



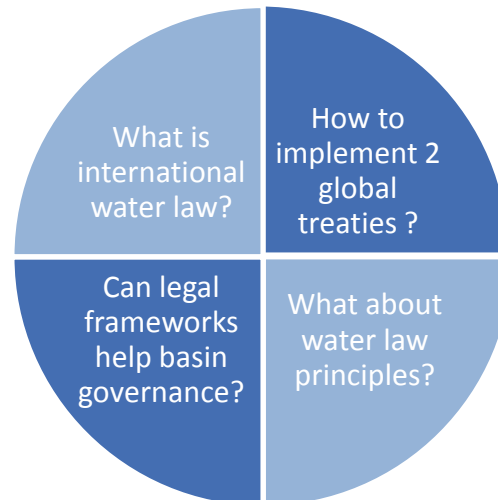
International water law demystified

Sound legal frameworks are essential for stable and reliable cooperation and for preventing conflicts in shared basins. The session will provide examples and approaches for advancing transboundary cooperation through legal agreements at the global, regional and basin levels as well as their implementation.

When? Wednesday, 15 April 2015
11:20 – 13:20

Where? Daegu, Inter Burgo Hotel, B1F
Grand Ballroom B (Room DIB_B102)

Interpretation English, Korean, Spanish & French



Objectives of the session

- Debate how legal frameworks promote transboundary water cooperation on the ground
- Discuss how the two global treaties for transboundary water cooperation can be implemented in an effective coherent and mutually supportive way
- Share good practices & lessons learnt about implementing international water law principles

Session description

Sound legal frameworks at the global, regional and basin level are essential for stable and reliable cooperation and for preventing conflicts in shared basins. The majority of watercourses and transboundary aquifers, however, still lack adequate legal frameworks. Two global treaties are now in place to foster cooperation: the 1997 UN Watercourses Convention and the 1992 UNECE Water Convention.

The session will discuss how these global treaties can be implemented in an effective, coherent and mutually supportive way as well as how they can support countries to strengthen river basin governance.

Programme

Facilitator : Mr. Alejandro Iza, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Introductory remarks

Mr. Nicholas Bonvoisin, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Ms. Marie-Laure Vercambre, Green Cross International

Mr. Alejandro Iza, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Latest developments in international water law

Mr. Alistair Rieu-Clark, Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, University of Dundee

Interactive panel discussion: How international water law has facilitated transboundary cooperation in transboundary basins

Minister or Director general from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam (*tbc*)

Mr. Bolat Bekniyaz, Deputy Chairman of the Water Committee, Kazakhstan

Mr. Kadhim Musen, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Water Resources, Iraq

Ms. Liana Sandra Ardiles, Director General for Water, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Spain

Mr. Simon Sakibede, Secretary-General, Congo Basin Commission (CICOS)

Mr. Phera Ramoeli, Senior Programme Officer, Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat

Ms. Jessy Barralaga, Asociación de Desarrollo Económico Local El Valle, Goascoran, Honduras

Mr. Jean Bosco Bazié, NGO Eau Vive, Burkina Faso

Roundtable discussion among participants: How can international water law be further promoted in regions/ basins?

Moderators of roundtables: Ms. Mara Tignino, Platform for International Water Law, University of Geneva; Mr. Arnold Kreilhuber, UNEP; Mr. Juan Carlos Sanchez, IUCN; Ms. Dinara Zinganshina, Interstate Coordination Water Commission for Water Coordination in Central Asia; Ms. Chantal Demilecamps, UNECE.

Reporting back and conclusions

Mr. Kees Rade, Ambassador Sustainable Development and Director Climate, Water, Food Security, Energy and Natural Resources, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands

