

International Hydrological Programme

23rd session of the Intergovernmental Council
(Paris, 11-15 June 2018)

DRAFT OF THE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE OF THE IHP INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL

Sub-item 4.7 of the provisional agenda

Summary

This document presents the draft text of the revised Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Communication and Outreach Committee of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme for discussion by its 23rd Session.

DRAFT OF THE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE IHP COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE (CnOC)

1. Objective of the Committee

The Communication and Outreach Committee of IHP is established and mandated by the Intergovernmental Council, to act on behalf of the IHP to help reviewing, adapting and implementing the overall communication strategy of IHP. It will also undertake initiatives to raise the impacts of the communication among the UNESCO Water Family and to promote its outreach and visibility, to the widest possible range of stakeholders, water professionals, and the public.

2. Composition of the Committee

- The Communication and Outreach Committee shall be composed of six Member States, one per IHP Region, and, should be, to the extent possible, gender balanced. Each committee member will focus on communication within her/his own region in order to be able to represent the Committee well. The active participation of the six Member States representatives is vital for ensuring the proper functioning of the committee. Furthermore it is crucial to establish regular exchanges among the members of the committee, for instance through a common communication system, by which internal information is exchanged between Member States on a regular basis. to connect more effectively and ensure the functioning of the committee.

- The term of office of the members of the Communication and Outreach Committee shall begin at the close of the session of the Intergovernmental Council at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second session of the Council following it.

Exception:

1. When a member of the committee can no longer meet the below requirements, the elected Member State can propose an alternative representative of the committee;
2. Should a Member State want to withdraw its representative from the Committee, the respective region may suggest an alternative member from a Member State representing the region during the first session following the Council at which the CnOC members were elected.

- The Committee shall meet on the occasion of the sessions of the Intergovernmental Council and will hold additional intersessional meetings via skype or other online platforms at least twice a year.

- Members of the Communication and Outreach Committee are expected to cover the cost of their own attendance of the meetings.

- The Chairperson may be invited to present reports of the Communication Committee at the intersessional sessions of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP, as long as there is no cost to the budget of the IHP Secretariat.

- The Committee members have time and resources to implement the functions of the committee described below, and are cooperating with their fellow committee members and helping each other where possible in the implementation of the UNESCO Water Family's communication and outreach.

3. Functions of the Committee

1. Devise, assess and revise communication and outreach strategy in close collaboration with the IHP Secretariat and help formulate and implement requirements that may be needed to enhance the awareness and recognition of

- (a) IHP's accomplishments,
- (b) the contributions of Member States to the implementation of IHP, and;
- (c) the contributions of water-related Category 2 Centres (C2C) and UNESCO Chairs, the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), and the National Committees of IHP to the accomplishment of the goals set for the respective IHP phase.

2. Help identifying and support implementing new communication requirements of Member States and the Secretariat.

3. Actively participate in monitoring and promoting the creation of participatory online public space for IHP, including on social media.

4. Identify (if possible) potential sources and means to obtain additional support for the UNESCO Water Family's communication on the basis of information provided by the Secretariat, the Member States and other sources.

5. Each Communication and Outreach Committee member shall liaise with the IHP Bureau member of her/his respective region to actively involve IHP National Committees in reinforcing

- a. the communication on IHP and the UNESCO Water Family within the region; ,
- b. the cooperation on communication between the regions;
- c. the liaison with the IHP Finance Committee in order to evaluate the costs related to the implementation of IHP communication actions and campaigns.

6. Present to the sessions of the IHP Bureau a written summary Status Report including recommendations for further action, and at each session of the IHP Council meeting, an in-depth report of the current communication activities, as appropriate suggesting policy and procedural issues to be considered by the Council.

For any requests for clarification, please contact Mr Alexander Otte (a.otte@unesco.org).