

## **International Hydrological Programme**

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

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

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

#### **SUMMARY**

This document is a consolidated report on activities undertaken and results obtained, with the UN system and on bilateral basis with UN specialized Agencies and Programmes, and with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. It also reports on contribution to the UN World Water Development Report, as well as on activities related to the International Decade for Action – Water for Life (2005-2015) and IHP role in international events (EXPO 2015, the Stockholm World Water Week, the 38<sup>th</sup> General Conference of UNESCO, COP 21), and international agendas (2030 Agenda, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change UNFCCC and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction).

Actions expected from the Council: The Council may wish to

- Note the development of the WWDR and comment on collaboration with IHP and members of the UNESCO's water family.
- Suggest to the IHP National Committees to inform the IHP Secretariat of relations with the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.



## Cooperation with the UN System on freshwater issues (agenda item 9.1)

### **UN Water**

1. UN-Water, the coordination mechanism of UN agencies, organizations and programmes handling water-related topics, is currently composed of thirty-one members that meet twice a year and a similar number of partners. UN-Water was established by the High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) in 2003 and subsequently endorsed by the Chief Executive Board. A permanent Secretariat is provided by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) in New York. UN-Water meetings are hosted by the member organizations twice per year, one in Stockholm Sweden and another one on rotation basis. Since 2012 UN-Water is chaired by Heads of UN organisations appointed by the UN Secretary General. Mr Michel Jarraud, former Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organisation, was the former UN Water Chairperson who served until 2016, while the former Vice-Chair was Ms Blanca Jiménez Cisneros, Director of the Division of Water Sciences (SC/HYD) and Secretary of IHP, appointed in 2014 and served until January 2016. The UN-Water current Chairperson is Mr Guy Ryder, Director-General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), who took office in January 2016 and will serve until 2018. The current Vice-Chair is Mr Joakim Harlin (UNEP), who will serve until January 2018. The Senior Programme Manager (SPM) for UNESCO is Ms Blanca Jiménez Cisneros, and the alternate is Mr Stefan Uhlenbrook, Coordinator of WWAP. UN-Water has a Joint Steering Group (JSG), which is responsible for the implementation of the UN-Water Work Programme, of which Mr Giuseppe Arduino (section on Ecohydrology, Water Quality and Water Education SC/EQE) is a member until August 2017.

2. UN-Water activities are carried out through time-bound Task Forces and around specific Thematic Areas, which draw on the varied expertise of the UN system and of UN-Water partners, in particular:

(a) Thematic Priority Areas:

- Water and Climate Change (coordinated by WMO; UNESCO is a member)
- Transboundary Waters (coordinated by UNESCO and UNECE)
- Water Supply and Basic Sanitation (coordinated by UNICEF)
- Water Quality (coordinated by UNEP; UNESCO is a member)

(b) Task Forces:

- Country-level Coordination (coordinated by UNDP; UNESCO is a member);
- Regional-level Coordination (only UN Economic and Social Commissions);
- Water Security (coordinated by UNU and UNESCO);
- Water Resources Management (coordinated by UNEP-DHI Centre for Water and Environment, UNDP Water Governance Unit, Global Water Partnership);
- Capacity Development of Water Operators (coordinated by UN-Habitat; UNESCO is a member);
- Wastewater management (coordinated by UNEP and UN-Habitat; UNESCO is a member).

3. The 23<sup>rd</sup> UN-Water Meeting was hosted by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Stockholm, Sweden, August 2015. Among the most relevant to UNESCO decisions adopted during the meeting are the following:

- As the International Decade of Water for Life was going to an end in December 2015, the SPM expressed their gratitude to the Directors of UNW-DPC and UNW-DPAC and their staff for the valuable contribution to the activities during the Decade as well as commended the work of UN-Water as a whole. The SPM thanked Germany and Spain for their support to the associated Programmes
- The SPM, together with the UN-Water partners, decided that the main UN-Water celebration of the World Water Day 2016 will be held at the ILO headquarters in

Geneva, Switzerland in 2016. The SPM encouraged UN-Water members and partners to participate in the official celebrations

- The SPM encouraged UN-Water members and partners to collaborate with WWAP (UNESCO) in the production of the World Water Development Report 2016 on Water and Jobs
- The SPM agreed to maintain the UN-Water Working Group on the SDGs (UNESCO is part of it) until the next UN-Water Meeting to support the 2030 Agenda process and continue to solicit input from UN-Water members. To ensure coherent and consolidated technical input to the SDG indicator framework process, the SPM agreed that all submissions to the IAEG-SDGs on water and sanitation related issues are to be channelled through UN-Water.

