Prepcom Conference

"Towards the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Water Cooperation Issues"

19-20 October, 2011

Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Purpose of this presentation:

Introduction to

*Concept and plan of events on preparation for the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013*
Concept and plan of events on preparation for the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013

Activities involving the main aims and objectives of the International Year of Water Cooperation

**Component 1:** To include a thematic session on water cooperation in the program of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

**Component 2:** To organize a special high-level meeting and a special session on the theme "Towards the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013" in the framework of the 6th World Water Forum.

**Component 3:** To prepare activities for the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013.

**Component 4:** To organize an International High-Level Conference on the International Year of Water Cooperation in the second half of 2013 in Dushanbe.

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**Component 1:** To include a thematic session on water cooperation in the program of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

**Subcomponent 1.1:** To organize the International Conference "Towards the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Water Cooperation Issues".

**Subcomponent 1.2:** To draft a concept note on the thematic session on water cooperation.

**Subcomponent 1.3:** To request the Secretariat and the Preparatory Group of the Rio+20 Conference to include the thematic session on water cooperation in the Programme of the Conference.

**Subcomponent 1.4:** To organize a group of partners from the UN Member States (representing different regions) and the UN institutions for preparation and organization of this meeting at the relevant level.
**Component 2:** To organize a special high-level meeting and a special session on the theme "Towards the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013" in the framework of the 6th World Water Forum.

- to send a letter without delay to the President of the World Water Council to include HLM in the program of the 6th World Water Forum;
- to develop together with partners a concept note of the HLM;
- to develop in collaboration with partners a program and a draft outcome document of the HLM;
- to publish on the website preparatory materials and programmes of the forum, concept note and other information about the HLM on "Towards the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013."
- to appoint focal points from the Government of Tajikistan and international organizations (partners) on preparations for the HLM and solution of organizational and technical issues.

**Component 3:** Preparatory activities for the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013.

**Subcomponent 3.1:** To establish a coordinating group (hereafter the CG) Tajikistan — "UN-Water" in order to coordinate activities in preparations for the International Year of Water Cooperation.

**Subcomponent 3.2:** To organize conferences and seminars on water cooperation and other goals laid down in Resolution 65/154: "International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013" in the six regions of the world.
**Component 4:** To organize an International High-Level Conference on the International Year of Water Cooperation in the second half of 2013 in Dushanbe.

**Subcomponent 4.1:** To submit, within the framework of the 67th session of UNGA (2012), draft resolution of the UNGA entitled "Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013."

**Subcomponent 4.2:** To make the High-Level Dialogue/thematic session of the UNGA on water cooperation one of the major events, within the comprehensive review of the implementation of Resolution 65/154 "International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013."

**Subcomponent 4.3:** To organize a High-Level International Conference dedicated to the International Year of Water Cooperation in Dushanbe in the second half of 2013.

**Component 4:** To organize an International High-Level Conference on the International Year of Water Cooperation in the second half of 2013 in Dushanbe (cont).

**Subcomponent 4.3:** To organize a High-level International Conference dedicated to the International Year of Water Cooperation in Dushanbe in the second half of 2013.

- To entrust the responsibilities of the working group to the coordinating group (CG), the establishment of which was proposed in Subcomponent 3.1 of our Plan.
- To create a website of the Conference (Subcomponent 3.1).
- To embrace the events envisaged by the Components 1, 2 and 3 of this plan in the plan of CG activities.
- To organize a meeting of donors with the aim to ensure financial support for the planned events (CG in cooperation with the UNDP office in Dushanbe and UN-Water).
Activities involving the main aims and objectives of the International Year of Water Cooperation

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Further actions after 2013

Using the
- established structure and potential, as well as
- recommendations and
- proposals within “The International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013”

for further events on the comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade of Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015, covering all the aspects of issues related to water and sanitation, including the issue of strengthening of cooperation.
Turkey:

1. The title of the event “Prepcom Conference” should be replaced by “Preparatory Conference”;

USA

2. The outcome document – “Declaration” should be entitled “Chair’s Statement” or “Recommendations”. The document should be shortened in 1 or 2 pages; This will allow to have a free discussion without spending valuable time finding language that must be accepted by all parties in a consensus document.

3. Consider broadening the scope of the proposed thematic day to include all water issues instead of just water cooperation – this will allow your request to appeal to more member countries and give you more space for success given how different water issues relate to one another.

4. The Concept Note of the Thematic Session also should be shortened in 2 or 3 pages;

Netherlands:

5. In the Concept Note: Please mention as one of the slogans the efficient water use for agricultural purposes (70% of water use is for agriculture). This draft is very much focused on the water sector, while the water challenges are for a big part outside the water sector.

6. Please cooperate with existing networks: World Water Forum 6 Marseille, UNSGAB, Sanitation and Water for All, UNESCO-IHE.

7. Please mention the development of international water law: the ratification process of the UN Watercourses convention of 1997 and the draft articles on transboundary aquifers that are being discussed this UNGA.