 46 67
Email: info@unesco.diplo.de
Web: www.unesco.diplo.de

Members

Mr Reinhard Hassenpflug
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Germany to UNESCO
13/15 Avenue Franklin Roosevelt
75008 Paris
Tel: + 33 1 53 83 46 61
Fax: + 33 1 53 83 46 67
Email: info@unesco.diplo.de
Web: www.unesco.diplo.de

Mr Thomas Vetter
German Foreign Office
Werderscher Markt 1
10117 Berlin
Tel: +49 30 5000 7437
Email: 404-ext-ihp@auswaertiges-amt.de

Mr Johannes Cullmann
Director of German National Commission's
Secretariat for UNESCO IHP
IHP/HWRP – Secretariat
Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG)
Am Mainzer Tor 1
56068 Koblenz
Tel: + 49 261 13 06 53 13
Fax: + 49 261 13 06 54 22
Email: cullmann@bafg.de

Ms Franziska Lotz
Permanent Delegation of Germany to UNESCO
13/15 avenue Franklin Roosevelt
75008 Paris
Tel: +33 1 53 83 46 29
Fax: +33 1 53 83 46 67
Email: info@unesco.diplo.de
Web: www.unesco.diplo.de

Ms Nicola Fohrer
CAU Kiel
Orshausenstr 75
24098 Kiel
Tel: +49 431 880 4030
Fax: +49 431 880 4607
Email: nfohrer@hydrology.uni-kiel.de

Haiti

Head of Delegation

Mr Evens Emmanuel
Professor, Quisqueya University
Avenue Jean Paul II
Haut de Turgeau BP 796 Port-au-Prince
Tel: +509 3423 4269
Tel2: +509 3718 4833
Tel3: +509 3401 2335
Email: evens.emmanuel@gmail.com

Member

Mr Kerby Lacarrière
Minister Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Haiti
to UNESCO
35 avenue Villiers, 75017 Paris
Tel: +33 1 42 12 70 53
Fax: +33 1 42 12 82 38
Email: delehaitiunesco@wanadoo.fr

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Head of Delegation

Mr Mohmmadreza Attarzadeh
Deputy Minister of Energy in Water and
Wastewater Affairs
Niayesh Highway Kordistan Cross Road
Ministry of Energy Headquarter
1996833611 Tehran
Tel: + 98 21 81606300
Fax: + 98 21 81606304
Email: attarzadeh@moe.org.ir

Members

Mr Homayoun Motiee
Director of Regional Centre on Urban Water
Management (RCUWM) Tehran
No. 1 Shahrsaz Alley
Kargozar St. Dastgerdi Ave. Tehran
Tel: +98 21 22911027
Email: motiee@rcuwm.org.ir

Mr Sattar Mahmoudi
Advisor to the Minister of Energy
Niayesh Highway Kordistan Cross Road
Ministry of Energy Headquarter
1996833611 Tehran
Tel: +98 21 81606635
Fax: +98 21 81606304
Email: satarmahmoudi@yahoo.com

Mr Ali Asghar Semsar Yazdi
Director, International Centre on Qanats and
Historic Hydraulic Structures (ICQHS)
PO Box: 89165/1553
Yazd
Tel: +98 351 8258393
Fax: +98 351 8241690
Email: semsar@icqhs.org
Email2: icqhs@yahoo.com

Italy

Head of Delegation

Mr Lucio Ubertini
Chair of the IHP National Committee for Italy
Sapienza Università di Roma
Centro H2CU – Via Eudossiana
18 00184 Roma
Tel: +39 34 80 82 62 00
Email: lucio.ubertini@uniroma1.it

Members

Mr Salvatore Grimaldi
Associate Professor, University of Tuscia
Department GEMINI
Via S. Camillo De Lellis 01100 Viterbo
Tel: +39 32 04 27 1486
Fax: +39 71 63 57 453
Email: salvatore.grimaldi@unitus.it

Mr Severo Mastronardi
Permanent Delegation of Italy to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 31 42
Fax: +33 1 45 66 41 78
Email: s.mastronardi.it@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Luigi Natale
Professor, University of Pavia
Department of Hydraulic and Environmental
Engineering
Tel: +39 0382 985315
Fax: +39 0382 985589
Email: lnatale@unipv.it

Japan

Head of Delegation

Mr Kaoru Takara
Chair of the IHP National Committee for Japan
Professor, Kyoto University
Vice Director, Disaster Prevention Research
Institute (DPRI)
Adjunct Professor, United Nations University (UNU)
Gokasho Uji Kyoto 611-0011
Tel: + 81 774 38 4125
Fax: + 81 774 38 4130
Email: takara.kaoru.7v@kyoto-u.ac.jp

Members

Mr Yasuto Tachikawa
Member of the IHP National Committee for Japan
Associate Professor, Kyoto University
C1 Katsura 4 Kyoto University
Nishikyo-ku Kyoto 615-8540
Tel: +81 75 383 3362
Fax: +81 75 383 3360
Email: tachikawa@hywr.kuciv.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Mr Shigenobu Tanaka
Member of the IHP National Committee for Japan
Deputy Director, International Centre for Water
Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the
auspices of UNESCO
Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)
1 – 6 Minamihara Tsukaba-shi
Ibaraki 305-8516
Tel: +81 29 879 6806
Fax: +81 29 879 6709
Email: s_tanaka@pwri.go.jp

Mr Toshio Okazumi
Chief Researcher, International Centre for Water
Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the
auspices of UNESCO
Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)
1 – 6 Minamihara Tsukaba-shi
Ibaraki 305-8516
Tel: +81 29 879 6815
Fax: +81 29 879 6709
Email: okazumi@pwri.go.jp

Mr Kazuaki Yoshida
Official, Ministry of Land Infrastructure Transport
and Tourism
2-1-3 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8918
Tel: +81 35 253 8111
Fax: +81 35 253 1602
Email: yoshida-k8311@mlit.go.jp

Ms Ai Chuman
Official, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology
2-1-3 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8918
Tel: +81 36 734 2557
Fax: +81 36 734 3679
Email: jpnatcom@mext.go.jp

Jordan

Mr Mohammad Okour
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Jordan to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 29/ 62
Fax: +33 1 56 58 01 21
E-mail: Culturalbureau@yahoo.com

Kenya

Head of Delegation

Ms Mary M. Khimulu
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Delegation of the Republic of Kenya to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 32 81
Fax: +33 1 44 49 08 58
Email: m.khimulu.ke@unesco-delegations.org

Members

Mr Juma Chrispine Omondi
Chief Principal Water Research Officer
Ministry of Water and Irrigation
PO Box 49720 – 00100
Ngong Road, Nairobi
Private P.O. Box 17010 – 00510
Tel: +254 722 79 12 30 (mobile)
Email: cojuma2004@yahoo.com

Mr John Paul Oluoch
Senior Research Assistant, Delegation of the
Republic of Kenya to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 32 81
Fax: +33 1 44 49 08 58
Email: j.oluoch.ke@unesco-delegations.org
Web: www.kenya-delegation-unesco.org

Kuwait

Mr Muhammad Al-Shatti
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Kuwait to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 26 68/9
Fax: +33 1 40 65 93 05
Email: m.alshatti@unesco.org

Madagascar

Mr Hangy Lahimasy
Scientific Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of
Madagascar to UNESCO
40 rue du Général Foy, 75008 Paris
Tel: +33 1 42 93 34 77
Fax: +33 1 45 22 22 89
Email: depemadu@wanadoo.fr

Malaysia

Head of Delegation
Mr Ahmad Husaini bin Sulaiman
Director-General, Department of Irrigation and
Drainage Malaysia
Jalan Sultan Salahuddin
50626 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: + 603 2697 2404
Fax: + 603 2697 2411
Email: husaini@water.gov.my

Members

Mr Mohamed Roseli bin Zainal Abidin
Department of Irrigation and Drainage Malaysia
Director of Humid Tropic Centre (HTC Kuala
Lumpur)
Jalan Sultan Salahuddin
50626 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: +603 2095 8700
Fax: +603 2697 2411
Email: phtc@water.gov.my

Email2: drroseli@water.gov.my

Mr Mohd Zulkifli Bin Mohammed
Permanent Delegate, Permanent Delegation of
Malaysia to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 73
Fax: +33 1 47 23 33 52
Email: m.zulkifli.my@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Hussalmizzar Bin Hussain
Science Attaché, Permanent Delegation of
Malaysia to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 73
Fax: +33 1 47 23 33 52
Email: h.bin-hussain.my@unesco-delegations.org

Mali

(not represented)

Mexico

Head of Delegation

Mr Mauricio Escanero
Minister, Deputy Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Mexico to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 55
Fax: +33 1 47 34 92 45
E-mail: dl.mexique@unesco-delegations.org

Members

Mr Polioptro F. Martinez Austria
Director-General, Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología
del Agua (IMTA)
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos
Naturales (SEMARNAT)
Paseo Cuauhnahuac 8532 Progreso Jiutepec
Morelos 62550 Mexico
Tel: +777 319 4241/3742
Fax: +777 319 3422
Email: director_general@tlaloc.imta.mx
Web: www.imta.gob.mx

Mr Alberto Guitrón de los Reyes
Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología del Agua (IMTA)
Vicepresidente Hidrología y Mecánica de Ríos
Paseo Cuauhnahuac # 8532 CP 62550
Jiutepec Morelos Mexico
Tel: +52 777 329 36 00 ext 857
Fax: +52 777 329 36 84
Email: aguitron@tlaloc.imta.mx

Mr Ismael Madrigal Monarrez
Scientific Adviser, Permanent Delegation of Mexico
to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 87
Fax: +33 1 47 34 92 45

Email: i.madrigal.mx@unesco-delegations.org

Mongolia

Head of Delegation

Mr Mundagbaatar Batsaikhan
Premier Secrétaire, Embassy of Mongolia in France
5 Avenue Robert Schuman
92100 Boulogne-Billancourt
Tel: +33 1 46 05 28 12
Fax: +33 1 46 05 30 16
Email: info@ambassademongolie.fr

Member

Mr Gundegmaa Jargalsaikhan
General Secretary of the National Commission for UNESCO
11 Sambuugiin Gudamj Zasgiin Gazryn 11-R Bair
11 Davhar Chingeltei Duureg Ulaanbaatar
Tel: +976 11 31 56 52/ 70 105652
Fax: +976 11 322612
Email: natcom@unesco.com

Morocco

(not represented)

Netherlands

Head of Delegation

Mr Robert Zeldenrust
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Delegate, Permanent Delegation of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands to UNESCO
7 rue Eblé, 75007 Paris
Tel: +33 1 40 62 33 88/2
Fax: +33 1 40 62 34 65
Email: pau@minbuza.nl

Members

Mr Michael R. van der Valk
Scientific Secretary/Secretary-General
The Netherlands National Committee IHP-HWRP
PO Box 61003
1005 HA Amsterdam
Email: info@hydrology.nl
Web: www.hydrology.nl