4. The 24<sup>th</sup> UN-Water Meeting was hosted by ILO in Geneva from 1-3 February 2016. During this meeting Mr Guy Ryder, Director-General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) took office and replaced Mr Michel Jarraud, former Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), who served for four years.

5. UNESCO-IHP is contributing to the UN-Water Working Group on SDGs and is one of the seven UN agencies (alongside UNEP, UN-HABITAT, WHO, FAO, UNICEF and WMO) that established in 2014 the 'Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation-related SDG targets' (GEMI) project under the UN-Water umbrella. UNESCO contributes to the methodological aspects linked to groundwater and transboundary waters within SDG 6 on water. Further details are reported in document 10 of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Bureau session.

6. Among the decisions adopted during the meeting, in what follows are the most relevant ones to UNESCO:

- The SPM took note of the progress of the Global High-level Panel on Water and Peace and appointed ADG/SC Ms. Flavia Schlegel of UNESCO to represent UN-Water at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Panel taking place in Dakar, Senegal on 5-6 April 2016.
- The SPM agreed that UN-Water avails itself to provide consolidated reporting of water and sanitation in the 2030 Agenda.
- The SPM created a Task Force to analyze the coordination and rationalization of the reporting framework for water and sanitation in the 2030 Agenda. The Task Force is asked to provide recommendations to be discussed at the 25<sup>th</sup> UN-Water Meeting. The Task Force is coordinated by Mr. Stefan Uhlenbrook (WWAP/UNESCO) and its members are UNICEF, UNEP, UN Global Compact, UNECE, ILO and FAO.

### **UNEP**

7. UNESCO-IHP International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ) closely collaborates with UNEP on water quality and wastewater issues to jointly contribute to improve water quality globally in support of the achievement of Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a more coordinated, synergetic and focused support to countries. In particular, UNESCO-IHP and UNEP are jointly developing two case studies: 'Microplastics in freshwater environments – an emerging issue', in collaboration with Plastic Soup Foundation; and 'A Systematic Review of Effects of Emerging Pollutants on Human Health and Livelihoods of Populations Living along Lake Victoria Basin of Kenya', in collaboration with Lake Victoria Basin Commission. Based on the findings of the case studies, contributions to the evaluation of different options to remove emerging pollutants from municipal wastewater can be considered.

8. UNESCO, through IHP's IIWQ, contributes with the UNEP/Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS) Water and the UNEP-led Global Wastewater Initiative (GWI).

9. UNESCO and K-Water jointly organized the Eco-Challenge Camp for School students on 'Aqua Republica' online game to raise awareness on sustainable water management, with the participation of 39 students from nine countries.

#### **UNEP-GEF**

The cooperation between IHP and UNEP-GEF Unit has been strengthened. At the end of 2015, UNESCO-IHP finalized the execution of the project on the 'Global Assessment of 199 Transboundary Aquifers'. This project is a component of the 'Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme' (TWAP), financed by GEF and implemented by UNEP-GEF. Within the framework of this project, IHP in cooperation with the UNESCO category 2 centre IGRAC developed a methodology and formulated indicators to assess the state of transboundary aquifers and also conducted the assessment of groundwater systems in 43 SIDS. Within the framework of the regional programme financed by UNEP-GEF on 'Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership)', the IHP has undertaken a series of studies on coastal aquifers in 13 Mediterranean countries to establish priority actions for the management and protection of coastal aquifers.

