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PARIS-FRANCE

# International Network of Basin Organisations, OBJECTIVES:



International  
Network  
Of Basin  
Organizations

- to develop relations between organizations interested in comprehensive water resource management at the river basin level,
- to favor exchanges of experiences and expertise among them,
- to promote the principles and means of sound water management in cooperation programs,
- to facilitate the implementation of tools suitable for institutional and financial management, programming, organization of data banks, and for models adapted to the needs,
- to promote information and training programs for the different stakeholders involved in water management as well as for the executives and staff of the member basin organizations,
- to evaluate ongoing actions and disseminate their results.



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# International Network of Basin Organisations, MEMBERS:



International  
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- **“Basin Organizations”**, entrusted by relevant public administrations with integrated water resources management at the level of important river basins, either national, federal or transboundary, as well as the cooperation structures they have developed among them.
- **the governmental administrations in charge** or interested in applying integrated and sustainable water resources management:
  - organized at the level of river basins,
  - associating administrations and local authorities, as well as users,
  - having specific budgetary resources at their disposal, obtained by applying the “user-polluter-pays” principle.
- **bi and multilateral co-operation agencies** supporting activities related to integrated and sustainable water resources management at the level of river basins.



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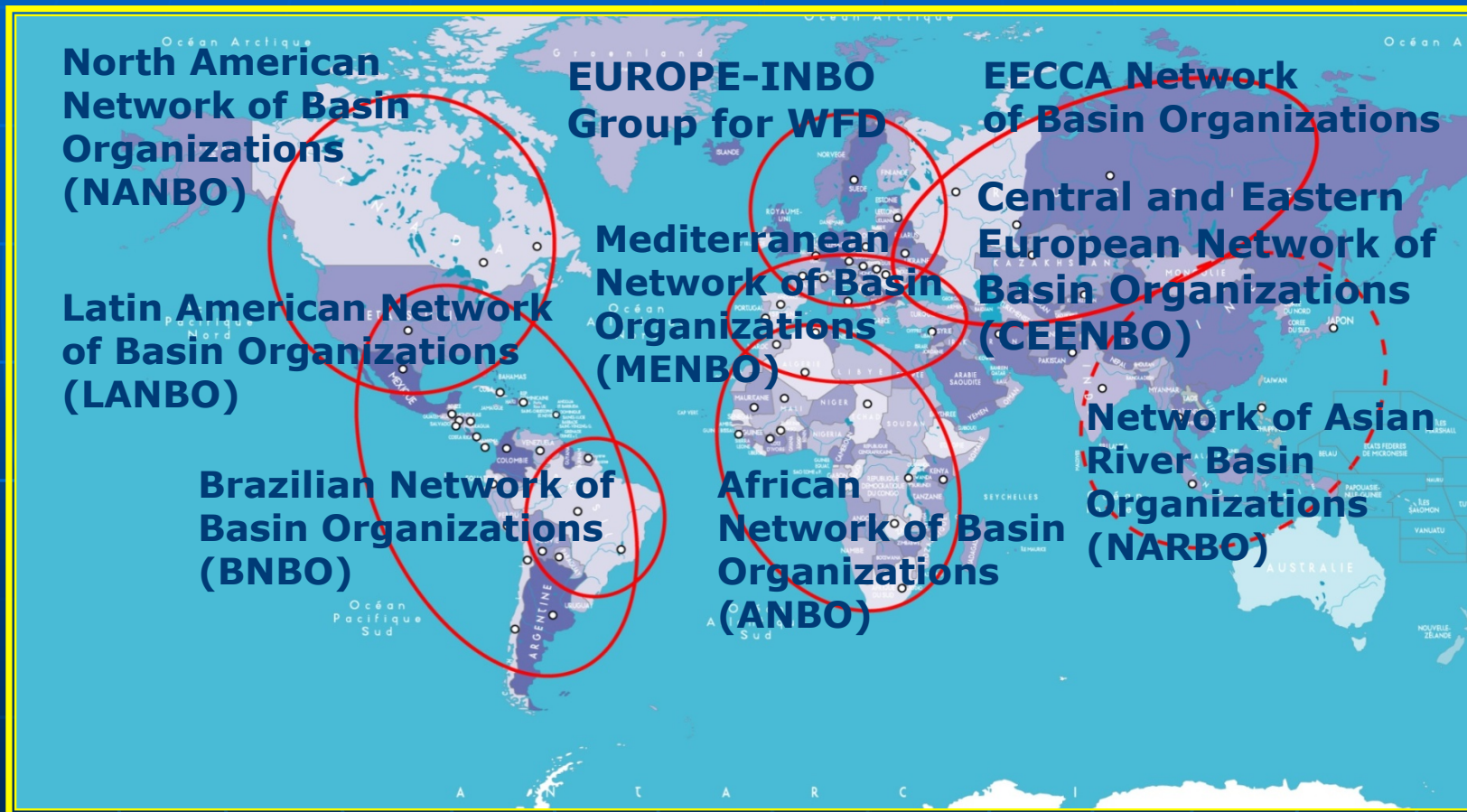
# **INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS**

