



## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **Steering Committee of the OECD Initiative on Water Governance**

#### **PREAMBLE**

1. This document is intended to set modalities for responsibilities and tasks of the Steering Committee of the OECD Initiative on Water Governance. It has been approved by the members of the Steering Committee.
2. The OECD Water Governance Initiative is a direct follow-up to the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (Marseille, 12-17 March 2013) Core Group on “Good Governance” led by OECD and institutional partners. It was officially launched on 27-28 March 2013 at OECD Headquarters.
3. The OECD Water Governance Initiative is a multi-stakeholder network of (about one hundred) delegates from public, private and not for profit sectors that will gather twice a year in a Policy Forum with the following objectives:
  - Advise governments in taking the needed steps for effective water reforms through policy dialogue across decision-makers at different levels;
  - Provide a technical platform to discuss analytical work on water governance through peer-to-peer exchanges and knowledge sharing;
  - Provide a consultation mechanism to raise the profile of governance issues in the Global Water Agenda (World Water Forum, Post-2015 Agenda);
  - Support the implementation of the governance targets designed for the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (Marseille, 2012) up to the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (Korea, 2015);
  - Contribute to the design of Principles on Water Governance and Indicators on Water Governance to engage decision-makers to commit to action.

#### **DESIGNATION & COMPOSITION**

4. The Steering Committee of the Initiative is composed of
  - OECD Secretariat
  - The coordinators of the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF Good Governance Group target solution groups, which are also the leaders of the Initiative’s thematic working groups.
5. The Steering Committee will be supported by an enlarged bureau composed of Regional Partners, sponsors, representatives from the World Water Council / 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum and other strategic actors supporting the Initiative’s programme of work.
6. Members of the Steering Committee will have fixed terms of office, with a possible rotation of one-third of the Steering Committee every 3 years.
7. When selecting the Chair of the Water Governance Initiative, the Steering Committee should ensure a transparent, fair and inclusive process, guided by the best interests of the Initiative. In making its choice, the Steering Committee should endeavour to designate the person who appears best qualified to give effective, helpful and impartial direction to its work.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES & ACTIVITIES**

### ***For the Initiative***

8. The Steering Committee will define the *strategic orientations* and the programme of work of the Initiative in line with the mandate agreed upon by the Members of the Initiative, in accordance with the working methods defined by the Initiative.
9. The Steering Committee will establish the *budget* of the Initiative and raise the necessary *funds* to sustain the programme of work.
10. The Steering Committee will ensure the Initiative's visibility during *international water events* to carry forward the Initiative key messages and priority activities.
11. For each of the *biannual plenary meeting* of the Initiative, the Steering Committee will lead the preparation (agenda, invitations, and media outreach), conduct (content and logistics) and follow-up duties (summary records and dissemination).
12. The Steering Committee will ensure the *continuity of the work* between biannual plenary meetings by feeding relevant media platforms with up-to-date information about the Initiative (dedicated website and newsletters, partners' websites and/or newsletters, specialised journals, etc.).

### ***For the Chair***

13. The Steering Committee will assist the Chair in the preparation (preparation of background briefing) and the conduct of the meetings (technical, strategic and logistical assistance). The Steering Committee will provide guidance to the Chair in dialoguing with other relevant bodies (OECD and non-OECD), networks and official delegations.

### ***For the Thematic Working Groups & Regional Partners***

14. The Steering Committee members will lead the different Thematic Working Groups, and convene multi-stakeholder processes to catalyse contributions from a wide range of institutions, countries and actors.
15. The Steering Committee will select contributors to the Thematic Working Groups, and Regional Partners after submission to a call for contributions.
16. The Steering Committee will select Regional Partners based on an open and transparent call for contributions identifying possible cross-fertilization with the Initiative's priority activities.

## **DELIVERABLES**

17. After each biannual plenary meeting of the Initiative, the Steering Committee will assist the Chair to prepare a report with *key messages, outcomes, decisions* taken and next steps to be sent to all members and disseminated to a wider audience.
18. The Steering Committee will set-up and maintain a *webpage* dedicated to the Initiative with relevant documents and news feeds (*e.g.* plenary meeting reports, minutes, up-to-date Inventory of existing water governance tools, platforms and initiatives). The Steering Committee will also feed quarterly *newsletters* with up-to-date information on the Initiative's and wider water governance related news.
19. By the 7<sup>th</sup> WWF (Korea, April 2015), the Steering Committee will prepare a *strategic progress report* on the implementation of the "good governance" targets, building on the working groups results and the Initiative's programme of work.