Mr Niels Vlaanderen
Senior Water Policy Advisor, Ministry of
Infrastructure and the Environment
PO Box 20901
2500 EX Den Haag
Tel: +31 70 456 00 00
Email: niels.vlaanderen@minienm.nl

Mr Pieter van der Zaag
Professor, Integrated Water Resources
Management
UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education
Westvest 7, 2611 AX Delft
PO Box 3015

2601 DA Delft, The Netherlands
Tel: +31 15 215 1829
Fax: +31 15 212 2921
Email: p.vanderzaag@unesco-ihe.org

Mr Stein van Oosteren
Attaché, The Netherlands Permanent Delegation to
UNESCO
7 rue Eblé, 75007 Paris
Tel: +33 1 40 62 33 88
Email: pau@minbuza.nl

Ms Mascha Wismans
Assistant to the Ambassador, The Netherlands
Permanent Delegation to UNESCO
7 rue Eblé, 75007 Paris
Tel: +33 1 40 62 33 88
Email: pau@minbuza.nl

Ms Marijke Averink
Intern, The Netherlands Permanent Delegation to
UNESCO
7 rue Eblé, 75007 Paris
Tel: +33 1 40 62 33 88
Email: pau@minbuza.nl

Nigeria

Head of Delegation

Mr Olusanjo A. Bamgboye
Executive Director, National Water Resources
Institute
PMB 2309 Kaduna
Tel: +234 80 5411 9530
Fax: +234 80 6922 6123
Email: sanjobam@yahoo.com
Email: ed.nwri@nwri.gov.ng

Members

Mr John Ayoade Shamonda
Director-General, Nigerian Hydrological Services
Agency
Plot 222 Shetima Ali Monguno Crescent
Utako District Abuja FCT
Tel: +234 80 3315 6354
Email: jashamo@hotmail.com

Mr Adegoke Waheed Alayande
Focal Person, HELP Regional Coordination Africa
Unit
National Water Resources Institute
PMB 2309 Kaduna
Tel: +234 80 3303 2309
Fax: +234 80 6922 6123
Email: walayande@gmail.com

Pakistan

Ms Humaira Zia Mufti
Deputy Permanent Delegate to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis 75015 Paris France
Tel: +33 1 45 68 30 77/ 25 42

Fax: +33 1 45 66 62 15
Email: dl.pakistan@unesco-delegations.org

Poland

Mr Maciej Zalewski
Director, European Regional Centre for
Ecohydrology (ERCE) under the auspices of
UNESCO
3 Tylina Street 90-36 Lodz Poland
Tel: +48 42 681 70 07
Mobile: +48 608 058 237
Fax: +48 42 681 30 69
Email: m.zalewski@erce.unesco.lodz.pl
Email2: erce@erce.unesco.lodz.pl

Portugal

Head of Delegation

Mr Pedro Sousa Abreu
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Portugal to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 30 58
Email: dl.portugal@unesco-delegations.org

Members

Mr Luís Chícharo
Director of the International Centre for Coastal
Ecohydrology (Faro)
Professor, University of Algarve
Campus of the Gambelas
8005 – 139 Gambelas-Faro
Tel: +351 92 548 10 62
Email: lchichar@valg.pt

Ms Teresa Salado
Counsellor (Technical), Permanent Delegation of
Portugal to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis 75015 Paris France
Tel: +33 1 45 68 30 58
Email: t.salado.pt@unesco-delegations.org

Republic of Korea

Head of Delegation

Mr Kiwon Jang
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Delegate, Permanent Delegation of the
Republic of Korea to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 44 10 24 00
Fax: +33 1 43 35 38 24
Email: kw.jang.kr@unesco-delegations.org

Members

Mr Soontak Lee
Chair of Korea IHP National Committee
Yeungnam University
487-1 Daemyung 9 Dong Namgu
705-804 Daegu

Tel: + 82 53 656 2525
Fax: + 82 53 656 2580
Email: leest@yu.ac.kr
Email2: soontaklee@hanafos.com

Mr Kim Myung-soo
Science Attaché, Permanent Delegation of the
Republic of Korea
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 31 54
Fax: +33 1 40 56 38 88
Email: ms.kim.kr@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Jiwan Yoo
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of the Republic
of Korea
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 44 10 24 08
Fax: +33 1 40 56 38 88
Email: j.yoo.kr@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Kim Ki Jun
Assistant Director, River Management Division
Ministry of Land Transport and Maritime Affairs
47 Gwanmunro Gwacheon-City
427-725 Gyeonggi-Do
Tel: +82 22 110 6318
Fax: +82 25 04 2678
Email: 3082@paran.com

Mr Kim Joong Hoon
Professor, Korea University
School of Civil, Environment, Architecture and
Engineering
Seoul 136-713
Tel: +82 10 5441 5228
Fax: +82 2 928 7656
Email: jaykim@korea.ac.kr

Mr Kim Won Sil
General Manager of Research Planning &
Management Team, K-Water Institute
462-1 Junmin-dong Yuseong-gu Daejeon
Tel: +82 42 870 7310
Fax: +82 42 870 7349
Email: kimws@kwater.or.kr

Mr Kim Tae-Woong
Associate Professor, Dept. of Civil and
Environmental Engineer
55 Hanyangdaehak-ro,
Sangnok-gu Ansan-si Gyeonggi-do 426-791
Tel: +82 31 400 5184
Fax: +82 31 436 8170
Email: twkim72@hanyang.ac.kr

Mr Kim Hwi Rin
Assistant Director, Han River Flood Control Office
Ministry of Land Transport and Maritime Affairs
751 Banpobon-dong Seocho-gu 137-049
Tel: +82 2 590 9973

Fax: +82 2 590 9989
Email: hydro@korea.kr

Mr Ji Young Moon
Manager of Research Planning & Management
Team, K-Water Institute
462-1 Junmin-dong Yuseong-gu Daejeon
Tel: +82 42 870 7325
Fax: +82 42 870 7349
Email: mjy@kwater.or.kr

Mr Choi Jun Young
Deputy Director, River Management Division,
Ministry of Land Transport and Maritime Affairs
47, Gwanmunro Gwacheon-City Gyeonggi-Do
427-725
Tel: +82 2 2110 6323
Fax: +82 2 504 9080
Email: passioncjy@korea.kr

Mr Jung Youn Suk
Assistant Manager of Budget
Parliament Affairs Team
560 Slntanjin-Ro Daedeok-Gum Daejeon
Tel: +82 42 629 2311
Fax: +82 42 629 2349
Email: love2sblue@kwater.or.kr

Russian Federation

Head of Delegation

Mr Vladimir Georgievsky
Director of the State Hydrological Institute
Vice-President of Russian IHP National Committee
23, 2 Liniya
St.Petersburg 199053
Tel: +7 812 323 35 17
Fax: +7 812 323 10 28
Email: ishiklom@zb3627.spb.edu

Members

Ms Jeanna Balonishnikova
Scientific Secretary of the State Hydrological
Institute
23, 2 Liniya
St. Petersburg 199053
Tel: +7 812 323 01 14
Fax: +7 812 323 10 28
Email: ishiklom@zb3627.spb.edu

Ms Olga V. Gorelits
Executive Secretary of the Russian Federation IHP
National Committee
Senior Research Scientist, Zubov State
Oceanographic Institute
6 Kropotkinsky per.
Moscow 119034
Tel: +7 499 246 64 48
Fax: +7 499 246 72 88
Email: gorelits@mail.ru

Mr Vladimir Sakovich
Vice-Rector, Russian State Hydrometeorological
University
98, Malookhtinsky prospect
Saint-Petersburg 195196
Tel: +7 812 444 41 63
Fax: +7 812 444 60 90
Email: sakovich@rshu.ru

Ms Natalia Sakovich
Lecturer, Saint-Petersburg College for Information
and Library Technology
70, Ligovcky prospect
Saint-Petersburg 191040
Tel: +7 812 764 10 03
Fax: +7 812 712 25 78
Email: sakovich@rshu.ru

Serbia

Head of Delegation

Mr Jovan Despotovic
President of the IHP National Committee for Serbia
Professor, Belgrade University, Faculty of Civil
Engineering
Boulevard of the King Alexander 73
11000 Belgrade
Tel: +381 11 337 00 99
Cell: +381 63 32 82 63
Fax: +381 11 337 02 06
Email: jdespotovic@grf.bg.ac.rs
Email2: edespoto@hikom.grf.bg.ac.rs
Email3: ihp.unesco.rs@grf.bg.ac.rs

Members

Mr Nikola Marjanovic
General Manager SRBIJAVODE
Public Water Company Serbia Waters
Bulevar Umetnosti str. 2a
11070 Belgrade
Tel: +381 11 311 94 00
Fax: +381 11 311 94 03
Email: nikola.marjanovic@srbijavode.rs
Web: www.srbijavode.rs

Mr Milan Dimkic
Director-General, Institute Jaroslav Cerni
Jaroslava Cernog str. 80
11226 Belgrade
Tel: +381 11 390 64 62
Fax: +381 11 390 64 81

Ms Prvoslav Marjanovic
Advisor, Institute Jaroslav Cerni
Jaroslava Cernog str. 80
11226 Belgrade
Tel: +381 11 390 64 62
Fax: +381 11 390 64 81
Email: marjanovic.civil@gmail.com

Ms Jasna Zrnovic
Minister plenipotentiary
Secretary General of National Commission
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kneza-Milosa str. 24-26
11000 Belgrade
Tel: +381 66 806 60 97
Email: jasna.zrnovic@mfa.rs

Sudan

Head of Delegation

Mr Mohamed Elhassan Eltayeb Elhag
Chairman of the IHP National Committee of Sudan
c/o Sudanese National Commission for Education
Science and Culture
P.O. Box 2324 Khartoum
Tel: +249 9 12 135970
Fax: +249 1 83 776030
Email: elhassaneltayeb@yahoo.com
Email2: sudannatcom@hotmail.com

Member

Mr Abdalla Abdelsalam Ahmed
Director-General, UNESCO Chair in Water
Resources (UNESCO-CWR)
PO Box 1244 Khartoum 11111
Tel: +249 183 779599 / 786770 / 776884
Fax: +249 183 797 758
Email: aaahmed55@yahoo.co.uk

Sweden

Head of Delegation

Ms Berit Arheimer
Head of Hydrological Research
Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute
60176 Norrköping
Tel: +46 733 96 1439
Fax: +46 114 95 8001
Email: Berit.Arheimer@smhi.se

Member

Mr Oscar Johansson
Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of Sweden
1 rue Miollis 75015 Paris France
Tel: +33 7 63 04 00 55 (mobile)
Email: Johansson.oscar@live.se

Switzerland

Head of Delegation

Mr Rodolphe Imhoof
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 96
Fax: +33 1 43 06 21 39
Email: dl.suisse@unesco-delegations.org

Members

Mr Alexandre Guyot
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Switzerland
to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 98
Fax: +33 1 43 06 21 39
Email: dl.suisse@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Dominique Bérod
Chef de la Division Hydrologie
Office fédéral de l'environnement
3003 Bern

Mr Christophe Bösch
Chargé de programme, Swiss Agency for
Development and Cooperation
Freiburgstrasse 130
CH-3003 Bern
Tel: +41 79 619 9769
Email: Christophe.boesch@deza.admin.ch

Syrian Arab Republic

Mr Abu Dalla
Third Secretary, Chargé de mission
Permanent Delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 3497
Fax: +33 1 43 06 05 44
E-mail: dl.syrie@unesco-delegations.org

Uganda

Head of Delegation

Ms Elizabeth Paula Napeyok
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of
the Republic of Uganda to France, Permanent
Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Uganda to UNESCO
13 avenue Raymond Poincaré, 75116 Paris
Tel: +33 1 56 90 12 20
Fax: +33 1 45 05 21 22
Email: uganda.embassy@club-internet.fr

Members

Mr Philip Ochen Odida
Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Uganda
Permanent Delegation of Uganda to UNESCO
13 avenue Raymond Poincaré, 75116 Paris
Tel: +33 1 56 90 12 20
Tel: +33 6 19 89 49 54 (mobile)
Fax: +33 1 45 05 21 22
Email: philip.odida@ugandaembassy.fr

Mr Michael Katungye
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Uganda to
UNESCO
13 avenue Raymond Poincaré, 75116 Paris
Tel: +33 1 56 90 12 20

Fax: +33 1 45 05 21 22
Email: uganda.embassy@club-internet.fr

United States of America

Head of Delegation

Mr Matthew Carl Larsen
Associate Director, Climate and Land Use Change
United States Geological Survey
Department of the Interior
USGS Mail Stop 409
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston VA 20192
Tel: +1 703 648 5215
Cell: +1 571 332 4452
Fax: +1 703 648 7031
Email: mclarsen@usgs.gov

Members

Mr Robert A. Pietrowsky
Director, International Centre for Integrated Water
Resources Management (ICIWaRM) under the
auspices of UNESCO
Institute for Water Resources
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria VA 22315
Tel: +1 703 428 8015
Fax: +1 703 428 8250
Email: robert.a.pietrowsky@usace.army.mil

Mr William S. Logan
Deputy Director, International Centre for Integrated
Water Resources Management (ICIWaRM) under
the auspices of UNESCO
Institute for Water Resources
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria VA 22315
Tel: +1 703 428 6054
Email: will.logan@usace.army.mil

Mr Verne R. Schneider
Chief, International Water Resources Branch
US Geological Survey
Department of the Interior
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS420
Reston, VA 20192
Tel: +1 703 648 5230
Cell: +1 571 215 5788
Email: vrschnei@usgs.gov

Mr Eugene Z. Stakhiv
Technical Director, USACE Institute for Water
Resources and International Centre for Integrated
Water Resources Management (ICIWaRM) under
the auspices of UNESCO
United States Army Corps of Engineers
Department of Defense
7701 Telegraph Road Alexandria VA 22315
Tel: +1 703 428 8077
Email: eugene.z.stakhiv@usace.army.mil

Ms Ingrid Verstraeten
Chief - Europe, Russia, Central Asia, and
International Organizations
Office of the Director, International Programs
United States Geological Survey
Department of the Interior

Mr David T. Killion
Permanent Representative
State Department
U.S. Mission to UNESCO
12 Avenue Raphael, 75016 Paris
Tel: +33 1 43 12 74 56
Fax: +33 1 43 12 74 58
Email: parisunesco@state.gov
Web: <http://unesco.usmission.gov/>

Ms Kathy Kavalec
Deputy Permanent Representative
State Department
U.S. Mission to UNESCO
12 Avenue Raphael, 75016 Paris
Tel: +33 1 43 12 74 55
Fax: +33 1 43 12 74 58
Email: kavalecka@state.gov
Web: <http://unesco.usmission.gov/>

Mr Michael Gunzburger
Science Officer, State Department
U.S. Mission to UNESCO
12 Avenue Raphael
75016 Paris France
Tel: +33 1 43 12 74 99
Fax: +33 1 43 12 74 58
Email: gunzburgerml@state.gov
Web: <http://unesco.usmission.gov/>

Ms Sharon B. Megdal
Director Water Resources Research Center
Director Water Sustainability Program
Co-Director Water, Environment and Energy
Solutions
University of Arizona
350 N. Campbell Avenue
Tucson, Arizona
Tel: +1 520 621 9591
Fax: +1 520 7928518
Email: smegdal@cals.arizona.edu

Ms Emily Simon
Intern, State Department
U.S. Mission to UNESCO
12 Avenue Raphael, 75016 Paris

Uruguay

Head of Delegation

Mr Omar Mesa
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Uruguay to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 70

Fax: +33 1 45 68 31 52
Email: dl.uruguay@unesco-delegations.org

Members

Mr Jorge Rucks
Director, The National Directorate of Environment
DINAMA Galicia 1133 esquina
Av. Rondeau, Montevideo
Tel: +598 2917 0710
Email: secretaria@dinama.gub.uy

Mr Santiago Wins
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Uruguay to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 70
Fax: +33 1 45 68 31 52
Email: dl.uruguay@unesco-delegations.org

Yemen

Mr Mohamed Al-Kharbi
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Yemen to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 25
Fax: +33 1 45 66 01 51
Email: dl.yemen@unesco-delegations.org

II. OBSERVERS (REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES NOT MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL)

Algeria

Mr Tahar Aichaoui
Director of Studies and Hydraulic Installations
Ministry of Water Resources
3 rue du Caire Kouba, Alger
Tel: +213 68 04 37
Fax: +213 68 04 37
Email: deah.meda@yahoo.fr

Ms Tassadit Ait Yahia
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Algeria to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 29 64
Fax: +33 1 42 19 09 56
Email: s.ait-yahia.dz@unesco-delegations.org

Angola

Mr Francisco Quipuco Ferreira
Ministry of Energy and Water
Rua Rainha Ginga 210 1º Andar, Luanda
Tel: +244923600150
Email: quipuco@hotmail.com

Argentina

Mr Miguel Angel Estrella
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Argentina to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 38
Fax: +33 1 43 06 60 35
Email: dl.argentina@unesco-delegations.org

Ms Elisabeth Wimpfheimer
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Argentina to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 38
Fax: +33 1 43 06 60 35
Email: dl.argentina@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Pablo Prósperi
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Argentina to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 38
Fax: +33 1 43 06 60 35
Email: dl.argentina@unesco-delegations.org

Ms Noelia Dutrey
Second Secretary, Permanent Delegation of
Argentina to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 38
Fax: +33 1 43 06 60 35
Email: dl.argentina@unesco-delegations.org

Armenia

Mr Bardukh Gabrielyan
Director, Scientific Centre of Zoology and
Hydroecology
7 Paruyr Sevak Yerevan 0014
Tel: +37 41 20 59 61
Fax: +37 41 20 59 61
Email: gabrielb@sci.am

Mr Levon Mardoyan
Head of Department, Organization of Scientific
Activity
22 St Orbéli Yerevan 0028
Tel: +37 41 21 01 40
Fax: +37 41 21 01 40
Email: l.mardoyan@scs.am

Austria

Mr Harald Stranzl
Ambassador, Alternate Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Austria to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 43
Fax: +33 1 47 83 26 25
Email: dl.austria@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Helmut Habersack
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences
Muthgasse 107 Vienna
Email: helmut.habersack@hohu.ac.at

Mr Günter Blöschl
Director, Centre for Water Resource Systems
President Elect, European Geosciences Union
Head of Institute, Institute of Hydraulic Engineering
and Water Resources Management
Vienna University of Technology
Karlsplatz 13/222 1040 Wien
Tel: +43 1 58801 22315
Email: bloeschl@hydro.tuwien.ac.at

Ms Isabell Ladiges
Attaché, Permanent Delegation of Austria to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 58
Email: isabell.ladiges@bmeia.gv.at

Belarus

Ms Natali Shevtsova
Deputy Chief, Hydrometeorological Center
110 Nezavisimosti Avenue
220114 Minsk
Tel: +375 17 267 23 13
Fax: +375 17 267 03 35
Email: shevtsova-gidromet@hmc.by

Belgium

Mr Vanclooster Marnik
Professor, Université Catholique de Louvain
Earth and Life Institute
Croix du Sud 2 BP 07.05.02
B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve
Tel: +32 10 47 37 10
Email: marnik.vanclooster@uclouvain.be

Benin

Mr Abel Afouda
Professor, University of Abomey-Calavi
Technical and Scientific Department
Chairman IHP National Committee of Benin
BP 526 Cotonou
Tel: +229 67 25 88 42
Tel: +229 21 31 77 92
Email: aafouda@yahoo.fr

Mr Ibrahim Adam Soule
University of Abomey-Calavi
Technical and Scientific Department
BP 325 Cotonou
Tel: +229 97 07 84 01
Tel: +229 21 31 77 92
Email: ibasoule@yahoo.fr

Mr Arnaud Zannou
Coordinator, Water Resources Management
Programme
Secretary, IHP National Committee of Benin
University of Abomey-Calavi
Technical and Scientific Department
BP 385 Cotonou
Tel: +229 97 60 38 05/ 21 31 77 92
Email: arnaud_zannou@yahoo.fr

Burkina Faso

Mr Joseph Pare
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Burkina Faso to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 47 47 13 30
Email: dl.burkina-faso@unesco-delegations.org

Ms Awa Thiombiano
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Burkina Faso to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 47 47 13 30
Email: dl.burkina-faso@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Sawadogo Etienne Songre
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Burkina Faso
to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 47 47 13 30
Email: dl.burkina-faso@unesco-delegations.org

Brazil

Ms Maria Laura da Rocha
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Brazil to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 28 81
Fax: +33 1 47 83 28 40
Email: dl.brazil@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Nilo Dytz Filho
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Brazil to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 28 99
Fax: +33 1 47 83 28 40
Email: n.dytz.br@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Patrick Thadeu Thomas
Chair of IHP National Committee
National Water Agency
Setor Policial Sul Area 5 Quadra 3
70610-200 Brazil
Tel: +55 61 8152 4477
Fax: +55 61 2109 5281
Email: patrick@ana.gov.br

Cameroon

Ms Elisabeth Bessem Manga
First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of
Cameroon to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 30 33
Fax: +33 1 45 68 30 34
Email: bessmanga@gmail.com
Email2: bessmanga@yahoo.com