Created in 1994 to facilitate  
operational exchanges between BO



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## **INBO's REGIONAL NETWORKS**



**192 FULL MEMBERS or PERMANENT OBSERVERS  
in 71 COUNTRIES**





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TO: MR. JEAN-FRANCOIS DONZIER

FROM: DESA / STAT

DATE: Thu May 31 2007 09:30 EDT

UNITED NATIONS  
SECRETARIAT

2007 MAY 30 P 5:00

United Nations  Nations Unies

NGO SECTION, DESA

1 UN Plaza, Room DC1-1477, New York, NY 10017

tel: (212) 963-8652 / fax: (212) 963-9248

www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo

e-mail: desangosection@un.org

5338

Monday, 21 May, 2007

**Reference: Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations  
2007 Resumed session (14-18 May 2007)**

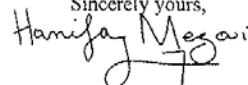
Dear Mr. Jean-Francois Donzier,

We are pleased to inform you that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its 2007 resumed session, on 14-18 May 2007, has decided to recommend that your organization "Réseau International des Organismes de Bassin" be granted special consultative status.

Please note that this recommendation is still subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council, which will consider and take action on the Committee's recommendation at its substantive session, scheduled for 2-27 July 2007 in Geneva.

Once taken, we shall inform you of the Council's final decision on your application.

Sincerely yours,

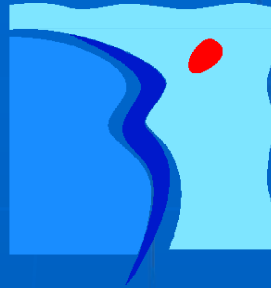


Hanifa Mezoui, Chief  
Non-Governmental Organizations Section/DESA  
Room DC1-1480  
Fax: (212) 963-9248 or 963-4114

Mr. Jean-Francois Donzier - Permanent Technical Secretary  
**Réseau International des Organismes de Bassin**  
21, rue de Madrid  
75008 Paris  
France  
FAX: (33) 1.40.08.01.45  
EMAIL: inbo@wando.fr



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**Office International de l'Eau**

**International Office for Water**

**Oficina Internacional del Agua**

**Международное бюро по водным ресурсам**

**المكتب الدولي للمياه**

**水资源国际办公室**

**Permanent Technical Secretariat operated by International Office for Water, PARIS**



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**8th WORLD GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS  
DAKAR FROM 20 TO 23 JANUARY 2010**



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# RIOB 2013

RIOB 2013 FORTALEZA-CEARÁ-BRASIL

Assembleia Geral Mundial da Rede Internacional de  
Organismos de Bacias Hidrográficas.



