



International Hydrological Programme (IHP)

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FINAL REPORT

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OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 20th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 4 to 7 June 2012. Delegates from thirty-four of the thirty-six Member States that are members of the IHP Intergovernmental Council attended the session. Forty-nine delegations from Member States that are not members of the IHP Council, two United Nations organizations, ten intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and nine category 2 water-related centres were represented as observers. The list of participants is attached as [Annex II](#).

Report of the outgoing Chairperson

2. The outgoing Chairperson, Mr Soontak Lee, opened the session and welcomed the delegates. He thanked the members of the Bureau for their cooperation and solidarity, which had led to the accomplishment of the challenging tasks entrusted to them. He further thanked the Council, the Bureau, the Secretariat and the various field officers and implementing partners at national, regional, and global levels for their work and for sustaining IHP's leadership in freshwater. He expressed his appreciation to the Director-General of UNESCO as well as to the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences for their support in maintaining the capacity of IHP, despite the financial difficulties currently faced by the Organization. Mr Lee expressed his satisfaction with the substantial amount of cutting-edge scientific outputs and publications, such as "Co-engineering and Participatory Water Management" through Cambridge University Press, produced by IHP, which not only demonstrates its significant contribution to hydrological sciences and water resources management regionally and worldwide, but also reiterates IHP's position at the leading edge of water sciences. He also noted the expansion of the activities carried out by IHP initiatives and networks.

3. Mr Lee highlighted the key accomplishments of IHP over the past two years, noting his personal participation and contribution to many activities. He emphasized the expansion of the network of IHP water-related centres resulting from the approval by the 36th session of the General Conference of four new centres in Kazakhstan, Kenya, Nigeria and Sudan. He noted that the Bureau endorsed four new proposals for the establishment of category 2 centres in the Republic of Korea, Serbia, Sweden and Uruguay, of which centres in the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay had been discussed during an out-of-session Bureau meeting held in Marseille in March 2012.

4. Mr Lee reported on the Bureau's continual engagement with IHP as demonstrated by the series of out-of-session meetings, conference calls, and email exchanges. He emphasized that some of the most important tasks of the Bureau during this period had included the monitoring of the evaluation of the Sixth Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002-2007) and the planning for the Eighth Phase (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021). He noted that the Bureau was now closely following the implementation of the Seventh Phase (IHP-VII, 2008-2013) and the financial situation of the Programme. Mr Lee also underlined that the Bureau had written a letter expressing the Bureau's solidarity with the IHP National Committee of Japan in the aftermath of the devastating tsunami, as well as a letter of appeal to the Director-General requesting her to work with the Executive Board and General Conference of UNESCO to ensure appropriate financial resources and sufficient staff levels were maintained within IHP.

5. Noting that the formulation of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of IHP was one of the most critical tasks of the Bureau, Mr Lee described the Bureau's involvement in the assessment of the Member States' consultation, while providing recommendations that reflected the results of regional consultations to the IHP-VIII Task Force. He highlighted that these reviews and consultations resulted in the endorsement of the theme of "Water Security" for IHP-VIII. Mr Lee further noted that celebrations for the 40th anniversary of IHP would take place in two years and that during the past four decades a significant difference had been made by the Programme to improve societies and the lives of its people.

Summary of the opening statement of the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences

6. The Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, Ms Gretchen Kalonji, welcomed the delegates. Ms Kalonji highlighted the importance of water for sustainable development. Noting that the Rio+20 Summit will re-envision the roadmap to a sustainable green economy, she highlighted UNESCO's belief that education, science, technology, gender equality and water should all be integral elements of this vision.

7. Ms Kalonji noted that IHP-VIII will be the first eight-year phase of IHP (2014 to 2021). Noting the overarching focus on "Water security: responses to local, regional, and global challenges", she emphasized that IHP-VIII themes, focusing on water-related disasters, groundwater, water scarcity, water quality, water for human settlements, ecohydrology for a sustainable world, and water education, are all essential to water security. She noted that these themes reflected critical water-related priorities for the era beyond the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Their early identification and adoption by IHP is evidence that IHP remains a leader in water-related issues.

8. Ms Kalonji expressed her satisfaction with the work carried out by IHP, highlighting its role in assisting Member States in enhancing resilience to water-related disasters. Ms Kalonji expressed her gratitude to the Government of Japan and the Flemish Community for their support to IHP projects on floods and droughts in Pakistan, Namibia and the Horn of Africa. Ms Kalonji acknowledged the concerns of the Member States about the possible effects of the current financial crisis on the Programme and assured her commitment to its success and sustainability.

ELECTION OF THE INCOMING CHAIRPERSON

9. The delegate of the Netherlands nominated Mr Johannes Cullmann (Germany, Group I) as Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the science of hydrology. A majority of the members of the Council seconded Mr Cullmann's nomination and no other candidate was proposed. Mr Cullmann was then unanimously elected as the new Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council.

10. The elected Chairperson took the floor to accept his nomination and election and thanked the Council members for their vote of confidence. Mr Cullmann assured the Council that he would do his utmost to ensure the success of the IHP programme. He further emphasized that the IHP is a collective programme, which does not depend on one person but rather is characterized by a spirit of cooperation and relies on the contribution of all its members.

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

11. The Council elected the following Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Jovan Despotovic (Serbia, Group II), Mr Polioptro F. Martinez Austria (Mexico, Group III), Mr Juma Chrispine Omondi (Kenya, Group Va) and Mr Mohamed Elhassan Eltayeb Elhag (Sudan, Group Vb). A large majority of delegates seconded the nominations of each Vice-Chairperson, who were all elected unanimously.

12. The Council noted that, in conformity with its Statutes, the IHP Bureau is composed of the elected Chairperson, four newly elected Vice-Chairpersons and the outgoing Chairperson, Mr. Soontak Lee (Republic of Korea, Group IV) as ex-officio member.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

13. The Council adopted the agenda for its 20th session, which is reproduced in [Annex I](#) of this report. The documents made available for the session are listed in [Annex III](#).

DETERMINATION OF THE COUNCIL'S METHOD OF WORK

14. The Council took note of the Rules of Procedure of the IHP Intergovernmental Council and of the guidelines and admissibility revisions on the submission of Draft Resolutions as outlined in the "Admissibility criteria, guidelines and rules of procedure for the preparation and consideration of Draft Resolutions (DRs) at the Intergovernmental Council of IHP (revised version, 5 June 2009)", as recommended by the 43rd session of the IHP Bureau (IHP/Bur-XLIII/3, Annex IV).

15. The Council elected the following members to the Resolutions Drafting Committee: Mr Matthew Carl Larsen (USA, Group I), Mr Maciej Zalewski (Poland, Group II), Mr Evens Emmanuel (Haiti, Group III), Mr Mohmmadreza Attarzadeh (Iran, Group IV), Mr Olusanjo A. Bamgboye (Nigeria, Group Va) and Mr Mohamed Al-Kharbi (Yemen, Group Vb). The Committee elected Mr Larsen to serve as its Chairperson.

16. The Council elected three new members to the Finance Committee: Mr Michael van der Valk (Netherlands, Region I), Mr Muhammad Al-Shatti (Kuwait, Region Vb) and Mr Kaoru Takara (Japan, Region IV). The Council also noted the continued membership of Ms Olga Gorelits (Russia, Group II), Mr Nilo Dytz Filho, replacing Mr Alexandre Brasil da Silva (Brazil, Group III) and Mr Mbangiseni P. Nepfumbada (South Africa, Group Va). The Committee elected Mr Dytz Filho to serve as its Chairperson.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AT UNESCO

Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and the Division of Water Sciences following the 36th session of the General Conference and the 185th to the 189th sessions of the Executive Board, including the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5): Issues, Challenges and Opportunities

17. Council members took note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding institutional developments and the decisions of the 185th to the 189th sessions of the Executive Board and the 36th session of the UNESCO General Conference, having particular importance to IHP.

Evaluation of the Sixth Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002 – 2007)

18. The Secretariat reported on the process undertaken to evaluate the Sixth Phase of IHP with particular reference to the road map from the 18th session of the IHP Council in 2008 and following steps up to May 2012 when the evaluation report was submitted by the Secretariat to the Internal Oversight Service (IOS).

19. Mr Dipak Gyawali, chairperson of the IHP-VI evaluation team stressed the fact that the evaluation had been initiated once IHP-VII had already passed the half-way mark. The review looked at IHP-VI through seven perspectives of Relevance, Impact, 'Additionality', Efficiency, Sustainability, Coherence and Transparency, taking into consideration constraints in terms of resources and time. He summarized five general lessons: a) maintenance of the high-brand value of the programme; b) strengthening of IHP National Committees; c) inter-disciplinarity both in structure and expertise, from IHP Secretariat to National Committees; d) improved logical frame and synthesizing procedures; and e) enhancement of IHP's unique niche as the only programme able to combine science diplomacy and water management.

20. The Council encouraged the establishment of benchmarks and performance indicators for the implementation of IHP-VIII taking into account the recommendations. The representative of IOS informed the Council that IOS has requested a management response and an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the evaluation report, to be submitted by mid-June 2012.

IHP-related extrabudgetary activities

21. The Secretariat reported on the extrabudgetary activities. The members of the Council expressed appreciation for the current portfolio and the success in raising extrabudgetary funding.

22. The Council congratulated IHP on the activities conducted in Pakistan during the floods that devastated the country in 2010.

23. Delegates commented on the close cooperation established with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and made an appeal to all those IHP Council members who are also members of the GEF Council to support UNESCO's application to become a GEF agency. Delegates made mention of the GEF Groundwater Governance Project and the Regional Consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in Montevideo (April 2012), underlining this opportunity for the LAC region to create an effective framework to better manage its groundwater resources and move towards Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

24. The delegate of Kenya highlighted the importance of the extrabudgetary funds mobilized by IHP for the Groundwater Resources Investigation for Drought Mitigation in Africa Programme (GRIDMAP) beginning in the Horn of Africa (Intergovernmental Authority on Development – IGAD region).

25. The Council noted with appreciation the major donors for IHP extrabudgetary funding during the last biennium which include the Flemish Community, Germany, Italy, Japan and Spain. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed its willingness to support the work in the Horn of Africa within the framework of the International Drought Initiative (IDI).

Report of the IHP Finance Committee

26. The IHP Finance Committee reported on the current funding shortfall, which poses a major challenge to the delivery of IHP-VII activities planned for the 2012-2013 biennium. Several Member States highlighted the key role of IHP in delivering freshwater programmes to secure this key resource for human health, prosperity and security and emphasized that it should be maintained as a priority area by UNESCO. The delegates stressed the need to work closely with the Secretariat to find new ways to finance IHP activities. Mechanisms, such as a fund-raising committee with a four-year mandate, were proposed to raise extrabudgetary resources. The role of field offices in implementing IHP programmes was highlighted and a request was made to find funding mechanisms specific to the regions. The IHP Council took note of the Finance Committee report and, while acknowledging the financial challenges UNESCO is currently facing, proposed a resolution to invite the Executive Board to urgently look into appropriate staffing levels, regular programme funds and extrabudgetary mechanisms to support IHP. The Council considered the proposal and approved [Resolution XX-1](#) (see [Annex IV – Adopted Resolutions](#)).

Report of the IHP Publication and Communication Committee

27. The Council was informed of recent developments on publication and communication-related issues. The Secretariat and the Chairperson of the *ad hoc* Publication and Communication Committee (PCC) presented the Committee's report, stressing the need to develop strategies and procedures to raise the profile of the Programme. It was highlighted that the Committee had not been able to meet since it had been announced at the end of the last IHP Council session in 2010. The Secretariat informed the Council of the difficulties raised due to the current financial situation at UNESCO, which had resulted in the introduction of new internal procedures for publications in UNESCO. The Chairperson of the PCC and several delegates expressed their support for the continuation of the PCC to accomplish its envisaged tasks established during the 19th session of

the IHP Council. The IHP Council decided to continue the work of the PCC and requested nominations from the Member States for this Committee.

28. The Council elected the following members to the IHP Publication and Communication Committee: Mr Michael van der Valk (Netherlands, Group I), Ms Jeanna Balonishnikova (Russian Federation, Group II), Mr Jorge Rucks (Uruguay, Group III), Mr Trevor Daniell (Australia, Group IV), Mr Philip Odida (Uganda, Group Va) and Mr Abdalla Abdelsalam Ahmed (Sudan, Group Vb). The Committee elected Mr van der Valk as its Chairperson.

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE 19TH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL OF IHP

29. The Secretariat informed the Council on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the 19th session of the IHP Council. The Council took note of the information provided by the Secretariat regarding the implementation of the resolutions and congratulated it on the accomplishments made thus far. With regard to Resolution XIX-5, and in reference to the support from the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences to the *Ius Promovendi* of UNESCO-IHE, as stated in document IHP/IC-XX/Inf.3, the representative of the Netherlands noted that, while his country is looking into this as a possibility, the sentence does not fully reflect the current state of affairs, as promotion rights are still exclusive to universities. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE supported this statement, noting that the language of the document had inadvertently been changed during its preparation.

STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE EIGHTH PHASE OF IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014 – 2021)

30. The Secretariat reported on the thorough process established by the IHP Council in the preparation of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021). This had involved detailed consultations with Member States, in particular via IHP National Committees, the IHP Intergovernmental Council and the IHP Bureau. Ms Maria Donoso, coordinator of the Strategic Plan Task Force, presented the draft Strategic Plan for IHP-VIII to the Council.

31. Council members congratulated the Task Force on its excellent work in the preparation of the draft Strategic Plan and expressed their gratitude for the support provided by the Bureau and the IHP Secretariat during the drafting process. Member States stressed that the major water-related issues and priorities had been covered in the document, which presents water security as the overarching theme. However, some Member States indicated areas in the Strategic Plan that require further attention. These include the water-energy nexus, water harvesting, droughts, sedimentation, water education in schools, the concept of living with floods, remote sensing, vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies for climate change.

32. Delegates also noted the need for greater awareness raising within the general public, in particular amongst young people. Similar concerns were raised regarding issues related to water and society including the economy, irrigation and rural water. Finally, Member States also noted the following as areas requiring further attention: water cooperation within the specific context of climate change, the sharing of data, transboundary waters, water and peace, the development of hydrological sciences, interactions with the social sciences, training of specialists, as well as water quality and pollution. The last point was emphasized with special focus on the African region. As follow up to the discussion, the Council later approved [Resolution XX-2](#), [Resolution XX-3](#) and [Resolution XX-4](#) to address these areas of concern.

33. The need to reinforce the synergies between different topics was also raised by several Member States, with particular reference to issues pertaining to knowledge management, legal aspects and transboundary issues. The need for a specific goal on adaptation to climate change under Focal Area 1.1 was raised. It was noted that linkages between IHP and other programmes of

the Natural Sciences Sector, such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, need to be highlighted in the Strategic Plan. Member States also emphasized that cooperation between countries, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, with special reference to regional bodies, is essential for managing water resources. Furthermore, communicating knowledge about water resources to decision-makers and the general public should be emphasized.

34. The Council unanimously endorsed the Strategic Plan for IHP-VIII, and requested the Secretariat to incorporate the points raised in the previous paragraph. In this regard, the Council adopted [Resolution XX-5](#).

35. The Chairperson of the IHP Council highlighted the importance of the development of an effective implementation plan for IHP-VIII. He appealed for greater participation from Member States, in particular through the IHP National Committees, category 2 centres and water-related UNESCO Chairs. The Chairperson noted the difficult situation currently being faced by the Secretariat with regard to finances and human resources, which may affect the implementation of such an ambitious strategic plan. Following the remark of the Chairperson, numerous Member States agreed on the importance of an implementation plan that is prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with Member States. Given the situation regarding finances and human resources, some Member States stressed that the implementation plan needs to define niche areas in order to further differentiate the programme delivery from those of other United Nations bodies. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE congratulated IHP and the Task Force on the draft Strategic Plan and expressed the strong support of the Institute to IHP-VIII, particularly to its theme on water education and to its work on transboundary waters, an area where UNESCO-IHE is working jointly with IHP.

36. The Council established a working group with the aims of identifying a suitable implementation strategy based on Member States' inputs and catalyzing the participation of Member States in the development of the implementation plan for IHP-VIII. The Chairperson also called on Member States to take an active leading role in the thematic areas which are of relevance to their respective State. Several Member States supported this proposal and offered to take an active part in the working group on the implementation of IHP-VIII through their IHP National Committees, category 2 centres and UNESCO Chairs. The Chairperson clarified that the working group would not attempt micromanagement. It was also noted that countries may have specific needs and this must be taken into consideration in the implementation plan. The representatives of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and several observers recognized the importance of the strategic document and expressed their commitment to its implementation. The Chairperson requested Member States to communicate their interest through the Secretary of IHP in participating in the implementation working group.

UNESCO'S WATER-RELATED INSTITUTE AND CENTRES (CATEGORY 1 AND CATEGORY 2)

Proposed category 2 water-related centres

37. The Secretariat gave brief summaries of three category 2 centres proposed by the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay. These had been examined by the Bureau during its out-of-session meeting in Marseille in March 2012 and subsequently endorsed at its 47th session in June 2012. Noting that these proposals were prepared in accordance with the IHP strategy for category 1 and category 2 water-related centres (IHP/Bur-XL/8 rev. Consolidated) and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (35 C/22), the Council unanimously endorsed the following three proposed centres: International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management at the K-water Institute, Republic of Korea; the International Centre for Water Cooperation, in Sweden; and the Regional Centre on Groundwater Management, in Uruguay. In this regard, the Council approved [Resolution XX-6](#).

38. With respect to the proposed centre on Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change, in Serbia, the Secretariat explained that the 36th session of the General Conference, through 36 C/Resolution 29, had taken note of the endorsement by the 46th session of the IHP Bureau and requested that the IHP Council, at its 20th session, carry out a comprehensive review for endorsement to the Executive Board for its decision on behalf of the General Conference. Some delegates expressed their concern regarding the unusual procedure followed by this proposed centre and stressed the need for all proposed centres to follow the IHP strategy for category 1 and category 2 water-related centres. It was also emphasized that without compelling reason, such practice should be avoided. The IHP Council adopted **Resolution XX-7** endorsing the centre to the 190th session of the Executive Board for its decision, with the requirement that the Council receive at its 21st session a comprehensive report on the progress of the centre.

Recent developments on category 2 water-related centres

39. The IHP Secretariat reported on the establishment of the following four category 2 water-related centres, subsequent to their approval at the 36th session of the UNESCO General Conference: Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), Nigeria, (36 C/Resolution 23, the agreement was signed on 12 March 2012); Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training and Research for East Africa, Kenya (36 C/Resolution 24); Regional Centre on Capacity Development and Research in Water Harvesting, Sudan (36 C/Resolution 28); and Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre, Republic of Kazakhstan (36 C/Resolution 22, the agreement was signed on 29 May 2012). The Secretariat also reported on the review and evaluation of the following centres: International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures (ICQHS), Islamic Republic of Iran; International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM), Japan; IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, Scotland, UK; and International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES), China. The Secretariat noted that there may be a need for the governing bodies of UNESCO to grant a transition period up to December 2014, to allow existing water centres whose agreements have expired to carry out formal evaluations and to prepare new agreements covering the new eight-year duration of the Medium-Term Strategy. In this regard, the Council adopted **Resolution XX-8**.

