

Date: 22 April 2015

Draft

EurEau Commission 1 Drinking Water Workplan 2015 – 2017

1. **Scope and role within EurEau:**

(Description of the scope of the body and definition of its role within EurEau)

EurEau Commission 1 Drinking Water

- provides expertise in the field of
 - **water supply** (technical, managerial and organisational expertise),
 - **drinking water quality** (evaluation and monitoring of chemical, microbiological and radiological parameters) and
 - **water resources protection** (groundwater and surface water)
- follows, prepares and presents EurEau positions on political developments in the field of water and health policies at EU- and international level (WHO)
- offers an exchange platform for its members (experts)

2. **Challenges 2015-2017**

(Short analysis of the main challenges in the field of activities of the body and link to the EurEau strategy and challenges for the period under consideration)

- Protecting a vulnerable resource
- Source-control approach for micropollutants
- Growing impact on climate change to water
- Water and energy efficiency in the water sector
- Managing long-term assets in a fast changing environment
- Increasing the public understanding of the water sector

3. **Objectives and**

(Description of the objectives the EurEau body aims to achieve)

4. **Activity and topic list**

(Overview of the topics and indication of priority – A, B , C and requested activity/objective on each topic)

1. WATER SUPPLY

(technical, managerial and organisational aspects)

- 1.1 **Implementation of new Biocides regulation (528/2012) (A):** Looking for solutions so that suppliers can continue using in-situ generated substances and equipment
- 1.2 **Implementation of INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC) (A):** Raising awareness for the sensitivity of information to be disclosed by water utilities
- 1.3 **Benchmarking (A):** support the stakeholder dialogue with the Commission
- 1.4 **Energy efficiency (A):** developing a EurEau-position on opportunities and limits of energy efficiency in the processes of water supply (from catchment to tap)
- 1.5 **Climate change adaptation (B):** following the development on EU-level (EU adaptation strategy, Blueprint (Water demand management, water accounts, ecological flow), application of target setting, water scarcity and droughts)
- 1.6 **Water efficiency (B):** developing a EurEau-position on water efficiency in order to provide a sustainable use of water resources as well as within the processes from catchment to tap
- 1.7 **Deployment of high-speed broadband (B):** Following the implementation of the Directive on national level (no use of drinking water pipes for the deployment of broadband)
- 1.8 **Leakage management (B):** dissemination of the new COM-report within EurEau-members and following of the ongoing developments
- 1.9 **Risk management (Water Safety Plans) (C):** following of the ongoing discussion and share experience from water utilities point of view. Link to the revision of the Drinking Water Directive. Exchange of experiences within the EurEau-community.
- 1.10 **Standards (C):** follow and discuss EurEau-involvement in EU regulation on technical standardisation (2013)
- 1.11 **Smart metering (C):** keep an eye on the development of smart metering

2. DRINKING WATER QUALITY

(evaluation and monitoring of chemical, microbiological and radiological parameters)

- 2.1 **Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC) and revision of Annex II (Monitoring) and Annex III (specification for the analysis of parameters) (A):** follow the COM-evaluation process, Impact Assessment and revision of the Drinking Water Directive according to the European Commission Work Programme
- 2.2 **Materials in contact with drinking water (A):** Support of the initiative of the 4 Member States to establish a EU-wide scheme for testing of materials in

contact with drinking water. Initiate and steer the dialogue of all stakeholders to develop the implementation of Article 10 (DWD) as an European approach.

2.3 **Council Directive laying down requirements for the protection of the health of the general public with regard to radioactive substances in water intended for human consumption (B):** follow the national implementation of the Directive

2.4 **Water and health (B):** follow the « Right2water »- initiative, raise the profile of drinking water in the respect of proper hydration and health

3. **WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION**

3.1 **Emerging pollutants: pharmaceuticals and their residues (A) :** elaboration of a position paper on veterinary pharmaceuticals in the environment and impacts on water resources. Active participation in EurEau's communication and stakeholder engagement plan

3.2 **Emerging pollutants: pesticides (A) :** development of a EurEau-position on the definition of “endocrine disrupting properties” within the scope of the Plant Protection Products regulation (1107/2009) and the Biocides regulation (528/2012). Elaboration of a position paper on relevant and non-relevant metabolites of pesticides. Follow the national implementation of Framework for a Sustainable Use of Pesticides (FDSUP)

3.3 **Water Framework Directive and Common Implementation Strategy (CIS) (A):** follow and participate in the CIS-Working Groups Eflows, Groundwater, Chemicals, Programmes of measures, Agriculture, Economics and Water accounts

3.4 **Protection of surface water resources used or suitable to be used for drinking water abstraction (A) :** Elaboration of a position paper (analog to the PP on the protection of groundwater resources used or suitable to be used for drinking water abstraction (10/2014)

3.5 **TTIP and chemicals (A):** assess the impact of trade agreements in terms of sustainability of water resources, with particular reference to chemicals (e.g. pesticides, biocides)

3.6 **Shale gas exploration in water catchment areas (B) :** follow the national implementation of the shale gas recommendation and further developments on EU-level

3.7 **Water reuse (EU 2 in lead) (B) :** follow the discussion within the COM, assessment of the study « Maximization/optimisation of water reuse ».

3.8 **Revision of Nitrates Directive (B) :** promote the re-evaluation of the Nitrates Directive and develop an EurEau position on « agriculture and water resources »

3.9 **Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) (B) :** promote the necessary linkage between the cross-compliance requirements with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive

5. Deliverables

(List of output to be delivered during the period under consideration)

- 5.1 Position paper « The EU **INSPIRE Directive**: pro's and con's from water services perspective »
- 5.2 Comments/positioning on evaluation, impact assessment and revision of the **Drinking Water Directive**
- 5.3 Updating of position paper on **materials and products in contact with drinking water** within the frame of the symposium on 19-20 May 2015, Brussels
- 5.4 Positioning on the developments in the field of the « **Right2Water** »-initiative
- 5.5 Position paper « **Protection of surface water resources** used for drinking water abstraction
- 5.6 Position paper « **Veterinary pharmaceuticals in drinking water resources** »
- 5.7 Position paper on « **relevant and non-relevant metabolites of pesticides** in drinking water resources and drinking water »
- 5.8 Positioning on the work and developments within the frame of the **WFD CIS** Working groups
- 5.9 Position paper on « **TTIP and chemicals** » (approved by ExCom 03/2015)
- 5.10 Position paper on « **Agriculture and drinking water resources protection** »

6. Structure and working methods

(Description of the structure of the body (WG and JWG), its working methods and interfaces with other EurEau bodies)

1. Working methods : plenary meetings (3 times a year), email-exchange between the meetings as well as ad hoc meetings when necessary
2. Working Groups : to be established
3. Joint Working Groups :
 - a. Involved in JWG Pollutants (EU 2 leads)
 - b. Involved in JWG Benchmarking
 - c. Involved in JWG Data survey
 - d. Involved in JWG Innovation
 - e. ...
4. Participation in external working bodies :
 - a. DG Environment expert group Drinking Water Directive – EU 1 involved
 - b. WFD CIS WG Groundwater – EU 1 focal point
 - c. WFD CIS WG Agriculture – EU 1 focal point
 - d. WFD CIS WG Eflows - EU 1 focal point
 - e. WFD CIS WG Programmes of measures - EU 1 focal point
 - f. WFD CIS WG Chemicals – EU 1 involved and on CC

- g. WFD CIS WG Economics – EU 1 involved and on CC
 - h. WFD CIS WG Water accounts – EU 1 involved and on CC
 - i. ECPA Independent Advisory Board – EU 1 involved
 - j. EU-R&D-projects (SOLUTIONS, TAPES, ...)
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7. Timeline

(Meeting schedule and timeline for deliverables)

2015 : 21-22 May 2015 (Antwerp), 6-7 October 2015 (Milan)

2016 : February 2016 (place tbc), May 2016 (place tbc), October 2016 (place tbc)

2017 : February 2017 (place tbc), May 2017 (place tbc), October 2017 (place tbc)

8. Reporting

(Description of reporting obligations and rhythm)

- Minutes of each EU 1 meeting
- Reports for ExCom
- Reports and presentations for General Assembly
- Reports when EU 1 members attend external meetings on behalf of EurEau

About EurEau

EurEau is the voice of Europe's water sector. With a direct employment of around 600,000 people, the European water sector makes a significant contribution to the European economy.

EurEau represents drinking water and waste water service providers from 27 countries in Europe, from both the private and the public sector. Our members are the national associations of water services in Europe.

At EurEau we bring national water professionals together to agree European water industry positions regarding the management of water quality, resource efficiency and access to water for Europe's citizens and businesses.



EurEau

Rue du Luxembourg 47-51,
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel : +32 (0)2 706 40 80
Fax : +32 (0) 2 706 40 81
secretariat@eureau.org
www.eureau.org