**12 a 16** de Agosto de 2013  
FORTALEZA-CEARÁ-BRASIL

Local: Marina Park Hotel  
[www.marinapark.com.br](http://www.marinapark.com.br)

Realização:



Rede Internacional dos Organismos de Bacias  
International Network of Basin Organizations  
Rede Internacional de Organismos de Bacias  
الجمعية الدولية لهيئات الأحواض



RELOC-RELOB



REBOB  
REDE BRASIL  
ORGANISMOS DE BACIA

Patrocinador:



ANA  
AGÊNCIA NACIONAL DE ÁGUAS

Organização:



PRÁTICA  
FORTALEZA





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**...INBO participation  
In key world events.**





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World Water Council



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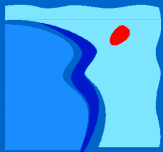
**The theme of basin management and transboundary cooperation  
has been widely discussed  
during the recent World Water Forum in Marseilles.**

**I UNESCO** and the **International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)**  
jointly coordinated the nine official sessions of Priority 1.5  
**«Contribute to cooperation and peace»**,  
mainly on the management of the basins of transboundary river, lakes and aquifers.

**I INBO** also coordinated with OECD, target 3, Condition for Success 1  
**"Good governance"**  
related to the development and implementation  
of national or transboundary Basin Management Plans.

**I The European Commission** and **UNECE** also coordinated two sessions  
of the European process, in close liaison with the **"Europe-INBO"** group:

- "Water Convention" (1992) and transboundary basin management in Europe,
- the implementation of the European Water Framework Directive (WFD),



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## Le «Pacte pour une meilleure gestion de bassin»:

*Réunis à Marseille le 16 mars 2012, les représentants présents de 71 organismes de bassin de rivière, de lac ou d'aquifère, de différentes parties du monde ont adhéré à ce Pacte pour une meilleure gestion des bassins nationaux et transfrontaliers Afin de mieux répondre aux défis de la planète.*

## « the World Pact for better basin management »

Officially signed in Marseilles on 16 March 2012  
by 71 basin organizations from the whole world, « The Pact » is proposed  
to the signature of all basin organizations worldwide  
that could not be present in Marseilles.



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## International Network of Basin Organizations

### World Pact for better basin management

We, representatives of river, lake or aquifer basin organizations, from different parts of the world, subscribe to the present "World Pact for better basin management" in view of the development of integrated and joint water resources management at national, regional and transboundary level to meet the challenges facing our planet.

Indeed, we must achieve the Millennium Development Goals and ensure "green growth" and face the global changes associated with the rapid world population growth, migration, increasing urbanization, climate change, etc. Our efforts should indeed allow fighting against natural disasters, reliably meeting the drinking water needs of urban and rural populations to improve hygiene and health and prevent epidemics, securing food sufficiency, developing industry, energy production, waterways transport, tourism and recreational activities, preventing and controlling pollution of all kinds to preserve aquatic ecosystems, support fish production and more generally preserve the biodiversity of water-related environments.

All these stakes cannot be tackled on a sectoral or local basis, or separately from each other. The search for solutions must instead involve all stakeholders in an integrated and joint approach, organized in cooperation with the river basin units and for the sustainable use of water resources.

#### PART 1 : PREAM DECLARATION

Through our commitment to this Pact, we recognize that:

- It is becoming imperative to introduce and/or permanently strengthen new forms of governance of water resources, such as those already recommended at Dublin (1991), Rio (1992), Paris (1998), The Hague (2000), Johannesburg (2002), Kyoto (2003), Mexico (2006) and Istanbul (2009) in particular;
- River, lake and aquifer basins are the relevant territory for the organization of joint management of water resources, aquatic ecosystems, and all water-related activities;
- The different ecosystems found in river basins are very important both for biodiversity and environmental services, including for the regulation of the hydrological cycles and risk prevention, as well as for the treatment of pollution;
- The basins of transboundary rivers, lakes and aquifers are to be paid special attention and be jointly managed by the riparian Countries;

- The establishment and strengthening of basin organizations in best suited forms, especially international commissions, authorities or other transboundary basin organizations, facilitate dialogue, cooperation, information exchange and implementation of joint projects and actions, for sharing benefits, anticipating the future and preventing potential conflicts between the stakeholders concerned;
- It is necessary to increase regional integration by harmonizing policies and laws and by implementing the regional programmes of common interest needed to improve surface and groundwater resources management at basin level;
- It is necessary to create or strengthen the funding dedicated to the management of water resources and aquatic environments and generally of the "great water cycle";
- It is useful to develop or strengthen federating frameworks for facilitating bilateral or multilateral initiatives in this strategic field of basin management;
- The stakeholders of the civil society and the local authorities should be better associated and involved in the management of the basins where they live;
- It is necessary to increase cooperation among basin organizations around the world and in each region to facilitate the sharing of experience and know-how on best practices in river basin management and their adaptation to different contexts.

