

**Dear organizers,  
Ladies and gentlemen,  
Dear Water Friends,**

It is a great pleasure for me to be here together with all of you in this interesting and important conference.

I am really happy to be here among people from different countries, institutions and organizations, inspired of the mission to find the best way to improve water and water management. Water is in the focus of many international events but always there are important things and results that we want to share or discuss. Now we are facing big challenges in the field of water management: climate change and extreme events like floods and droughts, scarcity of water in many areas, bad status of water related with development of the urban areas and economic activities and need to protect the life: human health and ecosystems.

It is great pleasure for me to present here Central and Eastern European Network of Basin Organizations (CEENBO) as a president of this network since 2011 and my country Bulgaria in Europe as a Basin Director of East Aegean river basin directorate. This is one of the four organizations in the country, responsible for river basin management.

CEENBO is a regional network of European basin organizations and it is established in 2002. It's goal is to promote the integrated water resources management at the river basin level, as an essential tool for sustainable development.

Since I am a President of CEENBO and with support of the secretariat from Romania my objective is to join to our work new members or observers and to improve sharing of knowledge and relationships between the members and observers of the network. Thanks of the hard work of the Secretariat of CEENBO from Romania now we have new web-site of CEENBO. To our network also is joined new observer – Artois-Picardie water agency in France, which is our friend from many years. During the last 2 years we organized 2 international conferences which had an important role to improve the relationships between members of CEENBO and knowledge

about water management. They were key tool to exchange good practices, focusing on implementation of European Water Framework Directive in the region.

In 2011 we organized an international conference in Plovdiv and back to back there was a meeting - a part of the preparatory process of region Europe for the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum. Participants and CEENBO members had an opportunity to send their messages to the forum in Marseille.

In 2012 in Sofia it was held other international conference – satellite event of “Green week” in Europe and related to the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CEENBO and river basin management in Bulgaria. The both events were organized in cooperation with the International office of water and Artois-Picardie water agency, France.

Through these forums it was possible to share experiences and best practices in the field of integrated water management, the implementation of measures and successful practices to improve the water status.

Following this practice to organize international events in Bulgaria focusing on water management this year we will organize together with International office for water and with support of the Artois Picardie water Agency other event: **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference EURO INBO 2013. It will take place in Plovdiv, Bulgaria on 14th and 15th November 2013.** It will focus on the implementation of the programs of measures in first RBMPs and development of the second RBMPs in connects of Water framework directive and relations with other water directives (Flood directive, Marine strategy, ext).

Back to back the conference there will be a **Monitoring workshop on 13<sup>th</sup> November**, focusing on preparation of the second cycle of the River Basin Management Plans in Europe in context of Water framework directive. The objective of this monitoring workshop is to compare practices and practical experiences of monitoring, and promote the exchange of questions and solutions.

**On 16<sup>th</sup> November it will be technical visit** to see on field some good solutions.

Dear water friends,

**I would like to invite all of you to join to us in EURO INBO 2013 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria on 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2013.** Everyone who is ready to share his experience is very much welcomed.

I believe that our work these days will help us to answer the thousands of challenges we are in front of and we will find some solutions. And of course we could continue discussions during EURO INBO 2013 in Plovdiv.

I would like to thank of the organizers for the excellent organization and for this nice place and to wish all of you very fruitful work during the INBO 2013!

Thank you for your attention!