

GWP CEE Statement for Sava Commission Ministerial Meeting on 1 June 2016

Dear Excellences, heads of delegations, distinguished guests,

It is a great honour to present a short statement on behalf of GWP Central and Eastern Europe, during the Sava Day. It's very special for those living in the Sava River Basin.

I would like to congratulate for achievements done so far presented by the President and the Executive Secretary and express our gratitude for the trustful cooperation we have experienced during the past years. Example of a joint activity is a public participation workshop that was held last year in June and it provided a solid basis for public involvement in river basin management planning.

In the future, we are planning to undertake several projects and initiatives focused on climate change adaptation, stakeholder involvement, small water retention for flood and drought prevention that can be implemented in cooperation with the Sava Commission. It can also support river basin management planning in the next period.

Last year, GWP launched a Global Youth Strategy that can be a basis for cooperation with the Sava Youth Parliament. In November, there will be a Budapest Water Summit, featuring also Youth Forum, that can link up it with the Sava Youth Parliament.

Dear Excellences, dear ladies and gentlemen, integrated water resources management is not only embedded in the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin and EU legislation, but also in the new Sustainable Development Goals, especially the Goal No 6. In addition to the SDGs, global, regional and national agendas will be shaped by the Paris Climate Agreement and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as mentioned by the Executive Secretary.

This year marks 10 anniversary of its secretariat and also GWP is turning 20 years. I will conclude by saying. If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go further, join others and go together. It very much demonstrates the essence of cooperation here in the Sava basin, that you can proud of. We are very much looking forward to cooperate with you towards our common goals! Happy Sava Day and thank you for your attention!