

“4th INTERNATIONAL YELLOW RIVER FORUM”

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SPECIAL INBO SESSION



ROLE OF REGIONS / PROVINCES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES & STAKEHOLDERS
IN THE ELABORATION OF RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

**Elaboration of the WFD RBM Plans in the
MEUSE and SCHELDT international Districts**

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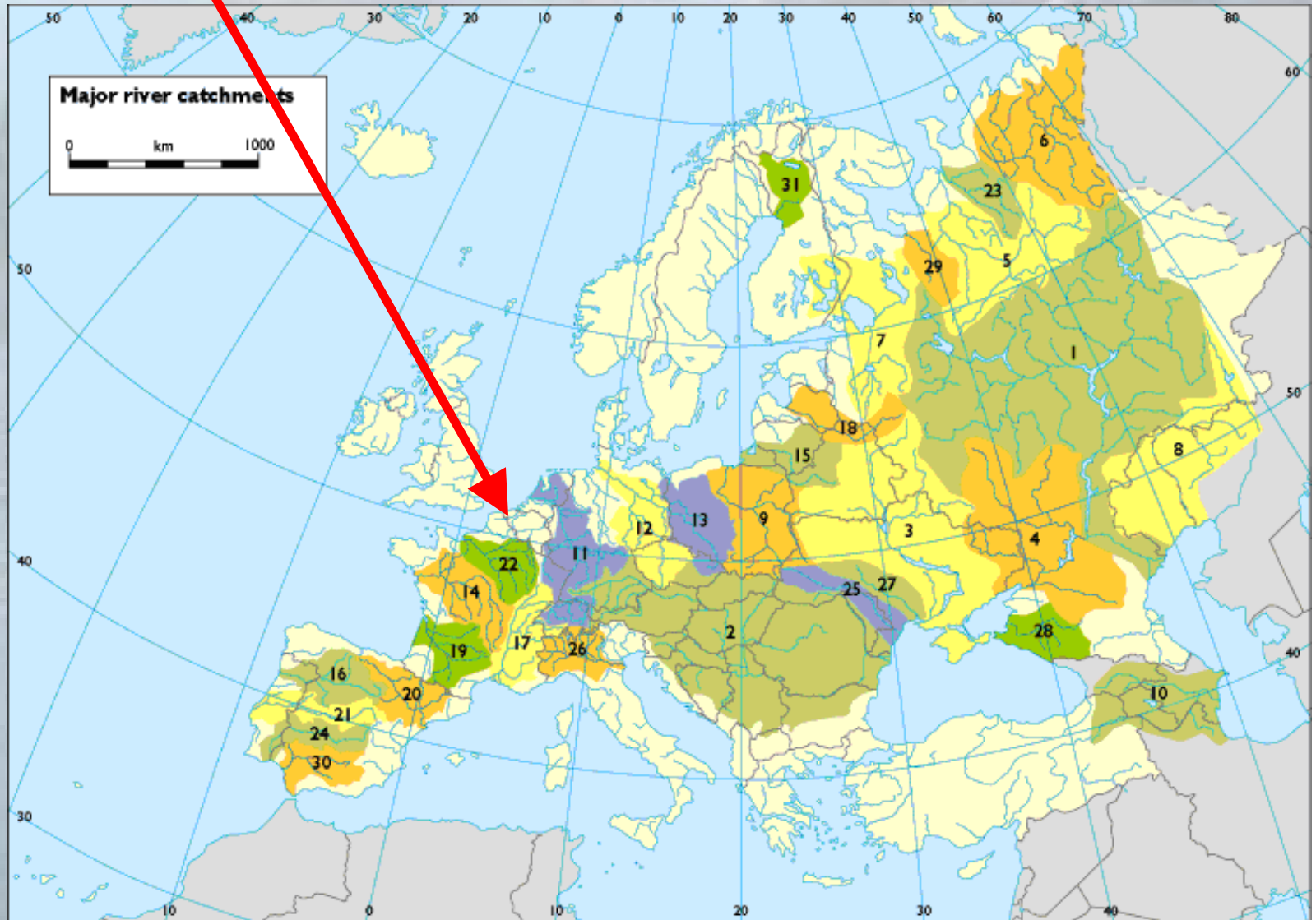
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Preamble