#### PART 2 : COMMITMENTS OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS

Recognizing the need of urgent actions, We, representatives of the organizations, signatories of the "World Pact for better basin management", express our will, in what comes under our statutory powers and within the limits of our own resources, to commit ourselves alongside our national governments and international institutions for:

- acting to improve water governance, facilitating the creation of basin organizations where they do not exist, strengthening existing organizations, helping the concerned authorities develop useful reforms and policies for sustainable water management and the programmes needed for their implementation in the field;
- supporting processes of sustainable, integrated, joint and participative management of water resources and environments organized on the appropriate scale of local, national or transboundary basins according to the case;



Pact

[www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org)







**13 – 22 Juin 2012:**  
**Conférence des Nations Unies**  
**RIO+20**



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International Yellow River Forum  
Zhengzhou, 25-28 September 2012





# International Yellow River Forum Zhengzhou, 25-28 September 2012







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## **" EUROPE INBO 2012", in ISTANBUL 17 – 19 October 2012**





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## " EUROPE INBO 2012", A ISTANBUL

**The meeting focused on the major current topics on the implementation of the Framework Directive (WFD) in the National and Transboundary River Basin Districts.**

**One of the key issues has been:**

**“could we reach in the EU the good ecological statute of water and aquatic ecosystems in due time?”**

We also talked about the results of the 6th World Water Forum, Of the UN “RIO+20” Conference and of a progress report on the “World Pact for better basin management”.



# the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (Rome, 28-30 November 2012)



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# **INBO ACTION PLAN**

## **LE PLAN D'ACTION DU RIOB**

**"DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING  
RIVER BASIN ORGANIZATIONS"**

**ASSOCIATED PROGRAM :  
"DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING  
RIVER BASIN ORGANIZATIONS"**



**PROGRAMME ASSOCIE :  
"DEVELOPPER ET RENFORCER  
LES ORGANISATIONS DE BASSIN"**





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# Associated Programme GWP-INBO

## 4 main fields of collaboration

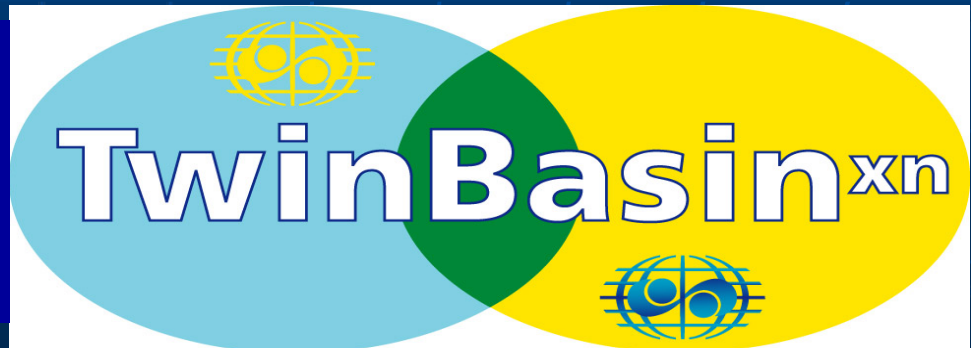
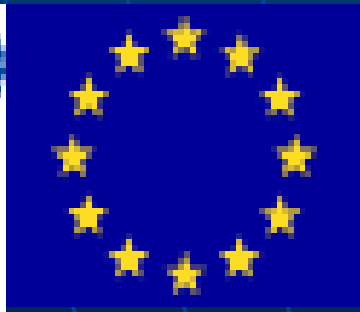


