



SIDE EVENT

**ROLE OF THE PUBLIC
IN SUPPORTING
COMPLIANCE WITH
INTERNATIONAL
WATER
AGREEMENTS**

**Thursday, 14 September | 8h30 – 9h45 am |
Hotel Montenegro, Budva**

The availability and quality of freshwater are of vital importance for our health and well-being, making the involvement of public and civil society in decision-making for freshwater resources management key for attaining these objectives and therefore for sustainable development.

The UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and its Protocol on Water and Health – two international agreements dealing with transboundary water management and water and health, respectively – have recognized the vital role of the public for a better management of water resources in their provisions, soft-law instruments and practice.

Hence, the implementation and compliance mechanisms under both multilateral agreements were negotiated with the aim of providing significant opportunities for the involvement and active participation of civil society in matters relating to water resources and health.

programme

08:30 Welcome by the Chair and introductory round

Jorge E. Viñuales, Harold Samuel Professor at the University of Cambridge, Chair of the Compliance Committee of the Protocol on Water and Health

08:40 Quiz- interactive exercise with the audience

Nataliya Nikiforova, UNECE

08:55 Facilitating transboundary water cooperation – the role of the Implementation Committee of the UNECE Water Convention, *Johan G. Lammers, member of the Implementation Committee of the UNECE Water Convention*

09:05 Driving progress on water and health: public participation in the compliance procedure of the Protocol on Water and Health *Jorge E. Viñuales*

09:15 Facilitated session: group work on a hypothetical case regarding transboundary water pollution originating from a refugee camp *Jorge Viñuales, moderation*

09:40 Conclusions



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