#### **WMO**

10. UNESCO-IHP and WMO continued their collaboration based on the working agreement signed in 2013 ('Long-term cooperation between WMO and UNESCO in the field of Hydrology and Water Resources'). IHP, jointly with the International Sava River Commission, the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River and WMO co-organized the International Workshop on 'Flood Risk Management Measures and Links to the EU Water Framework Directive' in Zagreb 2015. The WMO Commission for Hydrology in its 14<sup>th</sup> session in 2012 invited UNESCO-IHP to establish a joint task team to prepare a Basic Instruction Package (BIP) and Competency Standards for hydrological technicians. A UNESCO-IHP/ WMO Liaison Committee meeting held in December 2014, in Paris, agreed to establish the joint task team. The team's composition includes members from different regions with both operational and academic backgrounds and representatives from IAHS and IAHR. A UNESCO-WMO high-level meeting was held in Paris on 22 January 2015 and discussed cooperation between UNESCO and WMO. The first meeting of the joint task team was held from 6-8 May 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland. IHP, IAHS, WMO and other partners organized two sessions on water and climate change during the International Scientific Conference 'Our Common Future under Climate Change', held at UNESCO, July 2015. The International Flood Initiative (IFI), which is a joint programme between UNESCO, WMO, UNU, ISDR and IAHS and the Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) from WMO are complementary. Mr. Johannes Cullman former chair of the IHP Intergovernmental Council has assumed Director's position at the Climate and Water Department of WMO.

#### **FAO**

11. UNESCO-IHP in cooperation with FAO, jointly aimed to inform and deliver messages on the key role of water during EXPO 2015 'Feeding the Planet – Energy for life'. UNESCO, with JRC-Water, FAO and CNR of Italy, co-organized the Workshop 'Addressing Our Emerging Water Futures: The Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Security Nexus' and co-produced, in cooperation with Gruppo Alcini, RAI Fiction, FAO and the UN-EXPO team, 13 episodes of the Leonardo EXPO cartoons on sustainable development for EXPO2015, Milan, September 2015. The workshop brought together 100 multidisciplinary participants from Europe and abroad, and helped raise awareness and increase the knowledge base on best sustainable practices implementation on the nexus. The Leonardo Expo cartoons also helped raise awareness with the visit of 200,000 international children.

12. UNESCO collaborated with FAO on the IHP-led sessions on 'The water quality dimension of the water-soil-waste nexus' and 'Promoting safe and sustainable wastewater use', organized by IHP at the Dresden Nexus Conference (DNC2015) held in Germany, in March 2015.

13. Given the current state of aquifers and the degree of human dependency upon groundwater, UNESCO-IHP in collaboration with FAO and other partners is contributing to the improvement of groundwater governance at national and regional levels. Within the framework of the 'Groundwater Governance Framework for Action' project guiding principles have been formulated and can be used by member states.

#### **UNECE**

14. UNESCO-IHP is cooperating closely with UNECE on promoting water cooperation principles regarding transboundary surface and groundwater. The Seventh session of Meeting of the Parties to the UNECE Water Convention in Budapest, 2015, concluded with a decision to continue and further strengthen the cooperation between UNESCO-IHP and UNECE, in particular regarding the joint monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal 6.5.2 concerning transboundary water cooperation in the framework of the Global Environmental Management Initiative (GEMI).

#### **UNDP-GEF**

15. IHP cooperation with the UNDP – Global Environmental Finance (GEF) Unit has been reinforced. At the end of 2015 the IHP has successfully finalized the activities of the project 'Protection and Sustainable Use of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System' (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro) financed by the GEF. IHP is also responsible for the groundwater component of the GEF IW: LEARN Project 'Strengthening International Waters Portfolio Delivery and Impact'. IHP has been cooperating with UNDP for the implementation of the UNDP-GEF project on 'Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of African Network of Basin Organization (ANBO)'.

#### **UNICEF**

16. UNESCO Liaison Office in Addis Ababa assisted UNICEF's ONE-Wash Programme in Ethiopia to pin-point specific locations for groundwater drilling to companies commissioned by UNICEF, which resulted in finding good quality water based on UNESCO's expertise on hydrogeological sciences and research.

#### **UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)**

17. An international seminar on 'Impact of Glaciers Melting on National and Transboundary Water Systems in Central Asia' was held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on 11-12 November 2014, organized in cooperation with UNRCCA, the Executive Committee of International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and the World Bank. The event made a contribution towards a better understanding of the present challenges in the Central Asian region with regard to glaciology, climate change, and transboundary water management.

#### **United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)**

18. UNESCO actively participated and contributed to the development of several United Nations Partnership for Development Frameworks (UNPDF) in many countries, in particular: in Indonesia for the period 2016-2020, the UNPDF was developed under the general title of 'Fostering Sustainable and Inclusive Development'; in Malaysia through the consultation with key stakeholders for the development of the United Nations Strategic Partnership Framework (UNSPF); and in Uruguay participating in the thematic group on environment, natural resources and sustainable development jointly with UNDP.

