



IHP/Bur/Technical-Meeting/2019/1  
Paris, 8 January 2019  
(English only)

*International Hydrological Programme (IHP)*

## **Technical Meeting of the members of the Bureau of IHP**

(Paris, France, 16-17 January 2019)

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### Summary

This document contains background information on the following provisional agenda items:

2. Adoption of methods of work
- 4.1 Update on the process towards the approval of the Statutes of the IHP Intergovernmental Council

## **2. Adoption of methods of work**

1. The development of the ninth phase of the International Hydrological Programme, IHP-IX, the evaluation of IHP's Flagship initiatives and the mid-term evaluation of IHP-VIII, are among the activities and developments that rendered it necessary to organize a technical meeting of the Members of the IHP Bureau.

2. Since this is a technical meeting, it is proposed that recommendations for each item are recorded and pursued, and that no decision is taken, as the latter is incumbent on official IHP Bureau sessions. Key elements for the meeting's report and proposed recommendations are foreseen to be recorded and agreed upon by the Bureau Members on the second day of the meeting.

## **4. Institutional developments at UNESCO**

### **4.1 Update on the process towards the approval of the Statutes of the IHP Intergovernmental Council**

3. The IHP Statutes were the central topic of discussion of the 23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of IHP, taking an important place in the meeting's exchanges. The modifications subsequently adopted by the IGC were based on the adaptation of the recommendations issued by the Open-ended Working Group on Governance, Procedures and Methods of Work of UNESCO's Governing Bodies, approved by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 39th session.

4. The discussion resulted in decision Res. XXIII-1 of the IHP Council to agree to the amendment of the Statutes, including to the change of the name to "Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme". It was further discussed that the Bureau Members will be elected as soon as possible after the session of the General Conference at which the members of the IHP Council are elected, thus eliminating the current legal gap through which Bureau Members temporarily represent countries, which are no longer Council Members. Furthermore, the new composition of the Bureau will abolish the current role of the past Chairperson as an Ex-Officio Member of the Bureau following his/her chairpersonship; the Bureau will consist of a Chairperson, four Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, on the basis of equitable geographical representation and, to the extent possible, gender equality. A recommendation of a voluntary limitation of terms to two consecutive mandates has been included in the revised Statutes to promote diversity and inclusivity.

5. As per Resolution XXIII-1 of the IGC, the Statutes, containing the agreed and adopted change of name, will be presented by the Secretariat at the 206th session of the Executive Board for their approval and subsequently to the 40th session of the General Conference of UNESCO.

6. It is thus proposed that the Members of the Bureau raise the awareness of their respective electoral Group's representatives as well as of other Member States and ensure that the Statutes adopted by the IGC of IHP are approved by the Executive Board, scheduled from 3 to 17 April 2019. The composition of the Executive Board by Electoral Group can be seen in the Table in Annex 1.

Annex 1: Table of the composition of the Executive Board by Electoral Group

**COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 2017-2019  
BY ELECTORAL GROUP**

Group I (9 seats)	Term expires	Group II (7 seats)	Term expires
1. Finland	2021	1. Albania	2021
2. France	2019	2. Belarus	2021
3. Greece	2019	3. Bulgaria	2021
4. Italy	2019	4. Lithuania	2019
5. Portugal	2021	5. Russian Federation	2019
6. Spain	2019	6. Serbia	2019
7. Turkey	2021	7. Slovenia	2019
8. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2019		
9. United States of America	2019		
Group III (10 seats)	Term expires	Group IV (12 seats)	Term expires
1. Brazil	2019	1. Bangladesh	2021
2. Cuba	2021	2. China	2021
3. Grenada	2021	3. India	2021
4. Jamaica	2021	4. Indonesia	2021
5. Mexico	2019	5. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2019
6. Nicaragua	2019	6. Japan	2021
7. Paraguay	2019	7. Malaysia	2019
8. Saint Lucia	2021	8. Pakistan	2019
9. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2021	9. Philippines	2021
10. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2021	10. Republic of Korea	2019
		11. Sri Lanka	2019
		12. Viet Nam	2019
Group V(a) (13 seats)	Term expires	Group V(b) (7 seats)	Term expires
1. Burundi	2021	1. Egypt	2021
2. Cameroon	2019	2. Jordan	2021
3. Côte d'Ivoire	2019	3. Lebanon	2019
4. Equatorial Guinea	2021	4. Morocco	2021
5. Ethiopia	2021	5. Oman	2019
6. Ghana	2019	6. Qatar	2019
7. Kenya	2019	7. Sudan	2019
8. Madagascar	2021		
9. Nigeria	2019		
10. Senegal	2019		
11. South Africa	2019		
12. Zambia	2021		
13. Zimbabwe	2021		