Mr Samuel Foto Menbohan
Hydrobiologist Technical Adviser
Ministry of Energy and Water
Yaounde
Tel: +237 77 59 59 60
Fax: +237 22 23 56 09
Email: sfotomen@yahoo.fr
Email2: mines@mines_cam.net

Ms Rebecca Madeleine Ebelle Etame
Secretary General, Ministry of Scientific Research
and Innovation
Email: ebelleetame@yahoo.fr

Canada

Mr Fred Wrona
Senior Science Strategist, Environment Canada
PO Box 3060 STN CSC Victoria
BC V8W 3R4
Tel: +1 250 363 8909
Email: fred.wrona@ec.gc.ca

Ms Dominique Levasseur
Senior Programme Officer, Canadian Delegation to
UNESCO
5 rue Constantine, 75007 Paris
Tel: +33 1 44 43 25 73
Fax: +33 1 44 43 25 79
Email: Dominique.levasseur@international.gc.ca

China

Mr Jian Deng
Director-General, Bureau of Hydrology
Ministry of Water Resources, China
Vice Chairman of the IHP Chinese National
Committee
Email: jdeng@mwr.gov.cn

Ms Xiao Yuan Zhu
Bureau of Hydrology, Ministry of Water Resources
Secretary-General of the IHP Chinese National
Committee
No 2 Lane 2 Baiguang Road
Beijing City
Fax: +86 10 6320 3500
Email: xyzhu@mwr.gov.cn

Mr Heng Liu
Director-General, International Center on Small
Hydro Power
Vice Chairman of the IHP Chinese National
Committee
136 Nanshan Road Hangzhou 310002
Tel: +86 571 8713 2796
Fax: +86 571 8702 3353
Mobile: +86 139 5717 5043
Email: hliu@china.com
Web: www.icshp.org

Mr Jun Wang
Director-General, Bureau of Hydrology
Changjiang Water Resources Commission
Ministry of Water Resources
Member of the IHP Chinese National
Committee

Ms Yan Huang
Deputy Chief Engineer, Bureau of Hydrology
Changjiang Water Resources Commission
Deputy Secretary of the IHP Chinese National
Committee
No 863 Jiefang Avenue
Wuhan 430010
Tel: +86 27 8292 6230
Fax: +86 27 8282 9605
Email: yhuang@cjh.com.cn
Email2: y.huang.ctw@gmail.com

Mr Chunhong Hu
Deputy Director and Secretary General
International Research and Training Centre on
Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES)
PO Box 366
20 Chegongzhuang West Rd.
Beijing 100048
Tel: +86 10 6878 5307
Fax: +86 10 6841 1174
Email: huch@iwahr.com

Mr Cheng Liu
Deputy Division Chief, International Research and
Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation
(IRTCES)
PO Box 366
20 Chegongzhuang West Rd.
Beijing 100048
Tel: +86 10 6878 6410
Fax: +86 10 6841 1174
Email: chliu@iwahr.com
Email2: cliu.beijing@gmail.com

Colombia

Ms Juliana Angulo
Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Colombia to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 28 74

Fax: +33 1 43 06 66 09
Email: j.angulo.co@unesco-delegations.org

Costa Rica

Ms Ana Elena Pinto
Minister Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of
Costa Rica to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 25 72
Fax: +33 1 45 68 25 74
Email: dl.costarica@unesco-delegations.org

Cyprus

Ms Mélanie Melodias
Assistant (intern), Permanent Delegation of Cyprus
to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 64
Fax: +33 1 45 68 34 67
Email: dl.cyprus@unesco-delegations.org

Czech Republic

Mr Ondrej Ledvinka
Czech Hydrometeorological Institute
Hydrology Division
Hydrological Database & Water Balance
Na Sabatce 17
143 06 Prague 4
Tel: +420 244032364
Email: ledvinka@chmi.cz

Mr Jaroslav Vrba
RNDr. Doctor of Natural Sciences
Coordinator of the GWES project
Korandova Str.32
14700 Prague 4
Tel: +420 241727447
Fax: +420 241727447
Email: javr@mymail.cz

Denmark

Ms Dorthe Wendt
First Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of
Denmark to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 29 29
Email: dl.denmark@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Dan Rosbjerg
Professor, Department of Environmental
Engineering
Technical University of Denmark
Miljoevej, Building 113
DK-2800 Kongens Lyngby
Tel: + 45 4525 1449
Fax: + 45 4593 2850
Email: daro@env.dtu.dk

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Mr Yong Ho Ri
Permanent Delegation of DPR of Korea
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 25 63
Email: dl.korea-pdr@unesco.org

Mr Yong U Kim
Permanent Delegation of DPR of Korea
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 25 64
Email: dl.korea-pdr@unesco.org

Democratic Republic of Congo

Mr Joachim Mandavo
Second Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of
Democratic Republic of Congo to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 32 60
Email: mandavojoachim@yahoo.fr

Ms Marie Louise Mboli Nkanda
Member of IHP National Committee
6 avenue des Ambassadeurs
Kinshasa Gombe
Tel: +243 81 51 79 748
Email: louise.mboli@yahoo.com

Mr Hingel Dominique Nsen Gambo Mbulo
Chief of Natural Sciences Sector
National Commission for UNESCO
BP 14 Kinshasa Gombe
Tel: +243 81 29 80 967
Email: mbulo.hingel@yahoo.fr

Djibouti

Ms Thais Olivetti
Intern, Permanent Delegation of Djibouti to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 26 50
Fax: +33 1 45 68 26 51
E-mail: dl.djibouti@unesco-delegations.org

Ecuador

Mr Claude Lara
Minister and Deputy Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Ecuador to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 03
Email: dl.ecuador@unesco-delegations.org

Ms Bruna Duverger
Assistant Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Ecuador to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 03
Email: dl.ecuador@unesco-delegations.org

Ms María Fernanda Bermudez
Assistant Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Ecuador to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 03
Email: dl.ecuador@unesco-delegations.org

Egypt

Ms Karima Mahmoud Attia
Professor, Nile Research Institute
National Water Research Centre (NWRC)
NWRC Building El-Qanate El Khairiar 1st floor
PO 13621 Qalyub
Tel: 01001265930
Fax: 0242187152
Email: karima_attia@yahoo.com

El Salvador

Ms Lorena Sol de Pool
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of El Salvador to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 02
Fax: +33 1 47 34 41 86
Email: dl.el-salvador@unesco-delegations.org

Ms Nanette Viaud Desroches
Adviser Alternate, Permanent Delegation of El
Salvador to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 19
Fax: +33 1 47 34 41 86
Email: dl.el-salvador@unesco-delegations.org

France

Mr Fabien Dupuis
Water Expert, Ministry of Foreign and European
Affairs
Email: fabien.dupuis@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Gabon

Ms Gisele Ossakedjombo-Ngoua Memiaghe
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Gabon to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 93
Fax: +33 1 53 69 19 33
Email: dl.gabon@unesco-delegations.org

Guatemala

Ms Anaisabel Prera
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Guatemala to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 29 10

Fax: +33 1 45 68 29 09
Email: dl.guatemala@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Ricardo Enriquez
Permanent Delegation of Guatemala to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 29 10
Fax: +33 1 45 68 29 09
Email: dl.guatemala@unesco-delegations.org

Honduras

Mr Alejandro Palma Cerna
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Honduras to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 28 47
Email: a.palma.hn@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Carlos Maradraga
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Honduras to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 28 47
Email: c.maradraga.hn@unesco-delegations.org

India

Mr S. S. Panicker
First Secretary, Permanent Delegation of India to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 29 45
Fax: +33 1 47 34 51 88
Email: s.panicker@unesco-delegations.org

Indonesia

Mr Iskandar Zulkarnian
Chairman of IHP National Committee of Indonesia
Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)
Jl. Gatot Subroto No. 10
Jakarta 12710
Tel: +62 21 5251850
Fax: +62 21 5260804
Email: iska003@yahoo.com

Mr Tir Widiyanto
Secretary of IHP National Committee of Indonesia
Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)
Jl. Gatot Subroto No. 10
Jakarta 12710
Tel: +62 21 5251850
Fax: +62 21 5260804
Email: triw@limnologi.lipi.go.id

Mr Gatut Bayuadji
Sub. Directorate of Hydrology and Water Quality
Directorate of Water Resources Management
Directorate General of Water Resources
Ministry of Public Works

Jl. Pattimura no. 20 Kebayoran Baru Jakarta Selatan 12110
Tel: +6221 93271335
Fax: +6221 7221907
Email: gbayuadji@gmail.com
Email2: gatutbayuadji@yahoo.com.au
Email3: hidrologikualitasair@gmail.com
Web: <http://www.pu.go.id>

Ireland

Mr Oliver Nicholson
Secretary of the Irish IHP Committee
The Office of Public Works
Jonathan Swift Street Trim Co. Meath
Tel: +353 46 9426737
Email: oliver.nicholson@opw.ie

Kazakhstan

Mr Igor V. Severskiy
Chairperson of the National Committee of Kazakhstan for IHP
Head Laboratory of Glaciology of the Institute of Geography of Kazakhstan
Kazakh National Academy of Science
99 Pushkin Street
050010 Almaty
Tel: +7 7172 291 81 29
Fax: +7 7172 291 81 02
Email: ingeo@mail.kz

Mr Zhakipbay Dostay
Head, Water Resources Laboratory of the Institute of Geography of Kazakhstan
Kazakh National Academy of Science
99 Pushkin Street
050010 Almaty
Tel: +7 7172 291 81 29
Fax: +7 7172 291 81 02
Email: ingeo@mail.kz

Libya

Mr Abdulsalam El Qallali
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Libya to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 33 23
Email: dl.libye@unesco-delegations.org

Mauritania

Mr Mohamed Abderrahmane
General Secretary, Ministry of Hydraulics and Sanitation
BP 4913 Nouakchott
Tel: +222 22 36 43 92
Fax: +222 45 24 14 02
Email: eddane2006@yahoo.fr

Monaco

Ms Sybille Progetti
Permanent Delegation of Monaco to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 34 60
Fax: +33 45 67 24 52
Email: dl.monaco@unesco-delegations.org

Mozambique

Mr Emanuel Dionisio
National Director of Promotion of Cultural Industries
Ministry of Culture
Rue de Tchamba No 86
CP 1005 Maputo
Tel: +258 84 61 95 977
Fax: +258 21 49 80 40
Email: emanueldionisio@yahoo.com
Email2: manydio74@gmail.com

Norway

Ms Torill Engen Skaugen
Head of Division, Norwegian Meteorological Institute
PO Box 43 Blindern 0313 Oslo
Tel: +47 22 96 30 00
Email: t.e.skaugen@met.no
Email2: torilles@met.no

Oman

Mr Salim Humaid Khasseb Al Shibli
Director General Water Resources Assessment
Ministry of Regional Municipalities
PO Box 461 Postal Code 112 Ruwi
Tel: +968 246 98 334
Fax: +968 246 98 623
Mobile: +968 993 89 874
Email: ddgwrw@mrmwr.gov.om