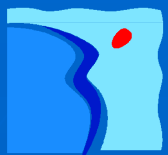
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### Output 1:

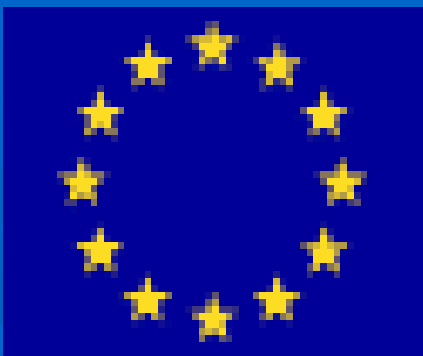
Promoting Twinning between Basins  
Organizations for Developing Integrated Water  
Resources Management best Practices

- **Direct experiences sharing**
- **Exchange of decision-makers and technicians....**





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The "Twin Basins project",  
supported by the European Union,  
give a sponsorship for travels and accomodation,  
to basin organizations  
which sign twinning agreement between them  
to exchange their staffs.

**In 4 years, the project has obtained very interesting results:**

- 41 financially supported twinning agreements,
- more than 100 missions for the exchange of experience,
- involving 70 Basin Organizations from 42 countries.



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# Associated Programme GWP-INBO



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## 4 main fields of collaboration

### □ Output 2:

#### ➤ Capacities mobilisation from Basin Organizations:

- Assistance with the implementation of institutional reforms,
- Initiation of basin pilot projects,
- Support to countries sharing a transboundary basin,
- Assisting with the setting-up of new basin organizations,
- Professional training of technical teams,



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# Associated Programme GWP-INBO



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## 4 main fields of collaboration

### □ Output 2:

#### ➤ Capacities mobilisation from Basin Organizations

- Design of monitoring networks and databases,
- Assessment to planning process,
- Establishment of institutional mechanisms for users' participation in decision-making,
- Financial and economical studies,
- Assisting with the setting-up of new water taxes...



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**water resources management should be organized:**



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**Example of SINA and SIRA in Mexico**

**3) based on integrated information systems,**  
allowing knowledge on resources and their uses, polluting pressures,  
ecosystems and their functioning, the follow-up of their evolutions  
and risk assessment.