19. UNESCO Office in Almaty contributed to activities of the UN Joint Programme in Central Asia on IWRM and disaster risk reduction education and climate change. This included cooperation with the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia and a pilot study on climate risk management.

20. The UN Joint Programme on 'Improving the welfare and quality of life in the Kyzylorda region, Kazakhstan' has been developed by the Government of Kazakhstan and six UN Agencies, including UNESCO.

21. UNESCO Office Jakarta actively engages with the International Flood Initiative (IFI), which is a co-initiative of WMO, UNESCO, UNU, UNISDR and other members (IAHS, IAHR), through its flagship project 'To support benchmarking flood risk reduction at global, national and local levels'. Under IFI activity, UNESCO office Jakarta is also implementing a JICA funded project on 'Strategic strengthening of flood Warning and Management Capacity of Pakistan'. Following a successful Phase 1 (2011-2014) that yielded the first local data calibrated flood forecasting and inundation system in Pakistan on main Indus river, a second Phase 2 started in March 2015, focusing on Eastern Rivers and a broader flood vulnerability assessment and related capacity building in the region, especially in Afghanistan.

### **Cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (agenda item 9.2)**

#### ***African Union***

22. UNESCO Liaison Office in Addis Ababa established a partnership with the African Union to initiate Pan-African 'UNESCO Green Academies', starting with six places in Ethiopia and one place each in Sierra Leone and Tanzania to foster rainwater harvesting, grey-water and black water recycling for food and water security.

#### ***Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS) & Economic Community for Central African States (ECCAS)***

23. Within the framework of the TWAP programme, groundwater component, the ECOWAS regional water centre and UNESCO Nairobi Office have cooperated on the organization of the joint UNESCO-ECOWAS-ECCAS workshop on TWAP held in Dakar in July 2014.

#### ***Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)***

24. Following the joint IANAS-NASAC workshop held in Panama in October 2014, NASAC and UNESCO cooperated on the organization of the second workshop in Nairobi in October 2015.

#### ***African Water Association (AfWA)***

25. UNESCO initiated partnership with AfWA for the organization of the 18<sup>th</sup> Africa Water Congress, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, and hosted by Nairobi Water in February 2016.

#### ***Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)***

26. UNESCO-IHP International Initiative on Water Quality (IIWQ) established close collaboration with OECD on water quality issues to provide support to countries in a more synergetic, coordinated and resource-efficient way by developing mutually-benefitting, focused joint activities and building on ongoing and future planned activities with the aim to maximize resources and develop synergies. This cooperation provides an opportunity to make the knowledge, expertise and policies of OECD countries accessible to developing countries to strengthen and build capacities needed to achieve the SDG targets related to water quality, as well as helps increase UNESCO-IHP's global presence, visibility and outreach to OECD members, key stakeholders and partners in IHP activities. OECD shared and disseminated the findings of their study on the economics of water quality to IHP partners at the UNESCO IIWQ Regional Consultation Meeting on Water Quality in Europe (Koblenz, Germany, December 2015) and contributed to the UNESCO-IHP session on 'Water Quality, Climate Change and Ecohydrology', organized as part of UNESCO events on 'Water and Climate' Day at COP21 at Le Bourget attended by about 200 participants,

including UN and international agency representatives, water professionals, environmental specialists, policy-makers, researchers and NGOs. The findings of UNESCO-IHP IIWQ case studies on emerging pollutants were disseminated and discussed with 13 OECD member countries and 18 partner organizations and institutions, including 41 official delegations and experts, at the OECD Workshop on 'Innovative Policy Instruments for Water Quality Management' (The Hague, March 2016) with the aim to consider effective and innovative policies on new water quality challenges and risks and learn from their experience.

27. In the framework of the OECD Global Water Governance Initiative, IHP and the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) are coordinating the work of the group 'Basin Governance', which addresses both surface and groundwater.

#### ***International Sava River Basin Commission***

28. The Expert Working Group established by UNESCO-IHP in cooperation with the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) elaborated a proposal for the development of a common Sediment Monitoring System for the Sava River Basin.

