« Liberté – Egalité – Fraternité »

WELCOME IN FRANCE at COP21

WATER AND ADAPTATION TO HE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHAN







Paris Pact on water and adaptation to climate change in the basins of rivers, lakes and aquifers

At the twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21 / CMP11) organized from 30 November to 11 December 2015 in Paris, We, representatives of governments, international organizations, donors, national and transboundary basin organizations of rivers, lakes or aquifers, local authorities, of the civil society and companies, support the integration of Water into the Climate change Action Agenda, especially for initiating or strengthening necessary adaptation actions in the basins of rivers, lakes, aquifers and large wetlands.

GENERAL STATEMENT

Climate change is already affecting and will increasingly affect the quantity and quality of freshwater and aquatic ecosystems, especially through the intensity and greater frequency of extreme hydrological events, such as floods and droughts, as well as the increase in ocean level, which threaten security, economic and social development and the environment.

We recognize that adaptation actions should be undertaken without delay to minimize the impacts of climate change on the populations' health and safety, on economic development and the environment, considering the importance of the protection of water-related ecosystems.

The basins are natural areas where water flows on the surface and in the subsoil: they are the relevant territories for organizing water resources management.

In order to ensure more effectiveness, these actions to adapt to climate change should thus be implemented at the level of river, lake and aquifer basins, through a joint, participative, integrated and sustainable water resources management.

We should act quickly before it is too late!

To that end, mobilizing new and increasing funding dedicated to climate change adaptation in basins is essential. Therefore, new basin organizations and existing ones should be financed and strengthened to facilitate the cooperation, coordination and exchange of information, dialogue, consultation and prevention of conflicts between stakeholders and to enhance the implementation of adaptation measures and the sharing of benefits on the basin scale.

We encourage donors to support prior assessments and actions for adaptation to climate change in basins,

Local authorities and communities, economic sectors and the civil society should be better associated and involved in basin management, including in the definition and implementation of adaptation measures.

Cooperation and exchange should increase between the institutions involved, especially among the basin organizations at the global and regional levels in order to facilitate the transfer of experience and know-how on best practices in basin management and adaptation to climate change.



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The UN Convention for the international water courses management

in Europe - HELSINKY 1992

Network of Pilot Basin Organizations to test measures for adapting to climate change









UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS

Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins:













FRESH WATER IS A TIME BOMB!!!



International Network Of Basin Organizations



Water is one of the first victims of climate change!



Climate change consequences







The climate change is likely to increase the frequency of extreme events, such as floods and droughts:

Conflicts!!





We should act quickly before it is too late!





Indeed, basins are the natural territories, in which water runs, on the soil or in the sub-soil, whatever are the national or administrative boundaries or limits crossed.



An overall approach should be organized on the relevant scale of basin areas of rivers, lakes and aquifers,



Paris Pact on water and adaptation to climate change in basins



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

 Reinforce capacity development and knowledge, Establish risk warning and water information systems in a context of uncertainty.
Adapt basin management planning to climate change, Better controlling water demand and developing a more efficient and sustainable use of water resources (including groundwater) - Enhance the services of water-related ecosystems
Reinforce governance, Create new basin organizations and reinforce existing ones Support mechanisms for the involvement of the stakeholders in basin management,
Ensure adequate financing. Establish investment program and sustainable financing mechanisms

We do not have to reinvent the wheel to act quickly!

Did you sign it?









Today, More than 294 organizations have signed the Pact!

- International Organisations = 34
- Transboundary basin Autorities = 13 - Parties- Countries = 52

• INBO' Networks of Basin Organizations = 8

• 239 others signatories in 54 countries (87 countries ic. others parties in transboundary BO) - Ministries and national water agencies = 64



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