Session 1/2 of the INBO Webinar

« Enforcing regulations in the water sector: the necessity and functions of water law enforcement »

Thursday 25 March 2021, 9:00 – 10:45 (Central European Time CET)
with simultaneous interpretation into English - French

A World Water Day event:

In partnership with:
**CONTEXT**

The effectiveness of water resources management requires a legislative framework established at the country level which sets the principles of water resources management and the rules to be applied at all levels: basin, sub-basin, region or urban district.

These regulations define the conditions for water uses, the exploitation of resources, conditions for withdrawals, compliance with concessions, the discharge of polluted water, the procedures for obtaining authorizations related to any action that has an impact on aquatic environments such as wetlands, surface water or groundwater, the modalities of water resources management planning as well as the modalities of control of the implementation of the regulatory framework.

There is a necessity to organize and put in place a system entrusted with the overall mission to ensure water law enforcement, or in other words to control and monitor compliance to these regulations.

Indeed, experience shows that progress in water management as well as in the (qualitative, quantitative and ecological) status of water resources depend on the existence and proper functioning of such a system.

How should a water law enforcement system be organized? Based on the experience and know-how of certain countries, what fundamental recommendations can be drawn in order to achieve the effectiveness of controls and to materialize water law enforcement in the field?

Echoing World Water Day (22 March), the theme of which this year is “valuing water”, INBO organizes this series of two webinar sessions. The objective is to present the answers provided by States from the four corners of the world.

This webinar series will feed into the preparation of a methodological and practical handbook on the organization of water law enforcement, or “Water police”. The handbook, produced by INBO, will be published on the occasion of the World Water Forum in March 2022.
OPENING (5 min):
- Mr. Eric Tardieu, Secretary General, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

THE HANDBOOK ON “WATER LAW ENFORCEMENT” (10 min)
- Mr. Daniel Valensuela, Deputy Secretary General, INBO Technical Secretariat

FRENCH AND CHINESE APPROACH TO WATER LAW ENFORCEMENT (20 min)
- Mr Loïc Obled, Deputy Director General "Environmental law enforcement, Knowledge, Expertise", French Office for Biodiversity (OFB), France
- Ms. Linruo Zhang, Ministry of Water Resources, China (awaiting confirmation)

FIRST SECTION OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (15 min)

INTERVENTION OF GREAT WITNESSES (30 min)
Our key witnesses will share their professional experience on how to organize a water law enforcement:
- Mr. Puy Lim, Chairman, Tonle Sap Basin Authority, Cambodia
- Mr. Gheorghe Constantin, Director of Water Resources Management, Romania
- Mr. Serge Traore, Director General for Water Resources, Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Burkina Faso

SECOND SECTION OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (30 min)

CONCLUSION (5 min)
- Mr. Eric Tardieu, Secretary General, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)