Mr Sulaiman Al Mabsali
International Relations Specialist, Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Science
PO Box 3, PC 100 Muscat
Tel: +968 992 44 626
Fax: +968 24 759 555
Email: mabsali@moe.om

Mr Ghazi Al-Rawas
PO Box 33
Al-Khodh 123
Tel: +968 992 22 048
Fax: +968 241 41 331
Email: ghazi@squ.edu.om

Romania

Mr Ioan Jeleu
National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management

Sos Bucuresti-Ploiesti Nr 97
Sect. 1 cod 013686
Tel: +40 21 318 1115
Fax: +40 21 381 1116
Email: ioan.jelev@hidro.ro

Slovakia

Mr Pavol Miklanek
Chairman, IHP National Committee of Slovakia
Institute of Hydrology SAS
Racianska 75 831 02 Bratislava
Tel: +421 2 44259311
Fax: +421 2 44259311
Email: miklanek@uh.savba.sk

Ms Dana Halmova
Scientific Secretary, IHP National Committee of Slovakia
Institute of Hydrology SAS
Racianska 75 831 02 Bratislava
Tel: +421 2 44259311
Fax: +421 2 44259311
Email: 1halmova@uh.savba.sk

Slovenia

Mr Mitja Brilly
Chairman, Slovenian National Committee for UNESCO-IHP
University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geodetic Engineering
Hajdrihova 28 1000 Ljubljana
Tel: +386 1 425 33 24
Fax: +386 1 251 9897
Email: mitja.brilly@fgg.uni-lj.si
Email2: mbrilly@f66.ul-li.si

South Africa

Mr Mbangiseni Patrick Nepfumbada
Acting Deputy Director-General
Policy and Regulation Department of Water Affairs
Emanzini Building Room 423
Private Bag X 313 Pretoria 0001
Tel: +27 12 336 8788
Fax: +27 12 336 6662
Email: NepfumbadaM@dwa.gov.za

Mr Andrew Rae
First Secretary, Affaires multilatérales
59 quai d'Orsay
75345 Paris Cedex 7
Tel: +33 1 53 59 23 23
Fax: +33 1 45 50 31 52
Email: raea2@dirco.gov.za

Mr Ramogale Charles Sekwele
Scientific Manager, Coordination & Liaison
Department of Water Affairs
Emanzini Building Room 427

Private Bag X 313
Pretoria 0001
Tel: +27 12 336 8867
Fax: +27 86 515 1817
Email: SekweleR@dwa.gov.za

Mr Jay O'Keeffe
Professor, Environmental Learning Research Centre
Rhodes University
PO Box 94 Grahamstown 6140
Tel: +27 46 603 7471
Fax: +27 71 547 4424
Email: j.okeeffe@unesco-ihe.org

Mr Peter Clayton
Professor, Rhodes University
PO Box 94
Grahamstown 6140
Tel: +27 46 603 8111
Fax: +27 71 547 7350
Email: p.clayton@ru.ac.za

Spain

Ms Concepción Marcuello Olona
Coordinadora de Programa Técnico-Científico
Centro de Estudios Hidrográficos del CEDEX
Paseo Bajo de la Virgen del Puerto, 3
28005 Madrid
Tel: +34 91 335 80 66
Fax: +34 91 335 79 22
Email: concepcion.marcuello@cedex.es

Tanzania

Mr Mohammed S. Sheya
Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Tanzania to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 27 31/2
Fax: +33 1 45 66 09 14
Email: mssheya@hotmail.com

Thailand

Mr Pichai Sonchaeng
President, National Science Museum
Ministry of Science and Technology
Technopolis, Klong 5, Klong Luang
Pathumthani 12120
Tel: +662 577 9999
Fax: +662 577 9990

Mr Manop Issaree
Vice President, National Science Museum
Ministry of Science and Technology
Technopolis, Klong 5, Klong Luang
Pathumthani 12120
Tel: +662 577 9999

Fax: +662 577 9990
Email: manop@nsm.or.th

Mr Suwarong Wongsiri
Director, National Science Museum
Ministry of Science and Technology
Technopolis, Klong 5, Klong Luang
Pathumthani 12120
Tel: +662 577 9999
Fax: +662 577 9990

Ms Ganigar Chen
Director of Office of Public Awareness of Science
National Science Museum
Ministry of Science and Technology
Technopolis, Klong 5, Klong Luang
Pathumthani 12120
Tel: +662 577 9999
Fax: +662 577 9990

Turkey

Mr Gürcan Türkoğlu
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Turkey to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 27 15
Fax: +33 1 40 56 04 13
Email: gurcan.turkoglu@mfa.gov.tr

Mr Mehmet Ekmekçi
International Research and Application Center for
Karst Water Resources
Hacettepe University
Beytepe Ankara
Tel: +90 312 297 67 25
Fax: +90 312 299 21 36
Email: ekmekci@hacettepe.edu.tr
Email2: mekmekci1303@gmail.com

Ms Simla Yasemin Özkaya
Counsellor, Environment and Transboundary
Waters
Permanent Delegation of Turkey to UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: +33 1 45 68 27 15
Fax: +33 1 40 56 04 13
Email: sy.ozkaya@unesco-delegations.org

Mr Yakup Darama
State Hydraulic Works (DSI)
Devlet Su İşleri Genel Mudurlugu
Devlet Mahallesi İnönü Boulevard No16
06100 Çankaya Ankara
Tel: +90 312 48 34 20
Fax: +90 312 419 38 16
Email: yakupd@dsi.gov.tr

Mr Bahattin Avcuoğlu
Head of Statistics and Hydrology Section in
Inventory and Allocation Department
Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs

General Directorate of Water Management
Sogutozu Cad. No: 14/E Bestepe
06560 Ankara
Tel: +90 312 207 54 63
Mobile: +90 506 532 18 09
Fax: +90 312 207 51 87
Email: mavcuoglu@ormansu.gov.tr

Ms N. Sibel Darama
State Hydraulic Works (DSI)
Devlet Su İşleri Genel Mudurlugu
Devlet Mahallesi İnönü Boulevard No16
06100 Çankaya Ankara
Tel: +90 312 48 34 20
Fax: +90 312 419 38 16
Email: sdarama@dsi.gov.tr

United Kingdom

Mr Alan Jenkins
Professor, UK National Committee for IHP
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Maclean Building Crowmarsh Gifford Wallingford
Oxon OX10 8BB
Tel: +44 1491 692440
Fax: +44 1491 692979
Email: jinx@ceh.ac.uk

Mr Harry Dixon
UK National Committee for IHP
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Maclean Building Crowmarsh Gifford Wallingford
Oxon OX10 8BB
Tel: +44 1491 692254
Fax: +44 1491 692424
Email: harr@ceh.ac.uk

Zimbabwe

Mr David Hamadziripi
Ambassador, Permanent Delegate
Permanent Delegation of Zimbabwe to UNESCO
10 rue Jacques Bingen, 75017 Paris
Tel: +33 1 56 88 16 00
Fax: +33 1 56 88 16 09
Email: zimparisweb@wanadoo.fr

Mr Dawson Munjeri
Deputy Permanent Delegate, Permanent
Delegation of Zimbabwe to UNESCO
10 rue Jacques Bingen, 75017 Paris
Tel: +33 1 56 88 16 00
Fax: +33 1 56 88 16 09
Email: d.munjeri.zw@unesco-delegations.org

**III. OBSERVER (NON-MEMBER STATE
MAINTAINING PERMANENT OBSERVER
MISSION TO UNESCO)**

Holy See

Monsignor Francesco Follo
Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: + 33 1 45 68 33 13
Fax: + 33 1 43 06 28 91
Email: op.saint-siege@unesco.org

Ms Philippine Medevielle
Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to
UNESCO
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris
Tel: + 33 1 45 68 33 13
Fax: + 33 1 43 06 28 91
Email: op.saint-siege@unesco.org

**IV. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND
RELATED ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UN
SYSTEM**

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Ms Irene Kitsara
Project Coordinator, Patent Information Section
3 Chemin de Colombettes
1211 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 338 72 35
Tel: +41 79 894 93 94
Email: irene.kitsara@wipo.org

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Mr Bruce Stewart
Chief, Basic Systems in Hydrology Division
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
CP 2300 CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 730 8330
Fax: +41 22 730 8043
Email: bstewart@wmo.int
Email2: hyd@wmo.int

**V. INTERGOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS**

**Arab League Educational, Cultural and
Scientific Organization (ALECSO)**

Mr Sidi Mohamed Ibrahim Otsmane
Director
1 rue Miollis 75015 Paris, France
Tel: +33 1 45 68 27 20
Fax: +33 1 40 56 92 72

**Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization (ISESCO)**

Mr Faiq Bilal
Director of Science
Avenue des F.A.R. Hay Ryad Rabat
BP 2275 CP 10104, Morocco
Tel: +212 537 56 60 52/53
Fax: +212 537 56 60 12/13
Email: sciences@isesco.org.ma

**International Commission for the Hydrology of
the Rhine Basin**

Mr Manfred Spreafico
CHR/KHR Postbus 17 NL 8200 AA Lelystad
The Netherlands
Tel: +41 79 321 85 26
Email: Manfred.spreafico@hispeed.ch

Niger Basin Authority

Mr Daniel Sighomnou
Expert
ABN BP 729 Niamey, Niger
Tel: +227 96 40 03 21
Fax: +227 20 72 42 08
Email: sighomnou@abn.ne
Email2: danielsighomnou@yahoo.fr

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Mr Tobias Salathé
Senior Adviser
Mauverney 28
CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 999 01 73
Fax: +41 22 999 01 69
Email: salathe@ramsar.org

**VI. NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS**

British Hydrological Society (BHS)

Mr Alan Jenkins
Professor, UK National Committee for the IHP
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Maclean Building Crowmarsh Gifford Wallingford
Oxon OX10 8BB, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 1491 692440
Fax: +44 1491 692979
Email: jinx@ceh.ac.uk

Mr Harry Dixon
UK National Committee for the IHP
Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Maclean Building Crowmarsh Gifford Wallingford

Oxon OX10 8BB, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 1491 692254
Fax: +44 1491 692424
Email: harr@ceh.ac.uk

Global Water for Sustainability (GLOWS)

Ms Maria Donoso
Chair of IHP-VIII Task Force
Director, Global Water for Sustainability (GLOWS)
Florida International University
3000 NE 151st Street – AC1-267
North Miami, FL 33181
United States of America
Tel: +1 305 919 4112
Fax: +1 305 919 4117
Email: mcdonoso@fiu.edu

International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH)

Mr Wilhelm Struckmeier
President, IAH
Stilleweg 2
D-30156 Hanover, Germany
Tel: +49 511 643 2366
Fax: +49 511 643 3661
Email: Wilhelm.Struckmeier@bgr.de
Web: www.bgr.bund.de

