

WATER CO-OPERATION UNDER THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH OPENS UP FOR NEW POSSIBILITIES AND NEW PARTNERSHIPS

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- ▣ **There is nothing so important in our daily life than access to safe and clean water. Water is a basic need for everyone.**
- ▣ **Access to clean water a vital human right.**
- ▣ **The UN Millennium Goals No 7 set the target to reduce by 2015 by half the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.**

UNECE/WHO PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

- ▣ Signed in 1999 and entered into force in August 2005. 24 countries have ratified this instrument, including Russia.

The first legally binding international agreement, adopted specifically to ensure an adequate supply of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation for everyone, by linking water management and health issues.

Protocol on Water and Health

Four pillars for an effective implementation of the Protocol

1. Setting clear targets and measurable indicators of progress
2. Establishment and strengthening surveillance systems
3. Measure and report on progress and ensure compliance
4. Mutual assistance and international support between Parties

Project Facilitation Mechanism

- ▣ At the First Meeting of Parties in January 2008 the Parties decided to establish a body which is called the Project Facilitation Mechanism (PFM) to help mainstream international support for national action.

A response to the reach out obligations that follows of the Article 11 and 14 of the Protocol . Norway has led this body for three years

Project Co- Operation

- ▣ Moldova – Switzerland
- ▣ Ukraine – Norway
- ▣ Armenia – Finland
- ▣ Georgia - Germany
- ▣ Tajikistan, Montenegro, Kyrgyz Republic and Russia

EXTENSIVE CO-OPERATION NEEDED

- ▣ It goes without saying that such cooperation can sometime be demanding and will certainly require clear decisions on sharing of labour and financial obligations between the authorities and organisations involved.

Extensive coordination needed

- ▣ **Competence transfer is the key-word**

INFRASTRUCTURE

- ▣ **The Project Facilitation Mechanism limit itself to render assistance to develop target plans for improving the clean water supply.**
- ▣ **There are either competence or resources for the Mechanism to engage itself in improvements of infra structure. It is here where the Water Fund will have to play its role.**

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- ▣ Financial support a prerequisite for success of the follow up of target setting
- ▣ Both the projects in Ukraine and in Moldova have revealed specific identified areas for improvement in the infrastructure.
- ▣ This is something that goes beyond the capacity and the mandate of the Protocol of Water and Health and should be addressed by for example the EBRD, NDEP and other international financial instruments

DONOR SUPPORT

- ▣ **With eight countries requesting assistance for setting targets and target dates certainly implies that new donor partners are desperately needed**
- ▣ **A prerequisite for follow up financing follow up investments in infrastructure**

Donor Co-Operation Needed

- ▣ WE ARE INVITING DONORS,
PARTICULARLY THE EU COMMISSION
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISATIONS TO AN ENHANCED
DONOR CO-OPERATION
- ▣ NEW MODELS OF CO-OPERATION TO
CREATE SYNERGY EFFECTS NEEDED TO
HELP UNSERVED POPULATIONS

Increased Co-operation with International Finance Institutions

- ▣ **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development**
- ▣ **Private enterprise, financial sector**
- ▣ **Norwegian initiative to establish a Water Fund**

BARENTS CO-OPERATION

- ▣ Norway initiates a project under Barents Co-operation to cover Archangelsk, Komi and Murmansk
- ▣ Ninth Meeting of Ministers of the Environment in Tromsø 17 February 2009 recognized the need for improving the drinking water in Barents Region-Paragraph 33 of the Declaration

RUSSIA TAKES ACTIVE PART IN THE WORK UNDER THE PROTOCOL

- ▣ Norway has been in active consultations with Russian Federal authorities discussing the initiative on launching a water project in North West Russia with links to the Protocol on Water and Health
- ▣ Russia elected to the Board of the Protocol at the Meeting of the Parties , Bucharest 23-28 November 2010

EBRD – WATER FUND

Knowing that plans and targets will not provide clean water in the tub for the households, Norway is very pleased with the cooperation with the EBRD and the willingness of the Bank to cooperate in establishing a special Water Fund for ODA-countries.

NDEP programme with focus on Russia will be utilized whenever possible.

EU invited to co-operate

- ▣ Currently the financing of the PFM relies mainly on non-European Union (EU) countries and individual EU countries.
- ▣ When implementing projects on target setting it is a overriding goal to use the work being done under the EU initiated National Policy Dialogues

National Policy Dialogues

- ▣ Combine forceds with EU National Policy Dialogues as the aim for all actors involved is similar, and the local stakeholders are identical.
- ▣ By inviting donor countries, and in particular EU Commission and EU Partners to be flexible and willing to enter into new models of cooperation and with new and combined efforts demonstrate a new creativity in finding new ways to obtaining synergies

CHALLENGES PREVAIL

- ▣ Coordinated actions are the most effective way to quickly transfer legal language on commitments into concrete actions.
- ▣ Challenges still prevail and we are far from legal language to concrete actions. The global economic situation further stress the need for targeted and coordinated actions in meeting the challenge to overcome the lack of access to financial means.

Advantages for Donors and Recipients

FOR DONORS

- ▣ Project consistency
- ▣ Long-term projects
- ▣ Projects beyond funding capacity of individual donor
- ▣ Good budget control and oversight
- ▣ Ownership, control and monitoring
- ▣ Guarantees quality of project proposals

FOR RECIPIENTS

- ▣ Single entry point for donor assistance
- ▣ Ownership
- ▣ Technical and scientific support
- ▣ Local expertise used
- ▣ Assistance in formulation
- ▣ Integration in national strategic development plans

Recommendations

- ▣ Use Protocol to meet environment and health commitments, tackle inequalities, and promote policy and technical dialogue
- ▣ Initiate a targeted cooperation between Partners of the Barents Cooperation to join forces in North West Russia
- ▣ Strengthen implementation and create sustainable and predictable financing

Recommendations

Use Protocol for improved surveillance and response to improved water supply and for climate change adaptation

Take advantage of Project Facilitation Mechanism

Co-ordinate donor actions

Conclusions

- ▣ **New possibilities are opening up**
- ▣ **Better cooperation and harmonization**
- ▣ **Improved consistency**
- ▣ **Improved control, review and assessment**

THANK YOU

New possibilities, new partnerships in
water cooperation