#### ***International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)***

29. IUCN acted as the implementing partner of UNESCO Case study 'Trifinio Aquifer', with financial support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), for an in-depth assessment of groundwater resources in the Trifinio tri-national area in Central America using a multi-disciplinary methodology, which led to a new delineation of the aquifers in the area. This partnership will continue in the project's next phase (2016-2018), focusing on water diplomacy and groundwater governance.

#### ***International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH)***

30. IAH partnered with IHP in the execution of the Project on 'Groundwater Governance' including most notably the preparation of principles for good groundwater governance. IHP prepared jointly with IAH sessions at the World Water Forum in Korea in April 2015 and the IWRA Congress in Edinburgh in the UK in May 2015, and participated in IAH Congresses in Marrakesh (2014) and Rome (2015) and shared findings on transboundary aquifers issues, climate change and other common themes.

#### ***International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)***

31. IAHS remains a very important scientific partner of IHP from its inception having cooperated with UNESCO in setting up each IHP programme and contributed with much of its science. IAHS and IHP co-organized several scientific events during the reporting period, which is reflected in detail in Agenda item 6.5. IAHS, also, presided the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNESCO water family event organized during the COP21 in Paris.

#### ***InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science (IANAS)***

32. UNESCO started a collaboration with the Water Network of InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science (IANAS), which is the network of the most renowned scientists in the Americas. Through this cooperation a joint UNESCO-IANAS Regional Workshop on 'Water Quality in the Americas' (Irvine, United States, 2015) was organized to define the most important water quality issues in the region. UNESCO-IHP and IANAS co-published in 2015 the book 'Urban Water Challenges in the Americas: A perspective from the Academies of Sciences' describing the situation of urban water management in 20 countries in the North, Central, South Americas and the Caribbean region.

#### ***Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)***

33. Within the COP21, jointly with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), IHP organized the outreach event 'Raising Awareness of Climate Change: the key findings of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report' on 7 December 2015 at UNESCO headquarters. The sessions of this full-day event focused on the presentation of the key



messages and findings of the latest Assessment Report, including the physical science; impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and the mitigation aspects. Journalists and media representatives were invited to participate in a session dedicated to communicating on scientific assessments and telling science based stories. The final session was dedicated to climate change education and education for sustainable development, as an investment in the younger and future generation. Nine representatives of the Scandinavian initiative Children Climate Panel visited UNESCO on this occasion and presented their organisation and interest in climate change issues and water.

#### ***Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)***

34. Technical support was provided to IGAD for the organization of the First IGAD Water Dialogue, 8-10 December 2014. UNESCO was part of the Technical Organizing Committee.

#### ***IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC)***

35. ICPAC and UNESCO jointly organized, in partnership with AGRHYMET, a technical workshop on the transfer of the methodology on seasonal discharge forecast for the Horn of Africa in August 2014.

#### ***Ibero-American Water Directors Conference (CODIA)***

36. IHP collaborated with the Ibero-American Water Directors Conference (CODIA) on activities related to water education and capacity building and a memorandum of understanding is under discussion to guide strengthened collaboration. With the support of AECID (Spanish Cooperation Agency), IHP organized training courses.

#### ***World Water Council***

37. At the 7th General Assembly of the World Water Council (WWC) that took place 12-14 November 2015 in Marseille, France, UNESCO was elected member of the Council's Board of Governors, which will serve a three-year mandate until 2018. The board has a total of 35 Governors representing 5 colleges. UNESCO is part of college number 1 reserved to International Organizations, together with the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). More than 250 persons from 40 countries have participated at the Assembly. The World Water Council is the opportunity for all members to influence the strategic orientation of the organization by voting policies and programs. The Assembly adopted the triennial Strategy that will be focused on: 'Water security, Adaptation, and Sustainability'. The Assembly also re-elected the WWC President Benedito Braga who will be serving until 2018. IHP and the UNESCO Water Family actively participated at the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Korea, as reported, and has initiated efforts to be actively contributing to the 8<sup>th</sup> WWF that will be organized in Brazil in 2018.

