



MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

DR. SÁNDOR PINTÉR
minister

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**Her Excellency Ms. Karmen Joller
Minister of Social Affairs
of the Republic of Estonia**

Tallinn

Budapest, 28 June 2025

Invitation to the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (Budapest, 5-7 November 2025)

Excellency,

It is my pleasure to inform you that the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes will be held in Budapest, Hungary, from 5 to 7 November 2025. The meeting is being organized and hosted by the Government of Hungary, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe.

I have the honor to invite you, Excellency, to this important event, and in particular to the high-level segment, which will take place on Wednesday, 5 November 2025. The session will mark the 20th anniversary of the Protocol's entry into force and provide an opportunity to reflect on two decades of progress in expanding access to safe water and sanitation and strengthening public health systems, while also addressing the future by focusing on the topic of resilience of water, sanitation and hygiene systems and services.

The general segment will review progress since the sixth session and aims at shaping the future direction of the Protocol. Key areas of discussion will include target setting and reporting, enhancing resilience to climate change, the safe management of water supply and sanitation systems, small-scale water supply and sanitation, the prevention and reduction of water-related diseases, equitable access to water and sanitation, and water, sanitation and hygiene in institutional settings and public places. The meeting will adopt a strategy for implementing the Protocol, a system of targets to ensure the Protocol's financial sustainability, and a programme of work for 2026–2028 with a focus on strengthening the resilience of the water and sanitation sectors.

Since its entry into force, the Protocol has provided a unique intergovernmental platform to advance water, sanitation, hygiene and health objectives across the pan-European region. Its flexible, cross-sectoral and inclusive framework has supported concrete national commitments and achievements, collaborative policymaking, and mutual learning. This has contributed to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 6, as well as other goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the regional commitments made at the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (Budapest, July 2023).

I cordially invite your country to be represented at the highest possible level and would particularly welcome your personal participation, Excellency, in the high-level segment. As participation in the meeting will be in person only, I kindly encourage early planning to facilitate your attendance. Given the cross-cutting nature of the Protocol, I encourage your delegation to include representatives from both the health and the water/environment sectors to ensure comprehensive engagement and effective representation of national priorities.

Additional information, including the provisional agenda, programme of the high-level segment, and other official documents, as well as practical details on registration and accreditation, will be made available shortly on the meeting website at: https://unece.org/MOP7_Protocol.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Sándor Pintér

Encl.: Flyer of the 7th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health