

Sixth session of the **Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health**

16–18 November 2022
Geneva, Switzerland

UN high-level meeting on advancing water, sanitation and hygiene for better health in the pan-European region



The Protocol on Water and Health

The Protocol on Water and Health is a unique legally-binding instrument aimed at attaining safe drinking-water and adequate sanitation for everyone, through sustainable management of water resources. Over the past 20 years, the Protocol has supported significant progress in water, sanitation, and health in the pan-European region thanks to its target setting mechanism. It is a powerful tool towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 6, among others, and the 2017 Ostrava Declaration on Environment and Health by promoting integration of policies through a holistic and preventive approach to water, sanitation and health.

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High-level session on climate change and COVID-19

The high-level session will review actions and lessons learned in ensuring safe water and sanitation and adequate hygiene during the COVID-19 pandemic. The discussion will contribute to driving forward leadership and progress in strengthening preparedness and response to future emergencies.

The session will also focus on how to ensure climate resilience in WASH and health services, and advocate for stronger integration of WASH and health aspects into national climate change response and adaptation strategies and actions.

The main outcomes of the session will be presented to the 2023 United Nations Water Conference and the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health.

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Discussion on achievements and future activities

Representatives from countries and organizations will review achievements, exchange best practices, reflect on challenges and identify future priorities and activities to be implemented under the Protocol in coming three years. The priority areas include:

- Improved governance for water and health
- Prevention and reduction of water-related diseases
- Water, sanitation and hygiene in schools, health-care facilities and public spaces
- Small-scale water supply and sanitation
- Safe management of water supply and sanitation systems
- Equitable access to water and sanitation and realization of the human rights
- Stronger climate resilience of water and sanitation



More information:

<https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/6thsession-MOP-Protocol>



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