#### ***Other partnerships***

38. UNESCO Office in Bangkok initiated a partnership with the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP, an intergovernmental regional organization) and the Korean Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources in mapping groundwater quantity and quality in the Mekong River Basin. A 2-minute teaser for the Exhibition 'Mountains: early warning systems for climate change' was prepared in collaboration with the French NGO Wild Touch and projected in numerous events, enhancing IHP's visibility. UNESCO Office in Almaty, in partnership with the Public Fund 'Centre 'Cooperation for Sustainable Development' (Kazakhstan), prepared an updated IWRM module for universities, which was presented at an event in December 2015 with the participation of about 50 university teachers and experts from Central Asia.

## **IHP's contribution to the UN World Water Development Report (agenda item 9.3)**

### ***Background***

39. The United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) of UNESCO coordinates the efforts of 31 members (UN Agencies, Organizations, Funds and Programmes) and 38 partners constituting UN-Water (the coordination mechanism of the UN system on freshwater) to produce the United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR). WWAP is structurally a part of the Division of Water Sciences and it is housed in the Programme Office for the Global Water Assessment in Perugia, Italy.

40. WWAP, since its establishment in 2000, published four editions of the triennial WWDR (2003, 2006, 2009 and 2012). As per 2012 decision of UN-Water, the World Water Development Report (WWDR) became an annual thematic publication. The first annual edition of the WWDR with the theme 'Water and Energy' was presented on March 2014. The following editions focused on 'Water for a Sustainable World' (2015) and 'Water and Jobs' (2016). The 2017 edition of the Report (with the working title 'Wastewater: The Untapped Resource') is in preparation stage for launch on 22 March 2017 on the occasion of the World Water Day (place and venue to be decided by UN-Water). The 2018 edition of the Report will be 'Nature-based Solutions for Water', with the World Water Day preparations co-lead by UNESCO and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

41. IHP and other members of UNESCO Water Family have been typically involved in the scientific work of WWAP. IHP and WMO co-authored Chapter 10: Adapting to Climate Variability and Change of the WWDR 2015. WWDR2016 featured Chapter 2.3: Climate Change and extreme events (IHP, WMO, IAHS), Chapter 11: Addressing Capacity Development needs and improving dialogue (UNESCO-IHE), Chapter 15.1: Alternative water resources (IHP) and Chapter 16: Scientific and technological innovation (IHP, UNESCO-IHE, WMO, IAHS). In WWDR2017, IHP is leading Chapter 16: Reusing wastewater and recovering useful by-products and Chapter 17: Knowledge gaps, research needs and capacity, and has contributed to Chapter 2: Technical aspects of wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse.

42. Following official launch of WWDR2016 in Geneva (22 March 2016, ILO Headquarters), WWAP collaborated with IHP regional hydrologists and other colleagues in UNESCO field offices, national and UN partners to organize more than 30 events worldwide for the dissemination of the findings to increase the policy impact of the Report: Argentina (Buenos Aires), Botswana (Gaborone), Brazil (Brasilia), Cape Verde (Praia), China (Beijing), Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo), Egypt (Alexandria, Cairo), Ethiopia (Addis Ababa / Bahir Dar), Finland (Helsinki), Ghana (Accra), Italy (Perugia, Rome, Turin, Venice), India (New Delhi), Indonesia (Jakarta), Jordan (Amman), Kazakhstan (Almaty), Kenya (Nairobi), Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek), Mongolia (Ulaanbaatar), Mozambique (Maputo), Nigeria (Kaduna), South-Sudan (Juba), Swaziland (Mbabane), Thailand (Bangkok), Tajikistan (Dushanbe), The Netherlands (Delft), Uruguay (Montevideo), Uzbekistan (Tashkent) and the United Nations headquarters (New York, USA).

### **IHP's role in the international Decade for Action-Water for Life (2005-2015) (agenda item 9.4)**

43. The United Nations International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' (2005-2015) ended after 10 years of action to promote efforts to fulfill international commitments on water issues by 2015. The Decade concluded with two events: High-level Interactive Dialogue 'The International Decade for Action: Progress achieved and lessons learned relevant to the achievement of sustainable development' (March 2015); and High-level 'International Conference on the Implementation of the International Decade for Action -Water for Life' 2005-2015 (Dushanbe, Tajikistan, June 2015).

44. IHP contributed to the UN-Water Annual International Zaragoza Conference 'Water and Sustainable Development' (Zaragoza, January 2015) as the Academia Stakeholder Lead Convener and organized four sessions on water quality and access to water and sanitation, which brought together over 20 researchers from Spain, South Africa, Vietnam, the United States, United Kingdom and other countries.

