



## PRESS RELEASE

### Fifth Steering Committee Meeting of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management in Dushanbe

24 May 2013

DUSHANBE – Fifth Steering Committee meeting of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in Kyrgyzstan (NPD) took place on 23 May 2013. The UNECE- led event was hosted by the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan and supported by “Water Management and Basin Organisations in Central Asia (WMBOCA)” project, which is funded by the European Union and implemented by [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\) GmbH](#), Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia Programme.

Policy makers, representatives of water management agencies on national level, scientific institutions, international organisations and other stakeholders met to discuss further direction of joint work in water management.

Topics for sessions ranged from the global post-2015 development agenda to water and health issues. One of the topics was involvement of international and other organisations with regards to support of IWRM implementation in Tajikistan; further perspectives for cooperation development in the framework of water sector reform were discussed.

The issue of transboundary water management was in the focus of attention: experience in the Isfara river basin was presented. In this river basin two riparian states, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, successfully cooperated on local and national levels supported by WMBOCA project: working groups for both Tajik and Kyrgyz parts developed basin plan, the first draft will be finalised in autumn 2013. Basin planning concept and activities were presented on the event as well. Being part of the IWRM, basin planning approach takes into account different ways of the water use (ranging from agriculture to sanitation), demographic changes and consequent changes of water demand, water availability for ecosystems.

#### Note to Editors:

*The support to the NPD on 23 May 2013 was provided in the framework of “Water Management and Basin Organisations in Central Asia (WMBOCA)” project. WMBOCA is funded by the European Union and implemented by [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\) GmbH](#) acting in partnership with the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC). Budget of WMBOCA consists of approximately €2 million provided by the European Union and approximately €0.5 million provided by the German Federal Foreign office.*

*The EU-supported National Policy Dialogues on IWRM programme assist governments of the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in promoting implementation of the IWRM in line with the principles of the UNECE Water Convention, the Protocol on Water and Health, the EU Water Framework Directive and other UNECE and European Union instruments.*

*National Policy Dialogues on IWRM are the main operational instrument of the European Union Water Initiative (EUWI), an international partnership that aims at contributing to the achievement of the water related Millennium Development Goals. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is the strategic partner to support the policy dialogue process on integrated water resources management. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is the strategic partner for water supply and sanitation.*



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