40. The Council noted with satisfaction the strong contributions of the network of category 2 water-related centres towards the effective implementation of the IHP Strategic Plan in the regions and the need to strengthen networking between the centres. The Council was briefed on the key recommendations of the meeting on water-related centres, held during the current session of the Council, which read as follows: to hold global and regional networking meetings for centres; and to develop digital communication mechanisms between centres. UNESCO-IHE offered to hold a meeting for water-related centres, in order to contribute collectively to the development of the implementation plan for IHP-VIII. The Council requested the Secretariat to develop a database for exchanges between the centres. The Council also requested that the Secretariat promote networking, including in-depth meetings between centres. The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran renewed the offer from his government to host a meeting for this purpose.

UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (category 1)

41. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE reported on recent developments at the Institute and on its collaboration with IHP. The delegate of the Netherlands noted that his country holds UNESCO-IHE and its staff in high regard. The Council has expressed its support to the concept of a UNESCO-IHE global campus in order to increase efficiency and the geographic coverage of water education programmes and took note of the relevant plans of the Governing Board of the Institute. Several delegates of LAC Member States expressed their support for the establishment of a UNESCO-IHE global campus, and emphasized the need for courses to be delivered in Spanish and Portuguese, as well as a focus on the needs of the LAC region. Other Council members noted that links with

IHP-VIII should be reinforced and enquired on the process to establish regional institutes as part of the global campus. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE thanked the Council for its strong support for the global campus and noted that the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE recommended an organic approach, which requires strong government support. If the Executive Board endorses the concept of a global campus, a call for proposals will be announced and the process will be similar to that for the establishment of category 1 institutes. The Council noted with appreciation the intention expressed by the observer of the Republic of South Africa regarding the establishment of a category 1 institute in South Africa connected with the UNESCO-IHE global campus.

Nominations for office bearers in various boards of category 1 and category 2 centres

42. Following the review by the IHP Bureau of the nominations received from Member States for office bearers for the Advisory and Governing Boards of the category 1 institute and three category 2 centres, as well as the regional consultations corresponding to the electoral groups where such appointments were necessary, the Council unanimously designated the IHP representatives as follows:

- to the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE:
 - Region II: Ms Iwona Wagner (Poland)
 - Region III: Mr Benedito Braga (Brazil)
 - Region Va: Mr Gabriel Ebosele Oteze (Nigeria)

- to the Governing Board of the HidroEx International Centre for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water:
 - Region I: Mr Luis Chicharo (Portugal)
 - Region III: Mr Francisco Rodriguez (Dominican Republic)
 - Region Va: Mr Roda Nuvunga Luis (Mozambique)

- to the Governing Board of the Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM), in Nigeria, three IHP representatives of Member States of UNESCO from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS):
 - Mr Kwabena Kankam-Yeboah (Ghana)
 - Mr Patrice Jourda (Cote d'Ivoire)
 - Mr Michel Papaoba Sedogo (Burkina Faso), to alternate with a representative from Senegal after two years.

43. The Secretariat noted that nominations for the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) have not yet been processed. This was on the request of the Government of Japan as the centre is currently renewing its agreement.

REVIEW OF IHP-VII ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES OF UNESCO

Major achievements of IHP-VII projects since the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council

44. The Secretariat informed the IHP Council on progress and results during the implementation of IHP-VII since the 19th session of the Council, highlighting major achievements and activities. Several Member States praised the work of the Secretariat for the implementation of IHP and for the succinct presentation format adopted for the report. Some delegates highlighted the need for IHP National Committees to enhance their involvement with the Programme and to submit their reports to the Council. Several delegations stressed the relevance of water education for children and youth. In response to a question on how the impact of IHP training programmes was evaluated, the Secretariat replied that multiple approaches are used depending on the nature of the programme, ranging from questionnaires to detailed evaluations published in academic journals. It was also noted that in-depth evaluation of educational programmes was a complex

process and that IHP had collaborated with the work of the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005-2014) Secretariat on similar issues. The delegate of Japan highlighted the upcoming 22nd IHP Training Course in Nagoya. The Vice-Chair from Region Va emphasized the importance of strengthening IHP activities on water quality in Africa, noting the outcomes of the UNESCO workshop "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa". The delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran underlined the need to pay attention to issues related to women and youth in the context of water management and water education. One delegate noted the need for specific performance indicators when evaluating IHP-VIII activities. The delegate of Poland informed the Council about the European Regional Centre for Echohydrology (ERCE) cooperation with Ethiopia to establish a category 2 centre and about related publications. The Rector of UNESCO-IHE noted the close collaboration between the Institute and IHP and appealed to Member States to contribute to the IHP grants programme.

Cooperation with other UNESCO environmental programmes

45. The Secretariat updated the Council on specific activities of cooperation with other UNESCO environmental programmes as well as activities involving intersectoral cooperation. Representatives of MAB, IOC and the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) gave brief outlines of their cooperation with IHP. Several delegates highlighted joint IHP and MAB activities undertaken in their respective Member States.

IHP contribution to the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)

46. The Secretariat reported on the status of the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and IHP's contribution. The WWAP Coordinator presented a summary of the key elements of the fourth World Water Development Report (WWDR4). The delegate of Japan highlighted the important contributions made to WWAP.

IHP involvement in the 6th World Water Forum

47. The Secretariat reported on the involvement of IHP in the 6th World Water Forum (Marseille, March 2012), which included significant contributions to the promotion of the Programme and dissemination of results of IHP activities. The Council commended the Secretariat for its effective engagement in the preparation of and successful participation in the Forum. Council members encouraged the Secretariat to continue playing an active role in the 7th World Water Forum, to be held in the Republic of Korea in 2015.

RELATIONS WITH UNITED NATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

48. The Secretariat reported on its cooperation with the UN System on freshwater issues. This included reports on cooperation with UN-Water at the international level and in Africa, as well as on bilateral cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations University (UNU). The representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) informed the Council of its mandate related to the promotion of innovation and intellectual property. She highlighted that WIPO was interested in developing cooperation with IHP on capacity-building and technical assistance. The representative of the WMO informed the Council on its water-related activities, in particular those where it cooperates with UNESCO, including the International Flood Initiative (IFI), drought management, the Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW), the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) and the Hydrological Cycle Observing System (HYCOS). He highlighted the need for synergy and alignment between IHP-VIII and WMO plans and reiterated the readiness of WMO to strengthen the cooperation between the two organizations. The delegate

of the Russian Federation drew attention to the need for closer coordination between IHP and WMO, given that they both deal with parallel issues.

Cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

49. The Secretariat reported on cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The representative of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) briefed the Council on recent joint activities and highlighted areas for the potential strengthening of cooperation, such as the area of water scarcity under climate change and variability. The representative of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) highlighted that IHP's work on transboundary water management, training programmes for technical experts, and the social dimension of water, as well as the other themes of IHP-VIII, are all highly relevant to the organization and affirmed the interest of the Authority in contributing towards the implementation of IHP-VIII. The representative of the Ramsar Convention expressed the Convention's interest in potential cooperation with IHP, for example through the Ecohydrology Programme (EHP), and indicated the readiness of the Convention to strengthen such cooperation. Representatives of non-governmental organizations, the International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) and the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), informed the Council of their respective cooperation with IHP, reaffirming this cooperation.

IHP's role in Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

50. The Secretariat informed the Council of IHP's involvement in the preparatory processes for Rio+20 and presented the water-related events in which UNESCO is involved before and during the Conference. The observer from Brazil presented additional information regarding an IHP event for the IHP National Committees and Focal Points of LAC in Rio+20, to be chaired by the IHP National Committee of Brazil. Several delegates expressed satisfaction with the IHP involvement in the preparation for Rio+20. The delegate of Japan pledged his country's support to the process and confirmed Japan's involvement in the organization of a side event. The delegate of Cuba underlined the importance of raising the attention of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to water as a critical resource.

IHP's role in the 2013 International Year of Water Cooperation

51. The Secretariat reported that the UNGA declared 2013 as the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation (A/RES/65/154) and that UNESCO had been appointed by UN-Water to lead the preparations for this International Year, in cooperation with UNECE and with the support of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC). The Council took note with satisfaction of the proposal by the delegate of the Netherlands to host official celebrations for World Water Day 2013. The delegate of Sudan, supported by Yemen, suggested organizing a conference on water cooperation in the Arab region during the International Year.

IHP's role in the International Decade for Action – Water for Life (2005-2015)

52. The Council took note of collaboration between IHP, UNW-DPC and UNW-DPAC in the context of the International Decade of Action - Water for Life (2005-2015).

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF IHP IN UNESCO

53. In conjunction with the preparation for the 40th anniversary of IHP, the Secretary recalled that water studies in UNESCO began in 1948 but were consolidated in 1956, with the arid zone project, which was duly followed by the International Hydrological Decade between 1965 and 1974. It was noted that IHP began its work in 1975, with the First Phase (1975-1980) of the Programme. The Chairperson of the Council encouraged all Member States to make efforts to try and secure funds for initiatives in the near future and asked the Secretariat to possibly coordinate these ideas.

OTHER MATTERS

54. The Council took note of the World Large Rivers Initiative, proposed by the observer from Austria. The concept of the initiative received support from some Council members, who noted that issues related to large rivers are of importance to their respective countries and regions. Several Council members expressed interest in the initiative but also expressed reservations related to potential regulatory activities, and requested a clear proposal document. The Council asked the delegation of Austria to work with the Secretariat and the Bureau towards the establishment of a task force to further refine the initiative to better align it with the priorities of IHP. The Council encouraged the submission of a full proposal for consideration by the Bureau and subsequently by the 21st session of the Council. Members of the Council stressed that there were elements of the initiative that could be incorporated into the implementation of IHP-VII and IHP-VIII and that some amount of collaboration could already begin to take place within this context.

55. The Chairperson of the IHP Finance Committee reported on the drastic reduction in the budget for activities. The Committee proposed that an appeal be made to reinstate, in the short-term, the IHP budget as foreseen in document 36 C/5. The Committee stressed the need for all members to abide by their regular contribution obligations to UNESCO. The Committee invited the members to contribute with extrabudgetary funds to IHP activities in line with the programme priorities. The Committee recommended an enhanced involvement of the UNESCO Water Family and other partners, including the private sector, in finding ways to provide the Programme with the appropriate means. The Committee also proposed that the Council mandate the Committee to develop a proposal for the establishment of a permanent committee to raise and mobilize resources for IHP. The Council agreed to mandate the Committee to develop such a proposal and submit it to the IHP Bureau.

56. The IHP Publication and Communication Committee reported on the need to develop a dynamic strategy involving the use of social media tools. He emphasized the importance of appropriate language to appeal to a younger demographic audience. It was stated that there was a need to learn from the approach being adopted by the water-related centres, in particular the category 2 centre in Dundee. As language has previously been a barrier, he appealed to Member States to contribute towards the translation of IHP products. It was suggested that a communication strategy for IHP should be developed.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

57. The Council reviewed and adopted the report of the meeting, as amended.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

58. Several delegates expressed their satisfaction for the work accomplished at this session of the Council. The Chair agreed and thanked the members of the Council, observers, the interpreters and the Secretariat for a job well done. He encouraged all Member States of IHP to contribute to both the formulation of the implementation plan for IHP-VIII and to the activities of the

ongoing phase of the Programme. Several delegates agreed with the Chair and congratulated him for a most efficient session of the Council.

59. The Secretary of IHP thanked the Council and Bureau for their support as well as countries that provided support to side events. He also highlighted the dedicated work of members of the Secretariat and assured the Council of their commitment to the success of IHP.

60. The 20th session of the IHP Council was closed at 16:00 hours on 7 June 2012.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

1. Opening of the session
 - 1.1 Report of the outgoing Chairperson
 - 1.2 Address by the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences of UNESCO
2. Election of the incoming Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons
3. Adoption of the agenda and determination of the Council's method of work
4. Institutional developments at UNESCO
 - 4.1 Developments at the Natural Sciences Sector and the Division of Water Sciences following the 36th session of the General Conference and the 185th to the 189th sessions of the Executive Board, including the Programme and Budget for 2012-2013 (36 C/5): Issues, Challenges and Opportunities
 - 4.2 Evaluation of the Sixth Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002 – 2007)
 - 4.3 IHP-related extrabudgetary activities
 - 4.4 Report of the IHP Finance Committee
 - 4.5 Report of the IHP Publication and Communication Committee
5. Report on the implementation of the resolutions and decisions adopted at the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council
6. Strategic Plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014 – 2021)
7. UNESCO's water-related institute and centres (category 1 and category 2)
 - 7.1 Proposed category 2 water-related centres
 - 7.2 Recent developments on category 2 water-related centres
 - 7.3 UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (category 1)
 - 7.4 Nominations for office bearers in various boards of category 1 and category 2 centres
8. Review of IHP-VII activities and related activities of UNESCO
 - 8.1 Major Achievements of IHP-VII projects since the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council
 - 8.2 Cooperation with other UNESCO environmental programmes
 - 8.3 IHP contribution to the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP)
 - 8.4 IHP involvement in the 6th World Water Forum
9. Relations with United Nations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations
 - 9.1 Cooperation with UN System on freshwater issues
 - 9.2 Cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations
 - 9.3 IHP's role in Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
 - 9.4 IHP role in the 2013 International Year of Water Cooperation
 - 9.5 IHP's role in the International Decade for Action – Water for Life (2005-2015)

10. 40th anniversary of IHP in UNESCO
11. Other matters
12. Adoption of the report
13. Closure of the session

ANNEX II

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ANNEX III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

WORKING DOCUMENTS

Document Code (IHP/IC-XX/..)	Title	Agenda item	Language*
1	Agenda	1-13	E/F/S/R/A/C
1 Add.	Timetable	1-13	E only
2	Annotated agenda	1-13	E/F/S/R/A/C
3	Final report	1-13	E/F/S/R/A/C
4	List of documents	1-13	E only
5	List of participants	-	E only
6	Considerations for financial support to the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of UNESCO	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
7	Executive Summary of the Strategic Plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014 -2021)	6	E/F/S/R/A/C
8	Proposed category 2 water-related centres	7.1	E/F/S/R/A/C

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

Document Code (IHP/IC-XX/..)	Title	Agenda item	Language
Inf.1	General information and guidelines for participants	-	E/F
Inf.2	Institutional developments at UNESCO	4	E/F
Inf.3	Report on the implementation of resolutions and other recommendations adopted by the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP	5	E/F
Inf.4	(Draft) Strategic Plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021)	6	E/F
Inf.5	UNESCO's water-related Institute and centres (category 2 water-related centres)	7	E/F
Inf.6	Review of IHP-VII activities and related activities of UNESCO	8	E/F

* E – English | F – French | S – Spanish | R – Russian | A – Arabic | C – Chinese

Document Code (IHP/IC-XX/..)	Title	Agenda item	Language
Inf.7	Relations with United Nations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations	9	E/F
Inf.8	40th Anniversary of IHP in UNESCO	10	E/F

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Document Code	Title	Agenda item	Language
IHP/Bur-XLVII/3	Final report of the 47 th session of the IHP Bureau; Paris, 1 June 2012	-	English only
IHP/Bur/Out-of-Session/Report/2012	Final report of the out-of-session meeting of the IHP Bureau; Marseille, 14 March 2012	-	English only
IHP/Bur-XLVI/3	Final report of the 46th session of the IHP Bureau; Paris, 30 May-1 June 2011	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
IHP/Bur-XLV/3	Final report of the 45th session of the IHP Bureau; Paris, 9 July 2010	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
IHP/IC-XIX/3	Final report of the 19th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council; Paris, 5-9 July 2010	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
189 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 189th session; Paris, 27 February – 9 March 2012	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
188 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 188th session; Paris, 11 November 2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
187 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 187th session; Paris, 21 September-6 October 2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
186 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 186th session; Paris, 3 - 19 May 2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
185 EX/Decisions	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its 185th session; Paris, 5-21 October 2010)	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
34 C/4	Medium-term strategy, 2008-2013	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
36 C/5	Programme and Budget for 2012-2013	4	E/F/S/R/A/C

Document Code	Title	Agenda item	Language
35 C/5	Programme and Budget for 2010-2011	4	E/F/S/R/A/C
IHP-VI/ Evaluation Report/ 2012	External evaluation of the 6th phase of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-VI, 2002-2007) – Final evaluation report	4	English only
35 C/22	Implementation of the guidelines and criteria for category 2 institutes and centres approved in 33 C/Resolution 90	7	E/F/S/R/A/C
187 EX/14 Part IX	Proposal for the establishment in Belgrade, Serbia, of a Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	7	E/F/S/R/A/C
	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change, Belgrade, Serbia	7	English only
IHP/IC-XX/ Ref.1	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management at the K-Water Institute, Daejeon, Republic of Korea	7	English only
IHP/IC-XX/ Ref.2	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 Regional Centre on Groundwater Management in Uruguay	7	English only
IHP/IC-XX/ Ref.3	Proposal for the establishment of a category 2 International Centre for Water Cooperation in Sweden	7	English only
-	Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP	-	E/F/S/R
-	Rules of Procedure of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP	-	E/F/S/R
	Admissibility criteria, guidelines and rules of procedure for the preparation and consideration of Draft Resolutions (DRs) at the Intergovernmental Council of IHP (revised version, 5 June 2009)	-	E/F/S/R/A/C
-	Final report of the 18th Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (Hanoi, Vietnam, 11-12 November 2010)	-	English only
-	Final report of the 19th Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (Kyoto, Japan, 27-28 October 2011)	-	English only
-	National reports of the IHP National Committees for the intersessional period between the 19th and the 20th sessions of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP (June 2010 - May 2012)	-	Multilingual

Document Code	Title	Agenda item	Language
-	Reports of UNESCO category 2 water-related centres for the intersessional period between the 19th and the 20th sessions of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP (June 2010 - May 2012)	-	English only

ANNEX IV

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

Resolution XX-1

**SUBMISSION OF THE APPEAL TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
AND THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recalling its role as a subsidiary body of the General Conference of UNESCO, mandated to guide and supervise the implementation of IHP,

Noting that freshwater is a key resource for human health and ecosystem, prosperity and security, and consequently identified as a priority by UNESCO,

Expressing appreciation for the efforts and leadership of the Director-General and the Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences in securing financial resources for IHP and for maintaining its staff in the current difficult budgetary situation,

Considering the commitment and efforts of the National Governments of UNESCO's Member States on behalf of, and for, their people to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed goals, including water-related goals,

Highlighting the long term commitment of UNESCO's Member States to make IHP a key player in addressing the looming water crisis,

Recognizing that IHP is the only intergovernmental programme of the UN system devoted to water research, water resources management, and education and capacity building which is tailored to Member States' needs,

Expressing its deep concern that the significant cash-flow shortfall currently being experienced by the Organization and the very limited human and financial resources allocated to IHP is restricting UNESCO's capacity to effectively address freshwater issues and water-related hazards at a time when their critical relevance for development and human security is necessary and strongly highlighted at the international level, particularly in the case of developing countries,

Recognizing however, that under the current dire circumstances, adjustments to programmes in all areas are inevitable,

Determined to make optimal use of scarce resources by reviewing and, where appropriate, terminating existing programmes,

Recommends to the Executive Board to ensure, to the extent possible, that requirements in terms of staff, regular programme funds and extrabudgetary mechanisms be fulfilled;

Requests the General Conference to make maximum efforts to provide under the next C/5 sufficient budget to IHP to allow for the implementation of activities that are considered the highest priorities.

Resolution XX-2

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GLOBAL GROUNDWATER INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Noting that the depletion and quality deterioration of groundwater resources has an international impact (there are more than 300 transboundary aquifers) and a global impact (also due to global flow of goods produced by using groundwater),

Noting that sustainable groundwater management requires scientifically based data collection on a global scale whereas data and information currently available are not sufficient for a reliable assessment of groundwater resources on regional and global scales,

Noting that there is no global information system available to assist in the monitoring, analysis, interpretation and prediction of the state of groundwater resources,

Recalling that the International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) is a UNESCO category 2 centre founded to facilitate and promote the development, standardization and sharing of information and knowledge required for sustainable groundwater resources development and management,

Noting that IGRAC also provides support to the assessment of transboundary aquifers (ISARM programme, UNECE assessments, GEF projects, among others) and groundwater monitoring (through the Global Groundwater Monitoring Network) and is responsible for the groundwater component of the WMO Global Terrestrial Network for Hydrology (GTN-H),

Welcoming IGRAC's participative Global Groundwater Information System as an effective tool to improve international monitoring and assessment of groundwater resources, and its services provided to Member States such as regional and global analysis and a portal where Member States can access information provided by other Member States with their explicit approval while retaining full control over their own data,

Invites Member States to actively contribute to the Global Groundwater Information System and to encourage the use of the system by the national agencies in monitoring and assessing groundwater resources;

Encourages UN agencies to provide their support in advancing the use of the Global Groundwater Information System in international projects and in harmonizing connections among their various programmes.

Resolution XX-3

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE ON TRANSBOUNDARY AQUIFERS MANAGEMENT (IHP-ISARM Project)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recalling Resolution XIV-12 adopted at the 14th session of the IHP Council, Paris, 5-10 June 2000, and Resolution XIX-9 adopted at the 19th session of the IHP Council, Paris, 5-9 July 2010, which are the basis of the IHP International Initiative on Internationally Shared Aquifers Management (ISARM),

Also recalling the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/63/124 (11 December 2008), which appreciated the valuable scientific assistance on the topic of the management of transboundary aquifers rendered by IHP to the United Nations International Law Commission,

Noting the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/66/104 (9 December 2011), which encourages IHP to offer further scientific and technical assistance to Member States,

Recognizing the important contribution provided by IHP in conducting the world wide inventory of transboundary aquifers of the world and in improving the scientific knowledge in support of their management,

Encourages Member States to cooperate on the study of their transboundary aquifers;

Requests the IHP Secretariat to:

- (i) support Member States in promoting studies in regard to transboundary aquifers in the framework of the existing IHP ISARM initiative; and
- (ii) continue studies on transboundary aquifers and assist interested Member States in their studies of transboundary aquifers resources management including by promoting capacity building and awareness raising activities on existing instruments and discussions.

Resolution XX-4

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL (KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND POLICY) INITIATIVE ON WATER QUALITY

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recognizing the urgent need to respond to continuing degradation of the quality of the world's freshwater resources at an alarming rate and the crucial importance of providing clean drinking water and adequate sanitation in pursuing sustainable development, especially in Africa and Asia, where impacts of water pollution are jeopardizing the sustainability of water resources,

Noting the recommendation of the UNESCO Workshop on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa", held in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 2011, to establish a knowledge, research and policy network on water quality within the International Hydrological Programme, supported by the IHP National Committees of the African region during the 4th African Regional Meeting of IHP National Committees, held in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, in April 2012,

Noting with satisfaction the contributions of the successful IHP workshops on water quality in Africa, Asia and Arab regions, namely: UNESCO Workshop on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Africa" (Nairobi, Kenya, March 2011); International Symposium on "Addressing Water Quality Challenges in Asia-Pacific" (Daejeon, Republic of Korea, December 2011); and International Workshop on "Water Pollution Prevention and Control Strategies towards Sustainable Water Resources Management" (Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, December 2011), in mobilizing scientific and policy-relevant expertise and knowledge sharing to address water quality challenges,

Considering the recommendation and endorsement by the 46th session of the Bureau of the IHP Intergovernmental Council to establish knowledge, research and policy network on water quality,

Considering as well the fact that this topic is already embedded in the strategic plan of the Eighth Phase of IHP,

Requests the IHP Secretariat to work with concerned members to develop a proposal for the International (knowledge, research and policy) Initiative on Water Quality, building on ongoing IHP activities on water quality at the global and regional levels;

Further requests the IHP Secretariat to strengthen IHP activities on water quality to meet the greater needs to assist Member States in protecting and sustainably managing water resources and in making progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development goals, which will be discussed and adopted at the Rio+20 Summit;

Calls upon Member States to actively support and contribute to the International (knowledge, research and policy) Initiative on Water Quality.

Resolution XX-5

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE EIGHTH PHASE OF IHP (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Cognizant of the lead role played by the International Hydrological Programme for almost four decades in the development of hydrology as a science and integrated water resources management tools at the global level,

Emphasizing that the International Hydrological Programme should continue to exert such leadership in the future, and in particular in its Eighth Phase (IHP-VIII, 2014-2021),

Acknowledging that the decision by Member States to make water one of the priorities of UNESCO has enabled the International Hydrological Programme to flourish substantially, and established other UNESCO initiatives in freshwater, including the integration into UNESCO of the UNESCO-IHE Institute of Water Education, the establishment of numerous water-related centers operating under the auspices of UNESCO, and the lead role of UNESCO in the UN World Water Assessment Programme,

Encouraging cooperation among all stakeholders especially South-South-North,

Endorses the planned transition from phase VII into phase VIII of the International Hydrological Programme;

Approves the Strategic Plan for Phase VIII of the IHP, on “Water Security: Responses to Local, Regional, and Global Challenges”, as drafted by the Task Force established to develop this Plan in consultation with Member States, and taking into account the relevant discussion held at the 20th session of the IHP Council;

Recommends that the General Conference of UNESCO, at its 37th session, integrates the main elements of the Strategic Plan for the Eighth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme into the 37 C/4 and 37 C/5;

Requests the Secretariat of IHP, including Regional Offices, to prepare an implementation plan for IHP-VIII in consultation with the open-ended working group established by the Council for this purpose, the IHP Bureau, Member States, IHP National Committees, category 1 and 2 centres, UNESCO chairs and relevant partners;

Further requests that the terms of reference for the working group, to be prepared expeditiously by the Bureau in consultation with the members of the Council, with the support of the Secretariat.

Resolution XX-6

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER-RELATED CENTRES UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO (CATEGORY 2)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Noting the critical importance of freshwater issues at the global and regional levels for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the sustainability of water resources in face of mounting global changes,

Considering UNESCO's fundamental role in enhancing international cooperation in the sciences and expanding the knowledge base in the field of freshwater through IHP and through the growing network of category 1 and category 2 water-related centres that provides UNESCO with an increasing capability in this area,

Noting with appreciation the willingness of the Governments of the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Uruguay to undertake the establishment of category 2 water-related centres, significantly enhancing thematically and geographically the existing network of centres,

Recognizing the valuable services that the centres will render to Member States and stakeholders throughout the globe and the valuable contribution that they will provide to the implementation of IHP,

After due consideration of the individual proposals, endorses the proposals for the establishment of:

- (i) "International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management", at the K-water Institute, Daejeon, Republic of Korea;
- (ii) "International Centre for Water Cooperation" in Sweden;
- (iii) "Regional Centre on Groundwater Management" in Uruguay;

Requests the assistance of the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the governing bodies of UNESCO toward the creation of the centres in conformity with IHP strategy for UNESCO category 1 and 2 water-related centres and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (document 35 C/22), as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference;

Invites the IHP National Committees to support the establishment and functioning of the centres;

Invites Member States, the IHP National Committees and in particular the existing UNESCO network of water-related centres and institutes, at the regional and international levels, to actively support the proposed centres and ensure co-operation and collaboration in the common endeavors for the benefit of all.

Resolution XX-7

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRE ON WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN SERBIA UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO (CATEGORY 2)

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Noting the decision of the 36th session of General Conference through 36 C/Resolution 29 to authorize the Executive Board, at its 190th session, to decide, on its behalf, on the designation of the Centre for Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change at the Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources in Serbia as a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, in accordance with the integrated comprehensive strategy and the guidelines for the establishment of institutes and centres under the auspices of UNESCO (category 2) annexed to document 35 C/22 and Corr. and approved by the General Conference in 35 C/Resolution 103, and as recommended by the Executive Board at its 187th session (187 EX/Decision 14 (IX)),

Considering UNESCO's fundamental role in enhancing international cooperation in water for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change through IHP and through the growing network of category 1 and category 2 water-related centres that provides UNESCO with an increasing capability in this area,

Noting with appreciation the willingness of the Government of Serbia, to undertake the establishment of this centre,

Recognizing the valuable services that the centre may render to Member States and stakeholders throughout the globe and the valuable contribution that it could provide to the implementation of IHP,

Endorses the proposal for the establishment of: "Water for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change", at the Jaroslav Cerni Institute for the Development of Water Resources in Serbia;

Considering the special circumstances explained by the Serbian delegation during the meeting,

And noting that the IHP Intergovernmental Council was not able to carry out the envisaged comprehensive review since the proposal for the establishment of the Centre was not part of the official documents of the current session of the IHP Council,

Requests the assistance of the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documentation to be submitted to the 190th session of the Executive Board of UNESCO toward the creation of the centre in conformity with IHP strategy for UNESCO category 1 and 2 water-related centres and the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres (document 35 C/22), as approved by the 35th session of the General Conference;

Requests that a review of the activities and results of the centre be presented to the 21st session of the IHP Council to allow it to assess the states of affairs and reconfirm its decision;

Invites Member States, the IHP National Committees and in particular the existing UNESCO network of water-related centres and institutes, at the regional and international levels, to actively support the proposed centre and ensure co-operation and collaboration in the common endeavors for the benefit of all;

Requests that except for compelling reasons, Members States and the Secretariat of IHP adhere to standard procedures for the establishment of water related category 2 centres.

Resolution XX-8

EVALUATION AND RENEWAL OF EXISTING CATEGORY 2 WATER CENTRES

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

Recalling its role as a subsidiary body of the General Conference of UNESCO, mandated to guide and supervise the implementation of IHP,

Highlighting the significant role being played by the water-related category 2 centres in the sustainable development and management of freshwater resources for human health, prosperity and security,

Noting that the integrated comprehensive strategy for category 2 institutes and centres approved by the 35th session of the General Conference requires a formal review and evaluation before the Director-General can renew their agreements,

Recognizing that this may require revision of the existing agreement in order to comply with the model agreements for category 2 centres contained in document 35 C/22,

Appreciates the significant progress that has been made by the Secretariat in the evaluation of the centres whose agreements need to be renewed,

Expressing its deep concern that if the agreements are allowed to expire before the evaluations can be completed and revised to conform with 35 C/22, these centres will not be able to continue to legally function as UNESCO category 2 centres,

Requests the Executive Board and General Conference to approve a transition period and extend these agreements not to exceed 31 December 2014 to allow time to complete the evaluations and to revise the agreements to conform to 35 C/22.

ANNEX V

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND SPECIAL TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

DESD	UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)
DRs	Draft Resolutions
EHP	Ecohydrology Programme
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ERCE	European Regional Centre for Echohydrology
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GCW	Global Cryosphere Watch
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services
GRIDMAP	Groundwater Resources Investigation for Drought Mitigation in Africa Programme
HELP	Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy
HidroEx	International Centre for Education, Capacity Building and Applied Research in Water
HYCOS	Hydrological Cycle Observing System
IAH	International Association of Hydrogeologists
IAHS	International Association of Hydrological Sciences
ICHARM	International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management
ICIWaRM	International Centre for Integrated Water Resources Management
ICQHS	International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures
IDI	International Drought Initiative
IFI	International Flood Initiative
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGCP	International Geoscience Programme
IGRAC	International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre
IHP	International Hydrological Programme
IHP-VI	Sixth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2002-2007)
IHP-VII	Seventh Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2008-2013)
IHP-VIII	Eighth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme (2014-2021)
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IOS	Internal Oversight Service
IRTCES	International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation
ISARM	Internationally Shared Aquifer Resources Management Initiative
ISESCO	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management

LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MAB	Programme on Man and the Biosphere
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
PCC	Publication and Communication Committee
RC-IRBM	Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNESCO-IHE	UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNILC	United Nations International Law Commission
UNOOSA	United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
UNU	United Nations University
UNW-DPAC	UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication
UNW-DPC	UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWAP	UN World Water Assessment Programme
WWDR	United Nations World Water Development Report