45. IHP contributed actively to the above-mentioned High-Level (item 43) Conference on the Decade held in Dushanbe by raising awareness and focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of this resource. The Secretary of IHP co-chaired the International Steering Committee of the conference. IHP also organized a high-level roundtable 'Water beyond 2015: Water Cooperation as Catalyst to Achieve Water-related Goals', which helped place a greater focus on collaboration among countries through negotiations and agreement on cooperation modalities based on solid technical contexts and called participants to join forces so that water cooperation becomes an everyday reality, rather than a cause for confrontation. UNESCO Office in Almaty contributed with a side-event on water education.

#### **IHP's role in key international events and agendas (agenda item 9.5)**

##### ***The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development***

46. An International Workshop on, 'Sustainability Science 2015' was organized on 4 and 5 March 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to discuss and propose recommendations for the development of an Asia and the Pacific Regional Framework for the implementation of Sustainability Science as well as to facilitate suggestions for the upscaling of water and environmental sustainability for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Over 125 participants from 25 countries attended.

47. UNESCO supported the 'Water Seminar 2015' that was organized on 27 April 2015 by the Department of Water Services of the Public Works Department, Ministry of Development of Brunei Darussalam in Bandar Seri Begawan, with the theme on 'Water and Sustainable Development'. The meeting raised awareness of the importance of water for life and allowed participants to share and learn about issues related to water sustainability and identify solutions from other countries. The Humid Tropic Centre, Kuala Lumpur (HTCKL), also supported this event. More than 50 participants from 5 Asian countries attended.

48. Within the SDGs framework, UNESCO-IHP International Initiative on Water Quality supported 24 countries from all regions to enhance their capacity for improving water quality monitoring and implementing related SDG targets of the 2030 Agenda through an International Symposium on 'Scientific, Technological and Policy Innovations for Improved Water Quality Monitoring in the Post-2015 SDGs Framework' in Kyoto, Japan (2015).

49. UNESCO-IHP supported the overall process of establishing targets and indicators for the implementation and monitoring of SDG 6 on water and sanitation and developed a methodology on monitoring indicator 6.5.2 on International Cooperation on transboundary water resources along with UNECE. WWAP provides technical guidance to UN-Water on IWRM monitoring and disaggregation of SDG 6 indicators within the framework of GEMI (Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets) project. It needs to be noted that the International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change, a UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C), working with the water programs and network of UNEP, UNESCO-IHP and WMO, contributes to the agenda 2030 and SDG's by establishing a water quality data base and developing global water quality products and indicators supporting decision-making for water management and policies. The latter is true for most of the C2 water Centres and it has been identified through their periodical reports or during the C2 Sciences Centres meeting held in Beijing, China in May 2016,

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

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

52. This summary of activities also responds to the Resolution XXI-6: "Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals" inviting the Secretariat to cooperate in the framework of UN-Water with other relevant UN Organizations such as FAO, UNEP, UN-Habitat, WHO and WMO, with a view to maintain and further enhance cohesion and coherence with the UN System on the development of potential indicators and monitoring for the future SDG on water and sanitation;

***The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)-Conference of the Parties (COP)***

53. The GRAPHIC Steering Committee met in May 2015 to prepare for its involvement in the COP21. Other activities of GRAPHIC include applying innovative tools (i.e. satellite data from the NASA's Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment GRACE mission) for evaluating groundwater resources storage and uncertainty trends in regions where data access is very limited, either because of data scarcity or accessibility (geography, conflicts, among others).

***The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030***

54. During the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDDR) held in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan, IHP in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) organized a working session on 'Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)'. During the Session, UNESCO reiterated its commitment to strengthening education and capacity building to help Member States better cope with the hydrological extremes of floods and droughts. UNESCO-IHP together with MAB DRR is also member of the Board of Representatives of the International Consortium on Landslide (ICL); UNESCO signed the 'ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnership 2015-2025 for global promotion of understanding and reducing landslide disaster risk', approved by seventeen international stakeholders, during the UN WCDDR in Sendai, Japan, March 2015. This partnership has a great potential of contribution to the Sendai Framework for DRR (endorsed by the UN General Assembly in June 2015) and the Science and Technology Roadmap to support it (January 2016).