Recent global developments on water and climate

Sonja Koeppel, Water Convention, UNECE
COP 22 Marrakech in November 2016 - relevant outcomes

- «COP of implementation»
- Paris agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016
- Marrakech Action proclamation adopted
- Main topics: - elaborate the Paris agreement rulebook
  - NDC Guidance: NDC partnership launched
  - Adaptation communications discussed
  - Finance: new pledges, Adaptation Fund continues

Issues for 2017 under UNFCCC: review of water and ecosystems in Nairobi Work Programme at SBSTA in May 2017 (Dniester was provided as good practice example)

COP 23 in November in Bonn under Fiji chairmanship: probably again a water day

Technical review of adaptation under the Adaptation Committee
Paris Pact on water and adaptation to climate change in the basins of lakes, rivers and aquifers

• Initiative under the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (now Global Climate Action Agenda) by INBO in 2015, in cooperation with UNECE

• Aims to mobilize action, from all the stakeholders in the basins, in order to enhance and accelerate strategies and measure plans better adapted to the current and future effects of climate change

• 355 organizations from 94 countries have signed it

• More than 50 concrete projects have been submitted
COP22 in Morocco: Increased attention to water

• Preparatory conference organized by the Moroccan ministry for water: “Water Security for Climate Justice”, Rabat, 11-12 July

• During COP22: Water Day on 9 November consisting of a water showcase in the morning and high-level dialogue in the afternoon, Dniester was mentioned. Results presented at high-level dialogue on 16 November

• Outcome: Marrakech partnership

• Outcome: Global Alliances for water and climate- declaration signed:
  - “Paris Pact on Water and climate change adaptation to river basins, lakes and aquifers”
  - The “Business Alliance for Water and Climate”
  - The “Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate”
  - The #ClimateIsWater initiative
Outcomes of the Water Day on 9 November at COP22

• Confirm the water action day on the Global Climate Action Agenda of the COP

• Create, within the general framework of the Global Climate Action Agenda, a formally recognized multi-stakeholder dialogue space for the water international community

• Support countries, in how to include ambitious, credible, and robust water programs in their NDCs for both climate mitigation and climate adaptation;

• Create a water and energy hub for exchange and capacity building

• Launch two pilot projects related to National Water Information Systems;

• Establish multi-parties dialogues in the pilot hydrographic basins

• Elaborate and implement, within the formally recognized multi-stakeholder dialogue space, a priority Water Action Plan for Climate Resilience, with specific financial mechanisms and monitoring of commitments;

• Set up a monitoring mechanism to evaluate progress on commitments related to water and climate change with an annual review potentially during each COP;

• Promoting expertise and knowledge exchange related to water infrastructures to cope with the climate change impacts (floods, droughts, natural disasters…).
Relevant global developments on water in 2016

• New Decade for water and SDGs adopted by United Nations General Assembly
• Preparatory Process for the World Water Forum in 2018 in Brasilia started
• High-Level Panel on Water and High-Level Panel on Water and Peace started working on outcomes with focus on finance, valuing water and water diplomacy
• Discussion at the UN Security Council on Water, Peace and Security in November 2016 chaired by Senegal
• 20th Anniversary of the Water Convention’s entry into force
• Discussions on SDG indicators and global water infrastructure
SDG indicator development and testing

• Relevant SDG targets:
  • SDG 6 on water, including target 6.5 on transboundary cooperation: By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.
  • Target 6.4: By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.
  • Target 11.5 within the goal on cities: By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global GDP caused by disasters, including water-related disasters.
  • Goal 13: Take urgent action to address climate change and its impacts.

• Progress on indicators:
  • Global Indicators developed and adopted in 2016, incl. Methodologies, tested in some pilot countries and then revised.
SDG 6 global monitoring

- **6.1.1** Safely managed drinking water services (WHO, UNICEF)
- **6.2.1** Safely managed sanitation and hygiene services (WHO, UNICEF)
- **6.3.1** Wastewater safely treated** (WHO, UN-Habitat)
- **6.3.2** Good ambient water quality** (UNEP)
- **6.4.1** Water use efficiency** (FAO)
- **6.4.2** Level of water stress* (FAO)
- **6.5.1** Integrated water resources management (UNEP)
- **6.5.2** Transboundary basin area with water cooperation** (UNECE, UNESCO)
- **6.6.1** Water-related ecosystems** (UNEP)
- **6.a.1** Water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government coordinated spending plan (WHO, UNEP, OECD)
- **6.b.1** Participation of local communities in water and sanitation management (WHO, UNEP, OECD)

**WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP)**

**UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS)**

**Integrated monitoring of water and sanitation related SDG targets (GEMI)**
Convention reporting and SDG indicator 6.5.2: two related processes

Adoption of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, including target 6.5

Adoption of the reporting mechanism under the Convention

Adoption by the UN Statistical Commission of the global SDG indicators, including 6.5.2

Reporting

- means to monitor progress on target 6.5
- non-Parties are invited to report

UNECE and UNESCO designated as custodian agencies for 6.5.2

Testing of methodologies within GEMI

Data analysis and compilation of reports

Review of first reporting exercise at MOP8

July 2018 and November 2018

Digest of data analysis and compilation of reports

In depth review of SDG 6 at HLPF
What is SDG indicator 6.5.2?

- **Target 6.5**: By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate.

- **Indicator 6.5.2**: Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation.

- **Complements indicator 6.5.1** which measures the advancement of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

- **Custodian agencies**: UNECE and UNESCO

- Water Convention reporting adopted at MOP7 in Budapest strating with pilot reporting exercise in 2017: decision to combine with SDG 6.5.2 reporting
1- calculate the surface area of each transboundary basin (for aquifer = aquifer extent) and the total sum within a country.

2- verify which transboundary basins are covered by a cooperation arrangement.

3- check which of the existing arrangements are operational:
   - Existence of a joint body, joint mechanism, commission (e.g. a river basin organization) for transboundary cooperation
   - Regular formal communications between riparian countries (e.g. regular meetings)
   - Existence of joint or coordinated water management plan(s), or of joint objectives
   - Regular exchange of data and information between riparians.

4- calculate the share of transboundary basins covered by operational arrangements of the total sum of transboundary basin area.
\[ \frac{a_1 + a_2 + a_5}{a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5} \]
I. Transboundary water management at the national level
Legislation, measures taken to reduce pollution, measures to enhance water efficiency, ecosystem approach, groundwater, EIA,

II. Questions for each transboundary basin, river, lake or aquifer
Agreements and their scope (geographic, uses, topics of cooperation)
Joint bodies, their tasks and activities
Cooperation with non-Parties, action plan & strategies, data exchange, joint monitoring and assessment, reduction of transboundary impacts, mutual assistance, stakeholder involvements
Difficulties and achievements

iii. Calculation of SDG indicator 6.5.2

IV. Final questions
Main challenges and achievements
All Parties have been asked to report by 15 May 2017 (letter to Minister)

Discussions on filling the template between riparians on the same basin are encouraged

Subsequently, discussion at the WGIWRM in July 2017 and preparation of the synthesis report for MOP8 (October 2018, Kazakhstan)

Possible revision of the reporting template in 2017-2018

Preparation of reports for the implementation of the Convention and for monitoring on 6.5.2 for HLPF and MOP8 (including input to overall report on SDG 6 by UN Water)