



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention MOP9) (Geneva (hybrid), 29 September – 1 October 2021) – Information from the Estonian delegation

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Delegations will find in the Annex an information note from the Estonian delegation on the above subject, to be dealt with under ‘Any other business’ at the Council (Environment) meeting on 10 June 2021.

**Ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of  
Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention MOP9)  
(Geneva (hybrid), 29 September – 1 October 2021)**

**- Information from the Estonian delegation -**

The ninth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (hereinafter ‘the meeting’) will take place in Geneva, Switzerland in hybrid format, from 29 September to 1 October 2021. The meeting is organised by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (hereinafter UNECE) Secretariat in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Estonia.

The Water Convention is the only UN intergovernmental forum solely focusing on transboundary water cooperation, providing an essential framework for cooperation in the management of transboundary waters, which in turn is important for peace, safety, stability, regional integration and security as recognised in the EU Council conclusions on water diplomacy. Its overarching objective is the sustainability of resources. The meeting will focus on themes such as water and peace, water and climate, an integrated and intersectoral approach to water resources management at all levels, funding of transboundary management, and global accession and implementation of the Convention. The second progress report on UN Sustainable Development Goal 6.5.2 will also be presented. Significant decisions regarding the work programme of the Water Convention for 2022-2024, guidance documents on the application and interpretation of the Convention, equitable and sustainable water allocation, etc. will also be taken. It also includes the discussion on the implementation of the EU Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues and future developments beyond 2021. A special high-level panel discussion on how to foster accession to and implementation of the Water Convention to strive for peace in transboundary basins will also be held and I hope many of your countries will participate at a high level.

Due to travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential to note that the meeting will be held in the form of a hybrid meeting (via video conferencing and in person). Additional information regards to the in-person participation will be shared in due course.

Estonia and the UNECE Secretariat welcome all representatives of the parties and non-parties to the Convention, acceding countries, international and non-governmental organisations and academia to the meeting.

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