



IHP/Bur/Technical-Meeting/2019/2
Paris, 10 January 2019
Original: English

International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

Technical Meeting of the members of the Bureau of IHP

(Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, 16-17 January 2019)

DRAFT

Information on the Comprehensive World Water Development Report

Summary

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

5.3 Comprehensive World Water Development Report

5.3 Comprehensive World Water Development Report

1. The Bureau of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) in its 55th and 56th session recommended preparing a comprehensive WWDR, replacing the annual thematic Reports every 5th year. The comprehensive edition would provide an inclusive picture of the global water situation with regard to water availability, quality, its uses, management and related issues (capacity development, finance etc.) as well as possible future changes in relation to global drivers and development pathways. Such an in-depth coverage in actual WWDRs is not possible due to its thematic focus and annual publication schedule.

2. Subsequently, an exchange of letters between the Chairperson of the IHP Bureau, the Director-General and the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences has resulted in a promise of UNESCO's higher management to contact the UN-Water Chairperson in this regard.

3. At the 23rd session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, this element was part of the discussions and the WWAP coordinator, recognizing the added value of such a report, expressed the willingness of WWAP to take on this challenge, echoing the IHP Chairperson's earlier call during the 56th Bureau meeting to Member States for additional financial and in-kind support to make it happen. He further suggested that fundraising efforts would gain momentum, if two or more Member States would come forward as 'champions' and commit funding. He introduced an alternative, having a comprehensive report that is mostly based on the input of the UNESCO Water Family and other interested partners (e.g. UN Agencies, the Sustainable Water Future Programme of Future Earth etc.). This would address a scenario where UN-Water Senior Programme Managers (SPM) decide to not have a comprehensive report instead of an annual thematic report.