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Maciej Zalewski
Chairman of the National Committee
International Hydrological Programme of Poland

Comments on the 2nd Extraordinary session
of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP

Representative: prof. Maciej Zalewski
European Regional Centre for Ecohydrology PAS

Day 1 – 30th November 2020

Poland first of all would like to congratulate the draft team and IHP Secretariat on the 2nd-order draft Strategic Plan for IHP's Ninth Phase, IHP-IX, which has been much more advanced than the 1st order draft, however needs some more further work and clarification.

Poland underlines the necessity to put among the top priorities the understanding of water/ecosystem interplay. This is because according to the UN WWDR 2018 "Nature-Based Solutions" in 60% of areas on Earth, the terrestrial ecosystems ensure the hydrological cycle of catchments. Thus creating a profound understanding of water cycle ecosystem interplay is the background for development of innovative Nature Based Solutions (NBS) for water and systemic solutions for enhancement of catchment sustainability potential.

Day 2 – 1st December 2020

Poland would like to express appreciation for constructive comments of colleagues participating in the session and as far as many "patchnotes" emerge for clarification of the strategy, but in reference to the mission of UNESCO and IHP in the document there are 3 key priorities that should also be introduced:

1/ As far as cumulative impact increase in local, regional and global scale there is a need to promote the integrative transdisciplinary science on water and sustainability

2/ To reverse degradation of water resources, there is an urgent need for translation of progress in science into innovative solutions, especially low-cost low-energy NBS based on Ecohydrology

3/ Further work is needed for strategic networking on dissemination of innovative solutions through advanced education.

Sincerely

CHAIR
OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
International Hydrological Programme of Poland

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maciej Zalewski', is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail.

Maciej Zalewski