This presentation engages only the responsibility of the author and does NOT engage the responsibility of the Water Administration of WALLONIA nor the responsibility of the INTERNATIONAL MEUSE COMMISSION or INTERNATIONAL SCHELDT COMMISSION

Introduction

The MEUSE and the SCHELDT basins are located in the central part of Western Europe, between the Seine and Rhine basins



The MEUSE international hydrographic district

35.348 km²

8.8 M inhabitants (2006)

8 official partners participate in the international coordination of water management in the district :

- France
- Luxemburg
- Walloon Region
- Flemish Region
- *Brussels Region*
- *Belgian feder. State*
- Germany
- The Netherlands



The SCHELDT international hydrographic district

36.416 km² 12.8 M inhab (2006)

6 official partners participate in the international coordination of water management : France, Walloon Region, Flemish Region, Brussels Region, Belgian feder. State, The Netherlands



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LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- In 1994 :
 - . the International Agreement on the Meuse
 - . the International Agreement on the Scheldtorganise the international multilateral co-operation in the 2 basins
 - ➔ Set up of the International Meuse Commission (IMC)
 - ➔ Set up of the International Scheldt Commission (ISC)
- In 2002 :

new Meuse and Scheldt Agreements in order to organize the int'l co-operation as regards the co-ordination imposed by the WFD in the European international districts notably : ONE single MANAGEMENT PLAN

 - ➔ IMC and ISC = bodies where the WFD co-ordination takes place

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OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

- In order to produce ONE single RBMP in the MEUSE Int'l district:
decision is made in 2002:
THE RBMP of the district will be composed of:
 - . an « UMBRELLA » part, elaborated jointly by all the partners:
 - i) main water management issues in the district
 - ii) efforts and results of the int'l co-ordination
 - . the national / regional management plans elaborated by each of the partners in the district
- The same decision for the SCHELDT Int'l District
- Set up in the IMC and in the IMS of Expert Working Groups dedicated to the co-ordination of the technical aspects of the WFD

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CO-ORDINATION ACTIONS

- Co-ordination of the Art.5 national / regional reports
+ an “umbrella” report on the characteristics of the district
- Co-ordination of the monitoring programmes
+ an “umbrella” report about the monitoring
- Co-ordination of the environmental objectives
(surface water, groundwater)
+ special focus on transboundary rivers and aquifers
- Co-ordination of the national / regional Programmes of measures
+ special attention to the co-ordination of exemptions
- Set-up of technical tools:
Web-GIS (→ maps), Transnational modelling (PEGASE)
- 2008: Draft of the “UMBRELLA” report of the RBMP

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INVOLVEMENT of the STAKEHOLDERS

- Participation of experts of NGOs in the technical W.Groups of the IMC / IMS
- Public consultation = a responsibility of the Member States and NOT of International Commissions (=concertation bodies)
→ public consultations are organized on a national / regional basis by the Water Authorities
- Public consultation on the DRAFT of the “Umbrella” report: organized by most of the Water Authorities (when the agendas made it possible)
+ results taken into account in the elaboration of the final version of the “Umbrella” report
- Web-sites of IMC and IMS → links to the Web-sites of the Water Authorities (and vice-versa)

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CONCLUSIONS

- Role of the different actors:
 - . National / Regional WFD Water Authorities
 - . International Commissions
 - . Stakeholders (NGOs), Publicis specific and well-defined since the beginning of the process
- Difficulties in the process of co-ordination and especially in the elaboration of the « Umbrella » report:
mainly due to the different methods, agendas, internal procedures,...
but: efforts towards transboundary harmonization and coherence
- The final versions of the « UMBRELLA » REPORTS of the RBMPs for the MEUSE and SCHELDT Int'l districts are expected to be approved in NOV / DEC 2009 (Plenary Assemblies of the Meuse and Scheldt Commissions)

Thank you for your attention