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**pilot basins:**

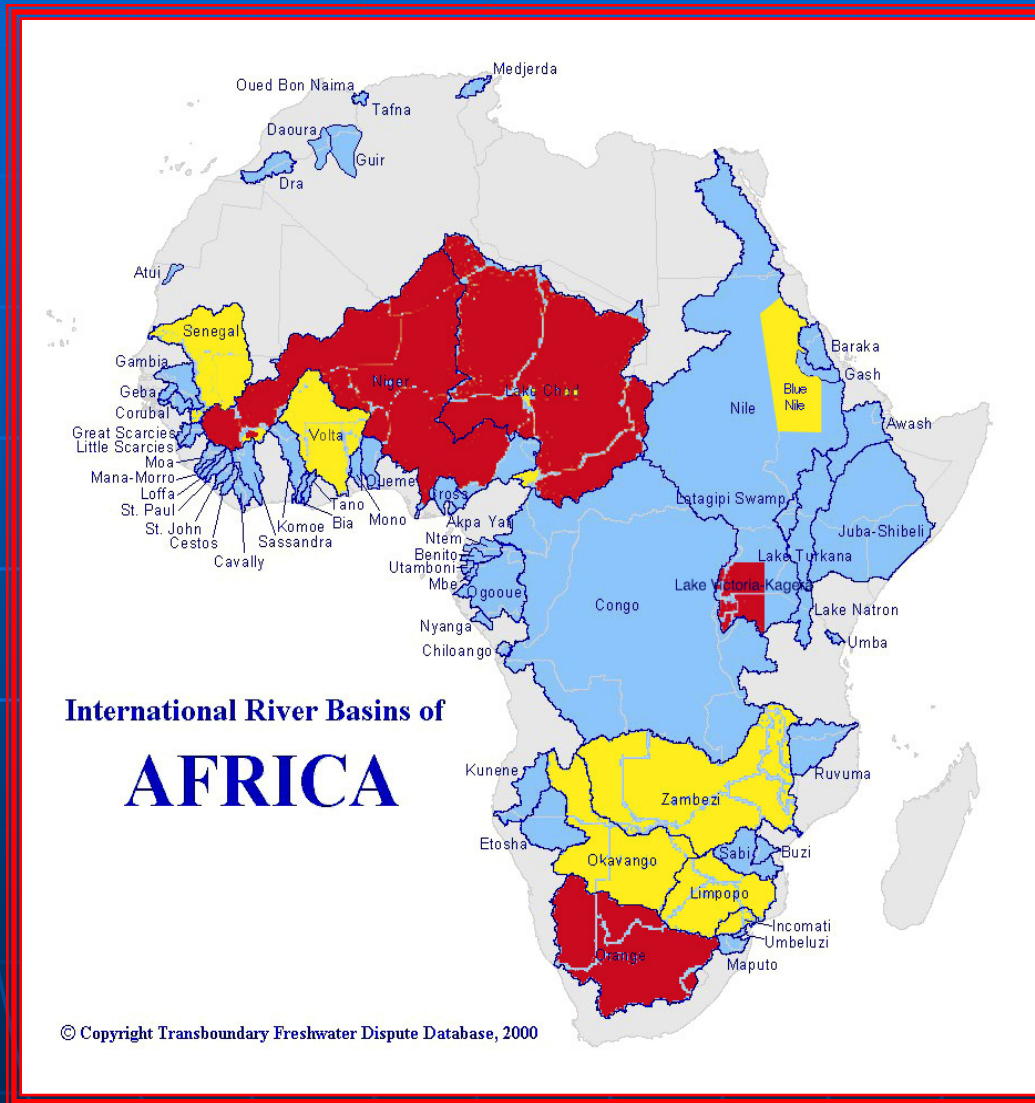
**Niger,  
Volta,  
Sénégal,  
Lac Tchad,  
Congo,  
Mekong....  
Et CEDEAO**



# The European Water Facility for African transboundary rivers,



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# **Implementation of the UN Convention for the international water courses management in Europe – HELSINKY 1992**

**Building the data administration and sharing capacities  
of the national and local Authorities involved in 2 pilot basins,  
by using methodologies that can be replicated  
in other transboundary basins of the region.**





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the UN Convention  
for the international water courses management  
in Europe – HELSINKY 1992

# Network of Pilot Basin Organizations to test measures for adapting to climate change



Organisation  
des Nations Unies  
pour l'éducation,  
la science et la culture





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# Associated Programme GWP-INBO

## 4 main fields of collaboration



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### □ Output 3:

#### ➤ Synthesis of knowledge and Know-How:

- To identify good practices,
- To set common, easily accessible and measurable performance indicators,
- To train staff and stakeholders from basin organizations,



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# ACP-EU WATER FACILITY / ACTIONS IN ACP COUNTRIES

## Development of IWRM performance indicators for African Transboundary Basins management



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### KPI Project: Key Performance Indicators



### 10 pilots basins in 1ère phase:

- **Niger** (ABN / NBA)
- **Volta** (ABV / VBA)
- **Lac Victoria** (LVBC)
- **Nil** (NBI)
- **Congo** (CICOS)
- **Sénégal** (OMVS)
- **Gambie** (OMVG)
- **Okavango** (OKACOM)
- **Orange** (ORASECOM)
- **Lac Tchad** (CBLT / LCBC)





# The European Framework Directive: **CIS Achievements**



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## 17 Guidance Documents



- 1) Economics and the Environment
- 2) Identification of Water Bodies
- 3) Analysis of Pressures and Impacts
- 4) Artificial and Heavily Modified Water Bodies
- 5) Transitional and Coastal Waters – Typology, Reference Conditions
- 6) Intercalibration Network and the Intercalibration Process
- 7) Monitoring
- 8) