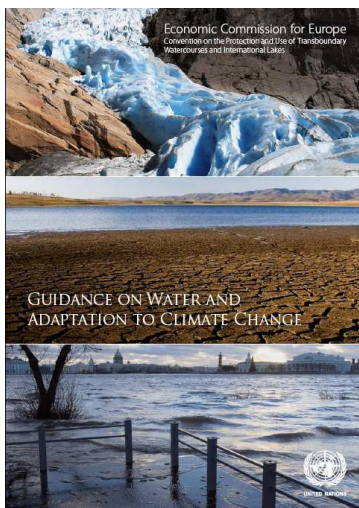


UNFCCC COP15 Event in the Holland Climate House, Hall C7, Bella Center, Copenhagen

## Cooperation on adaptation in transboundary basins – Launch of the UNECE Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change

Wednesday 16 December 2009, 11:00 – 12:30



Climate change will result in significant impacts on our water resources with cascading effects on human health and many parts of the economy and society. In addition, many of the water resources worldwide are transboundary, but both water and climate change do not respect borders, adding an international dimension to climate change adaptation.

To avoid competition over dwindling water resources and the risk of countries taking unilateral measures with possible negative effects on riparian countries, transboundary cooperation is necessary. In addition cooperation helps to find better and more cost-effective solutions.

The event will launch the Guidance on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change, developed under the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention). It aims to spur climate change adaptation which takes into account the transboundary dimension of water and to guide on the steps of developing and implementing adaptation strategies in transboundary basins.

Chair: Mr. Marco Keiner, Director, Environment, Housing and Land Management Division, UNECE

- 11:00 – 11:15 Welcome and launching of the Guidance, H. E. Ms. Huizinga, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, The Netherlands
- 11:15 – 11:20 Symbolic handing-over of the Guidance to the Minister of Environment of Kazakhstan
- 11:20 – 11:35 Impacts of climate change in Kazakhstan and challenges for adaptation, in particular in the Chu-Talas basins, H.E. Mr. Ashimov, Minister, Ministry of Environment, Kazakhstan
- 11.35 – 11.50 The role of the UNECE Water Convention in adapting to climate change in transboundary basins, Mr. Keiner, Director EHLM, UNECE
- 11:50 – 12:00 Cooperation on climate change adaptation in water management and health, Ms. Lipan, Personal Adviser to the Minister of Environment, Romania
- 12:00- 12.10 How UN agencies are cooperating to support adaptation efforts. Mr. Tyagi, Chair of the UN-Water Task Force on Water and Climate and Director, Climate and Water Department, World Meteorological Organization
- 12:10 – 12:30 Discussion and conclusions

The Guidance is available at:

[http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/documents/Guidance\\_water\\_climate.pdf](http://www.unece.org/env/water/publications/documents/Guidance_water_climate.pdf)

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