Mr Jaroslav Vrba
Doctor of Natural Sciences
Korandova Str.32
14700 Prague 4, Czech Republic
Tel: +420 241727447
Fax: +420 241727447
Email: javr@mymail.cz

International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)

Mr Christophe Cudennec
Professor, Secretary General of IAHS
Agrocampus Ouest
CS 84215
35042 Rennes Cedex, France
Tel: +33 2 23 48 55 58
Email: cudennec@agrocampus-ouest.fr

International Water Resources Association (IWRA)

Mr Tom Soo
Executive Director
Domaine de Lavalette
859, rue Jean-François Breton
34093 Montpellier Cedex 5, France
Tel: +33 4 67 61 29 45
Fax: +33 4 67 52 28 29
Email: soo@iwra.org

VII. UNESCO WATER INSTITUTE (category I) AND WATER-RELATED CENTRES (category 2)

Category 1 Institute

UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education

Mr András Szöllösi-Nagy
Rector
Westvest 7, 2611 AX Delft
PO Box 3015
2601 DA Delft, The Netherlands
Tel: +31 15 2151 715
Fax: +31 15 2122 921
Email: a.szollosi-nagy@unesco-ihe.org

Category 2 water-related Centres (under the auspices of UNESCO)

Asia Pacific Centre for Ecohydrology (APCE)

Mr Ignacius D. A. Sutapa
Executive Secretary
Research Centre for Limnology
Cibinnog Science Centre
Jl. Raya Bogor Km 46
Cibinong 16911 – Jawa Barat, Indonesia
Tel: +62 21 8757071
Fax: +62 21 8755076
Email: ignasdas@yahoo.co.id

IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science

Mr Ian Ball
Dean of School, Graduate School of Natural
Resources Law, Policy and Management
University of Dundee
Perth Road
Dundee DD1 4HN, Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 1382 386752
Email: w.i.ball@dundee.ac.uk

HidroEx International Centre for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water

Mr Narcio Rodrigues
Secretary for Science Technology and Higher
Education of State of Minas Gerais
Rod. Pref. Américo Gianetti s/n
Cidade Administrativa Bairro Serra Verde
Edifício Gerais 8º Andar
CEP 31630 900 Belo Horizonte MG, Brasil
Tel: +55 31 3915 5036
Fax: +55 31 3915 5125
Email: narciorodrigues@gmail.com

Mr Octávio Elísio Alves de Brito
President of HidroEx
Rod. Pref. Américo Gianetti s/n
Cidade Administrativa Bairro Serra Verde
Edifício Gerais 10º Andar
CEP 31630 901 Belo Horizonte MG , Brasil
Tel: +55 31 3916 7501
Fax: +55 31 3915 8623
Email: octavio.elisio@hidroex.mg.gov.br

Mr Richard Meganck
Special Advisor
1100 Skookum Drive
Silverton, Oregon 97381
United States of America
Tel: +1 503 873 0363
Email: rameganck@gmail.com

**International Centre for Integrated Water
Resources Management (ICIWaRM)**

Mr Robert A. Pietrowsky
Director, International Centre for Integrated Water
Resources Management (ICIWaRM) under the
auspices of UNESCO
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria VA 22315, United States of America
Tel: +1 703 428 8015
Fax: +1 703 428 8250
Email: robert.a.pietrowsky@usace.army.mil

Mr William S. Logan
Deputy Director, International Centre for Integrated
Water Resources Management (ICIWaRM) under
the auspices of UNESCO
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria VA 22315, United States of America
Tel: +1 703 428 6054
Email: will.logan@usace.army.mil

Mr Eugene Z. Stakhiv
Technical Director, International Centre for
Integrated Water Resources Management
(ICIWaRM) under the auspices of UNESCO
7701 Telegraph Road
Alexandria VA 22315, United States of America
Tel: +1 703 428 8077
Email: eugene.z.stakhiv@usace.army.mil

Mr Richard Meganck
ICIWaRM-OSU Consultant
1100 Skookum Drive
Silverton, Oregon 97381, United States of America
Tel: +1 503 873 0363
Email: rameganck@gmail.com

**International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk
Management (ICHARM)**

Mr Shigenobu Tanaka
Member of Japanese National Committee for IHP

Deputy Director, International Centre for Water
Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the
auspices of UNESCO
Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)
1 – 6 Minamihara Tsukaba-shi
Ibaraki 305-8516, Japan
Tel: +81 29 879 6806
Fax: +81 29 879 6709
Email: s_tanaka@pwri.go.jp

Mr Toshio Okazumi
Chief Researcher, International Centre for Water
Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the
auspices of UNESCO
Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)
1 – 6 Minamihara Tsukaba-shi
Ibaraki 305-8516, Japan
Tel: +81 29 879 6815
Fax: +81 29 879 6709
Email: okazumi@pwri.go.jp

International Centre on Hydroinformatics

Mr Cícero Jayme Bley Jr.
Brazilian Coordinator
Av. Tancredo Neves 673 - CEP 85.856-970
Foz do Iguaçu - Paraná - Brasil
Tel: +55 45 3520 6508
Email: cbley@itaipu.gov.br

**International Centre on Qanats and Historic
Hydraulic Structures (ICQHS)**

Mr Ali Asghar Semsar Yazdi
Director of ICQHS
Mojtame Edarat Daneshjoo Blvd.
P.O. Box 89165-1553, Yazd, Iran
Tel: +98 351 8250553
Fax: +98 351 8241690
Email: semsar@icqhs.org
Email2: icqhs@yahoo.com

Mr Majid Labbaf Khaneiki
Senior Expert at ICQHS
Mojtame Edarat Daneshjoo Blvd.
P.O. Box 89165-1553, Yazd, Iran
Tel: +98 351 8250553
Fax: +98 351 8241690
Email: labbaf@icqhs.org

**International Research and Training Centre for
Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES)**

Mr Chunhong Hu
Deputy Director and Secretary General
International Research and Training Centre on
Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES)
P.O. Box 366
20 Chegongzhuang West Rd.
Beijing 100048, China
Tel: +86 10 6878 5307

Fax: +86 10 6841 1174
Email: huch@iwhr.com

Mr Cheng Liu
Deputy Division Chief, International Research and
Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation
(IRTCES)
P.O. Box 366
20 Chegongzhuang West Rd.
Beijing 100048, China
Tel: +86 10 6878 6410
Fax: +86 10 6841 1174
Email: chliu@iwhr.com
Email2: cliu.beijing@gmail.com

**Regional Humid Tropics Hydrology and Water
Resources Centre for Southeast Asia and the
Pacific (HTC Kuala Lumpur)**

Mr Mohamed Roseli bin Zainal Abidin
Director of HTC Kuala Lumpur
Department of Irrigation and Drainage Malaysia
Jalan Sultan Salahuddin
50626 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel: +603 2095 8700
Fax: +603 2697 2411
Email: phtc@water.gov.my
Email2: drroseli@water.gov.my

VIII. UNESCO Secretariat

**Secretariat of the International Hydrological
Programme (IHP) of UNESCO**

Division of Water Sciences (SC/HYD)
1 rue Miollis, 75015 Paris, France
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 01
Fax: +33 1 45 68 58 11
Email: ihp@unesco.org

Mr Abdin Mohamed Ali Salih
Secretary, International Hydrological Programme
Director, Division of Water Sciences
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 96
Email: a.salih@unesco.org

Mr Bisher Imam
Deputy Secretary, International Hydrological
Programme
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 46
Email: b.imam@unesco.org

Mr Olcay Unver
Coordinator, UN World Water Assessment
Programme (WWAP)
Villa La Colombella – Località di Colombella Alta
06134 Colombella, Perugia, Italy
Tel: +39 075 591 10 30
Fax: +39 075 591 33 23 / 691 96 67
Email: o.unver@unesco.org

Programme Specialists at HQ

Mr Siegfried Demuth
Chief, Section on Hydrological Systems and Global
Change
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 96
Email: s.demuth@unesco.org

Mr Shahbaz Khan
Chief, Section on Water and Sustainable
Development
Tel: +33 1 45 68 45 69
Email: s.khan@unesco.org

Ms Alice Aureli
Chief, Section on Groundwater Resources and
Aquifer Systems
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 95
Email: a.aureli@unesco.org

Ms Sarantuyaa Zandaryaa
Programme Specialist, Section on Urban Water
Systems
Tel: +33 1 45 68 58 40 54
Email: s.zandaryaa@unesco.org

Mr Anil Mishra
Programme Specialist, Section on Hydrological
Systems and Global Change
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 47
Email: a.mishra@unesco.org

Ms Lena Salamé
Programme Specialist and Project Coordinator
Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential (PCCP)
Tel: +33 1 45 68 41 80
Email: l.salame@unesco.org

Mr Engin Koncagul
Programme Specialist, UN World Water
Assessment Programme (WWAP)
Tel: +33 1 45 68 38 81
Email: e.koncagul@unesco.org

Mr Toshihiro Sonoda
Programme Specialist, Section on Water and
Sustainable Development
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 26
Email: t.sonoda@unesco.org

Mr Miguel De França Doria
Assistant Programme Specialist
Assistant Conference Secretary
Office of the Director
Tel: +33 1 45 68 41 81
Email: m.doria@unesco.org

Mr Vicente Leogardo
Assistant Programme Specialist
Office of the Director
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 04
Email: v.leogardo@unesco.org

Mr Salvatore d'Angelo
Programme Specialist (ALD), Section on
Groundwater Resources and Aquifer Systems
Tel: +33 1 45 68 41 39
Email: s.dangelo@unesco.org

Mr José-Luis Martin Bordes
Programme Specialist (ALD), Section on
Groundwater Resources and Aquifer Systems
Tel: +33 1 45 68 29 61
Email: jl.martin-bordes@unesco.org

*Programme Specialists of other SC Sector
Programmes / Divisions*

Ms Margarete Patzak
Programme Specialist, Division of Ecological and
Earth Sciences (SC/EES)
International Geoscience Programme (IGCP)
Tel: +33 1 45 68 41 18
Email: m.patzak@unesco.org

Mr Thomas Schaaf
Programme Specialist, Chief of Section
Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences
(SC/EES)
Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme
Secretariat
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 65
Email: t.schaaf@unesco.org

Mr Jorge Luis Valdes
Programme Specialist, Chief of Section for Ocean
Science (IOC/OSS)
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of
UNESCO
Tel: +33 1 45 6840 11
Email: jl.valdes@unesco.org

*Programme Specialists at the UNESCO Field
Offices*

Mr Abou Amani
Regional Hydrologist, UNESCO Nairobi Office
PO Box 30592
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 2 62 13 34
Fax: +254 2 21 59 91
Email: a.amani@unesco.org

