

RESEAU INTERNATIONAL DES ORGANISMES DE BASSIN
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS
RED INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANISMOS DE CUENCA

CONFIRMATION

CONSTITUTIVE MEETING
OF THE NETWORK OF TRANSBOUNDARY BASIN ORGANIZATIONS

—◆—
THONON-LES-BAINS (FRANCE)
25 / 26 NOVEMBER 2002

Dear Friends,

Appropriate integrated management of rivers, lakes or aquifers, shared by several riparian countries, is now of strategic significance.

Following the last General Assembly of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), held in May 2002 in Quebec, the International Commission for the Protection of Geneva Lake ("CIPEL") and the French Rhone-Mediterranean-Corsica Water Agency proposed to organize the first constitutive meeting of a new **Network of Transboundary Basin Organizations**. It will take place:

on Monday and Tuesday 25 and 26 November 2002
at the "Château de Ripaille" on the shores of Geneva Lake
Thonon-les-Bains (France)

The objective of this Network would be to enable the executives and technicians of existing organizations to better know each other and exchange their experiences, to compare their approaches and methods and thus to facilitate the creation and strengthening of new organizations adapted to transboundary basins throughout the world and to develop cooperation between the countries concerned.

This specialized INBO Network is intended for:

➤ **International Authorities, Commissions, Secretariats**, either already existing or being created, and for **management organizations** established in the basins of **transboundary rivers or aquifers**,

.../...



➤ **relevant administrations in the countries concerned by transboundary river basins or aquifers** and which apply or wish to apply the principles of integrated water resource management,

➤ **bi and multilateral cooperation institutions**, which support projects dealing with the creation or strengthening of organizations managing transboundary basins.

The conclusions of the Thonon-les-Bains Assembly will be presented during the Workshop organized by INBO, on 20 March 2003 in Shiga, during the 3rd World Water Forum.

You will be welcomed either at the Geneva-Cointrin airport^(*) or at the Geneva-Cornavin railway station (the Swiss Geneva City is only 35 km from Thonon) and **your stay in Thonon-les-Bains will be taken care of by the organizers, from Sunday 24 November evening to Tuesday 26 November afternoon.**

Simultaneous translation into English, Spanish and French is planned.

The organization is coordinated with the FCCP Program of UNESCO to enable the participants, who would wish so, to also attend the International Workshop, on 21 and 22 November in Delft (the Netherlands).

A return trip to Lyons (France) is also possible for the people who would wish to participate in the International Exhibition « POLLUTEC » on 27, 28 and 29 November.

In order to facilitate the organization of the meeting and your stay in Thonon-les-Bains, would you kindly return to me the enclosed confirmation form, at your earliest convenience before next 10 October.

Hoping to see you again in November on the shores of Geneva Lake; I send you my best regards.

Encl. : - Confirmation form to be sent back
before 10/10/2002
- Draft program

Jean-François DONZIER
Permanent Technical Secretary
International Network of Basin Organizations

(*) *Geneva-Cointrin airport has a direct exit on the French territory for the participants who could have visa problems for Switzerland. Please let us know of any particular situation, otherwise you could also arrive at Lyons-Saint Exupéry airport.*

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