Mr Giuseppe Arduino
Regional Hydrologist, UNESCO Jakarta Office
Jl. Galuh (II) No 5 Kebayoran Baru
Jakarta 121100 PO Box 1273/JKT, Indonesia
Tel: +62 21 7399 818 Ext.837
Fax: +62 21 7279 6489
Email: g.arduino@unesco.org

Mr Youssef Filali-Meknassi
Science Programme Specialist, UNESCO Office in
Windhoek
38 - 44 Stein Street
P.O. Box 24519
Windhoek, Namibia
Tel: +264 61 2917000
Fax: +264 61 2917220
Email: y.filali-meknassi@unesco.org

Mr Alexandros K. Makarigakis
Science Programme Specialist, UNESCO Office in
Addis Ababa
ECA New Building Menelik Avenue
PO Box 1177
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel: +251 11 551 3953
Fax: +251 11 551 1414
Email: a.makarigakis@unesco.org

Ms Zelmira May
Regional Hydrologist a.i., UNESCO Office in
Montevideo
Luis Piera 1992 - 2do piso
Montevideo 11200, Uruguay
Tel: +598 2413 2075
Fax: +598 2413 2094
Email: z.may@unesco.org

Mr Philippe Pypaert
Programme Specialist, UNESCO Office in Venice
4930 Castello - Palazzo Zorzi
30122 Venice, Italy
Tel: +39 04 260 15 12
Fax: +39 041 528 99 95
Email: p.pypaert@unesco.org
Web: www.unesco.org/venice

Mr Koen Verbist
Assistant Programme Specialist, UNESCO Office in
Santiago
Enrique Delpiano 2058, Providencia
Santiago, Chile
Email: k.verbist@unesco.org

Mr Abdelaziz Zaki
National Programme Officer in Water Sciences
Regional Bureau for Science in Arab States
UNESCO Office in Cairo
8 Abdel Rahman Fahmy Street
Garden City Cairo Egypt
Tel: +202 27945599/ 3036
Cell: +20 10 658 1138
Fax: +202 27945296
Email: aa.zaki@unesco.org

Programme Assistants at HQ

Ms Anna Movsisyan
Assistant to Director
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 01
Email: a.movsisyan@unesco.org

Ms Dominique Lozano
Assistant to Deputy Secretary
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 18
Email: d.lozano@unesco.org

Ms Georgette Gobina
Assistant to Chief of Section
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 28
Email: g.gobina@unesco.org

Ms Barbara Lwanga
Assistant to Chief of Section
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 97
Email: b.lwanga@unesco.org

Ms Ros Wright
Assistant to Chief of Section
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 11
Email: r.wright@unesco.org

Ms Sandrine Baron
General Assistant
Office of the Director
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 49
Email: s.baron@unesco.org

Consultants / Temporary Staff

Mr Akif Altundas
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 78
Email: a.altundas@unesco.org

Ms Marguerite de Chaisemartin
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 15
Email: m.chaisemartin@unesco.org

Ms Lucilla Minelli
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 29
Email: l.minelli@unesco.org

Mr Alexander Otte
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 05
Email: a.otte@unesco.org

Ms Mao Takeuchi
Tel: +33 1 45 68 39 03
Email: m.takeuchi@unesco.org

Mr Alain Michel Tchadié
Tel: +33 1 45 68 40 70
Email: am.tchadie@unesco.org

Ms Susan Mitry
Conference Clerk
Email: s.mitry@unesco.org

Interns at HQ

Ms Heather Barry
Email: hbarry@tcd.ie

Ms Inès Djemali
Email : Inesdjemali@gmail.com

Mr Denis Guillaume
Email: guillermo.denis@hotmail.com

Ms Nandy Valérie Jugdhurry
Email: valerie.jugdhurry@gmail.com

Mr Kee Han Lee
Email: keehanlee@gmail.com

Ms Kaveri Marathe
Email: km652@hoyamail.georgetown.edu

Mr Ignacio Marin Fernandez
Email: ignacio.marin.fernandez@gmail.com

ANNEX III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

WORKING DOCUMENTS

Document Code (IHP/IC-XX/..)	Title	Agenda item	Language*
1	Agenda	1-13	E/F/S/R/A/C
1 Add.	Timetable	1-13	E only
2	Annotated agenda	1-13	E/F/S/R/A/C
3	Final report	1-13	E/F/S/R/A/C
4	List of documents	1-13	E only
5	List of participants	-	E only
6	Considerations for financial support to the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of UNESCO	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
7	Executive Summary of the Strategic Plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014 -2021)	6	E/F/S/R/A/C
8	Proposed category 2 water-related centres	7.1	E/F/S/R/A/C

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

Document Code (IHP/IC-XX/..)	Title	Agenda item	Language
Inf.1	General information and guidelines for participants	-	E/F
Inf.2	Institutional developments at UNESCO	4	E/F
Inf.3	Report on the implementation of resolutions and other recommendations adopted by the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP	5	E/F
Inf.4	(Draft) Strategic Plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021)	6	E/F
Inf.5	UNESCO's water-related Institute and centres (category 2 water-related centres)	7	E/F
Inf.6	Review of IHP-VII activities and related activities of UNESCO	8	E/F

* E – English | F – French | S – Spanish | R – Russian | A – Arabic | C - Chinese

Document Code (IHP/IC-XX/..)	Title	Agenda item	Language
Inf.7	Relations with United Nations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations	9	E/F
Inf.8	40th Anniversary of IHP in UNESCO	10	E/F

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Document Code	Title	Agenda item	Language
IHP/Bur-XLVII/3	Final report of the 47 th session of the IHP Bureau; Paris, 1 June 2012	-	English only
IHP/Bur/Out-of-Session/Report/2012	Final report of the out-of-session meeting of the IHP Bureau; Marseille, 14 March 2012	-	English only
IHP/Bur-XLVI/3	Final report of the 46th session of the IHP Bureau; Paris, 30 May-1 June 2011	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
IHP/Bur-XLV/3	Final report of the 45th session of the IHP Bureau; Paris, 9 July 2010	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
IHP/IC-XIX/3	Final report of the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council; Paris, 5-9 July 2010	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
189 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 189th session; Paris, 27 February – 9 March 2012	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
188 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 188th session; Paris, 11 November 2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
187 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 187th session; Paris, 21 September-6 October 2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
186 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 186th session; Paris, 3 - 19 May 2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
185 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 185th session; Paris, 5-21 October 2010)	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
34 C/4	Medium-term strategy, 2008-2013	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
36 C/5	Programme and Budget for 2012-2013	4	E/F/S/R/A/C

Document Code	Title	Agenda item	Language
35 C/5	Programme and Budget for 2010-2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
IHP-VI/ Evaluation Report/ 2012	External evaluation of the 6th phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-VI, 2002-2007) – Final evaluation report	4	English only
35 C/22	Implementation of the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres approved in 33 C/Resolution 90	7	E/F/S/R/A/C
187 EX/14 Part IX	Proposal for the establishment in Belgrade, Serbia, of a Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	7	E/F/S/R/A/C
	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change, Belgrade, Serbia	7	English only
IHP/IC-XX/ Ref.1	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management at the K-Water Institute, Daejeon, Republic of Korea	7	English only
IHP/IC-XX/ Ref.2	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 Regional Centre on Groundwater Management in Uruguay	7	English only
IHP/IC-XX/ Ref.3	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 International Centre for Water Cooperation in Sweden	7	English only
-	Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP	-	E/F/S/R
-	Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP	-	E/F/S/R
	Admissibility criteria, guidelines and rules of procedure for the preparation and consideration of Draft Resolutions (DRs) at the Intergovernmental Council of IHP (revised version, 5 June 2009)	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
-	Final report of the 18th Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (Hanoi, Vietnam, 11-12 November 2010)	-	English only
-	Final report of the 19th Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (Kyoto, Japan, 27-28 October 2011)	-	English only
-	National reports of the IHP National Committees for the intersessional period between the 19th and the 20th sessions of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP (June 2010 - May 2012)	-	Multilingual

Document Code	Title	Agenda item	Language
-	Reports of UNESCO category 2 water-related centres for the intersessional period between the 19th and the 20th sessions of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP (June 2010 - May 2012)	-	English only

ANNEX IV

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

Resolution XX-1

**SUBMISSION OF THE APPEAL TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recalling its role as a subsidiary body of the General Conference of UNESCO, mandated to guide and supervise the implementation of IHP,

Noting that freshwater is a key resource for human health and ecosystem, prosperity and security, and consequently identified as a priority by UNESCO,

Expressing appreciation for the efforts and leadership of the Director-General and the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences in securing financial resources for IHP and for maintaining its staff in the current difficult budgetary situation,

Considering the commitment and efforts of the National Governments of UNESCO's Member States on behalf of, and for, their people to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed goals, including water-related goals,

Highlighting the long term commitment of UNESCO's Member States to make IHP a key player in addressing the looming water crisis,

Recognizing that IHP is the only intergovernmental programme of the UN system devoted to water research, water resources management, and education and capacity building which is tailored to Member States' needs,

Expressing its deep concern that the significant cash-flow shortfall currently being experienced by the Organization and the very limited human and financial resources allocated to IHP is restricting UNESCO's capacity to effectively address freshwater issues and water-related hazards at a time when their critical relevance for development and human security is necessary and strongly highlighted at the international level, particularly in the case of developing countries,

Recognizing however, that under the current dire circumstances, adjustments to programmes in all areas are inevitable,

Determined to make optimal use of scarce resources by reviewing and, where appropriate, terminating existing programmes,

Recommends to the Executive Board to ensure, to the extent possible, that requirements in terms of staff, regular programme funds and extrabudgetary mechanisms be fulfilled;

Requests the General Conference to make maximum efforts to provide under the next C/5 sufficient budget to IHP to allow for the implementation of activities that are considered the highest priorities.

Resolution XX-2

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GLOBAL GROUNDWATER INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Noting that the depletion and quality deterioration of groundwater resources has an international impact (there are more than 300 transboundary aquifers) and a global impact (also due to global flow of goods produced by using groundwater),

Noting that sustainable groundwater management requires scientifically based data collection on a global scale whereas data and information currently available are not sufficient for a reliable assessment of groundwater resources on regional and global scales,

Noting that there is no global information system available to assist in the monitoring, analysis, interpretation and prediction of the state of groundwater resources,

Recalling that the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) is a UNESCO category 2 centre founded to facilitate and promote the development, standardization and sharing of information and knowledge required for sustainable groundwater resources development and management,

Noting that IGRAC also provides support to the assessment of transboundary aquifers (ISARM programme, UNECE assessments, GEF projects, among others) and groundwater monitoring (through the Global Groundwater Monitoring Network) and is responsible for the groundwater component of the WMO Global Terrestrial Network for Hydrology (GTN-H),

Welcoming IGRAC's participative Global Groundwater Information System as an effective tool to improve international monitoring and assessment of groundwater resources, and its services provided to Member States such as regional and global analysis and a portal where Member States can access information provided by other Member States with their explicit approval while retaining full control over their own data,

Invites Member States to actively contribute to the Global Groundwater Information System and to encourage the use of the system by the national agencies in monitoring and assessing groundwater resources;

Encourages UN agencies to provide their support in advancing the use of the Global Groundwater Information System in international projects and in harmonizing connections among their various programmes.

Resolution XX-3

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE ON TRANSBOUNDARY AQUIFERS MANAGEMENT (IHP-ISARM Project)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recalling Resolution XIV-12 adopted at the 14th session of the IHP Council, Paris, 5-10 June 2000, and Resolution XIX-9 adopted at the 19th session of the IHP Council, Paris, 5-9 July 2010, which are the basis of the IHP International Initiative on Internationally Shared Aquifers Management (ISARM),

Also recalling the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/63/124 (11 December 2008), which appreciated the valuable scientific assistance on the topic of the management of transboundary aquifers rendered by IHP to the United Nations International Law Commission,

Noting the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/66/104 (9 December 2011), which encourages IHP to offer further scientific and technical assistance to Member States,

Recognizing the important contribution provided by IHP in conducting the world wide inventory of transboundary aquifers of the world and in improving the scientific knowledge in support of their management,

Encourages Member States to cooperate on the study of their transboundary aquifers;

Requests the IHP Secretariat to:

- (i) support Member States in promoting studies in regard to transboundary aquifers in the framework of the existing IHP ISARM initiative; and
- (ii) continue studies on transboundary aquifers and assist interested Member States in their studies of transboundary aquifers resources management including by promoting capacity building and awareness raising activities on existing instruments and discussions.

Resolution XX-4

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL (KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND POLICY) INITIATIVE ON WATER QUALITY

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recognizing the urgent need to respond to continuing degradation of the quality of the world's freshwater resources at an alarming rate and the crucial importance of providing clean drinking water and adequate sanitation in pursuing sustainable development, especially in Africa and Asia, where impacts of water pollution are jeopardizing the sustainability of water resources,

Noting the recommendation of the UNESCO Workshop on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa", held in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2011, to establish a knowledge, research and policy network on water quality within the International Hydrological Programme, supported by the IHP National Committees of the African region during the 4th African Regional Meeting of IHP National Committees, held in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, in April 2012,

Noting with satisfaction the contributions of the successful IHP workshops on water quality in Africa, Asia and Arab regions, namely: UNESCO Workshop on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa" (Nairobi, Kenya, March 2011); International Symposium on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Asia-Pacific" (Daejeon, Republic of Korea, December 2011); and International Workshop on "Water Pollution Prevention and Control Strategies towards Sustainable Water Resources Management" (Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, December 2011), in mobilizing scientific and policy-relevant expertise and knowledge sharing to address water quality challenges,

Considering the recommendation and endorsement by the 46th session of the Bureau of the IHP Intergovernmental Council to establish knowledge, research and policy network on water quality,

Considering as well the fact that this topic is already embedded in the strategic plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP,

Requests the IHP Secretariat to work with concerned members to develop a proposal for the International (knowledge, research and policy) Initiative on Water Quality, building on ongoing IHP activities on water quality at the global and regional levels;

Further requests the IHP Secretariat to strengthen IHP activities on water quality to meet the greater needs to assist Member States in protecting and sustainably managing water resources and in making progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development goals, which will be discussed and adopted at the Rio+20 Summit;

Calls upon Member States to actively support and contribute to the International (knowledge, research and policy) Initiative on Water Quality.

Resolution XX-5

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE EIGHTH PHASE OF IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Cognizant of the lead role played by the International Hydrological Programme for almost four decades in the development of hydrology as a science and integrated water resources management tools at the global level,

Emphasizing that the International Hydrological Programme should continue to exert such leadership in the future, and in particular in its Eighth Phase (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021),

Acknowledging that the decision by Member States to make water one of the priorities of UNESCO has enabled the International Hydrological Programme to flourish substantially, and established other UNESCO initiatives in freshwater, including the integration into UNESCO of the UNESCO-IHE Institute of Water Education, the establishment of numerous water-related centers operating under the auspices of UNESCO, and the lead role of UNESCO in the UN World Water Assessment Programme,

Encouraging cooperation among all stakeholders especially South-South-North,

Endorses the planned transition from phase VII into phase VIII of the International Hydrological Programme;

Approves the Strategic Plan for Phase VIII of the IHP, on “Water Security: Responses to Local, Regional, and Global Challenges”, as drafted by the Task Force established to develop this Plan in consultation with Member States, and taking into account the relevant discussion held at the 20th session of the IHP Council;

Recommends that the General Conference of UNESCO, at its 37th session, integrate the main elements of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme into the 37 C/4 and 37 C/5;

Requests the Secretariat of IHP, including Regional Offices, to prepare an implementation plan for IHP-VIII in consultation with the open-ended working group established by the Council for this purpose, the IHP Bureau, Member States, IHP National Committees, category 1 and 2 centres, UNESCO chairs and relevant partners;

Further requests that the terms of reference for the working group be prepared expeditiously by the Bureau in consultation with the members of the Council, with the support of the Secretariat.

Resolution XX-6

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER-RELATED CENTRES UNDER THE
AUSPICES OF UNESCO (CATEGORY 2)**

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Noting the critical importance of freshwater issues at the global and regional levels for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the sustainability of water resources in the face of mounting global changes,

Considering UNESCO's fundamental role in enhancing international cooperation in the sciences and expanding the knowledge base in the field of freshwater through IHP and through the growing network of category 1 and category 2 water-related centres that provides UNESCO with an increasing capability in this area,

Noting with appreciation the willingness of the Governments of the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay to undertake the establishment of category 2 water-related centres, significantly enhancing thematically and geographically the existing network of centres,

Recognizing the valuable services that the centres will render to Member States and stakeholders throughout the globe and the valuable contribution that they will provide to the implementation of IHP,

After due consideration of the individual proposals, endorses the proposals for the establishment of:

- (i) "International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management", at the K-water Institute, Daejeon, Republic of Korea;
- (ii) "International Centre for Water Cooperation" in Sweden;
- (iii) "Regional Centre on Groundwater Management" in Uruguay;

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 IHP strategy for UNESCO category 1 and 2 water-related centres and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (document 35 C/22), as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference;

Invites the IHP National Committees to support the establishment and functioning of the centres;

Invites Member States, the IHP National Committees and in particular the existing UNESCO network of water-related centres and institutes, at the regional and international levels, to actively support the proposed centres and ensure co-operation and collaboration in the common endeavors for the benefit of all.

Resolution XX-7

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRE ON WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN SERBIA UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO (CATEGORY 2)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Noting the decision of the 36th session of General Conference through 36 C/Resolution 29 to authorize the Executive Board, at its 190th session, to decide, on its behalf, on the designation of the Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources in Serbia as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines for the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) annexed to document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, and as recommended by the Executive Board at its 187th session (187 EX/Decision 14 (IX)),

Considering UNESCO's fundamental role in enhancing international cooperation in water for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change through IHP and through the growing network of category 1 and category 2 water-related centres that provides UNESCO with an increasing capability in this area,

Noting with appreciation the willingness of the Government of Serbia, to undertake the establishment of this centre,

Recognizing the valuable services that the centre may render to Member States and stakeholders throughout the globe and the valuable contribution that it could provide to the implementation of IHP,

Endorses the proposal for the establishment of: "Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change", at the Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources in Serbia;

Considering the special circumstances explained by the Serbian delegation during the meeting,

And noting that the IHP Intergovernmental Council was not able to carry out the envisaged comprehensive review since the proposal for the establishment of the Centre was not part of the official documents of the current session of the IHP Council,

Requests the assistance of the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the 190th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO toward the creation of the centre in conformity with IHP strategy for UNESCO category 1 and 2 water-related centres and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (document 35 C/22), as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference;

Requests that a review of the activities and results of the centre be presented to the 21st session of the IHP Council to allow it to assess the state of affairs and reconfirm its decision;

Invites Member States, the IHP National Committees and in particular the existing UNESCO network of water-related centres and institutes, at the regional and international levels, to actively support the proposed centre and ensure co-operation and collaboration in the common endeavors for the benefit of all;

Requests that except for compelling reasons, Members States and the Secretariat of IHP adhere to standard procedures for the establishment of water-related category 2 centres.

Resolution XX-8

EVALUATION AND RENEWAL OF EXISTING CATEGORY 2 WATER CENTRES

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recalling its role as a subsidiary body of the General Conference of UNESCO, mandated to guide and supervise the implementation of IHP,

Highlighting the significant role being played by the water-related category 2 centres in the sustainable development and management of freshwater resources for human health, prosperity and security,

Noting that the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the 35th session of the General Conference requires a formal review and evaluation before the Director-General can renew their agreements,

Recognizing that this may require revision of the existing agreement in order to comply with the model agreements for category 2 centres contained in document 35 C/22,

Appreciates the significant progress that has been made by the Secretariat in the evaluation of the centres whose agreements need to be renewed,

Expressing its deep concern that if the agreements are allowed to expire before the evaluations can be completed and revised to conform to 35 C/22, these centres will not be able to continue to legally function as UNESCO category 2 centres,

Requests the Executive Board and General Conference to approve a transition period and extend these agreements not to exceed 31 December 2014 to allow time to complete the evaluations and to revise the agreements to conform to 35 C/22.

ANNEX V

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND SPECIAL TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

DESD	UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)
DRs	Draft Resolutions
EHP	Ecohydrology Programme
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ERCE	European Regional Centre for Ecohydrology
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GCW	Global Cryosphere Watch
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services
GRIDMAP	Groundwater Resources Investigation for Drought Mitigation in Africa Programme
HELP	Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy
HidroEx	HidroEx International Centre for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water
HYCOS	Hydrological Cycle Observing System
IAH	International Association of Hydrogeologists
IAHS	International Association of Hydrological Sciences
ICHARM	International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management
ICIWaRM	International Centre for Integrated Water Resources Management
ICQHS	International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures
IDI	International Drought Initiative
IFI	International Flood Initiative
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGCP	International Geoscience Programme
IGRAC	International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre
IHP	International Hydrological Programme
IHP-VI	Sixth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2002-2007)
IHP-VII	Seventh Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2008-2013)
IHP-VIII	Eighth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2014-2021)
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IOS	Internal Oversight Service
IRTCES	International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation
ISARM	Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management Initiative
ISESCO	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management

LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MAB	Programme on Man and the Biosphere
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
PCC	Publication and Communication Committee
RC-IRBM	Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO-IHE	UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNILC	United Nations International Law Commission
UNOOSA	United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
UNU	United Nations University
UNW-DPAC	UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication
UNW-DPC	UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWAP	UN World Water Assessment Programme
WWDR	United Nations World Water Development Report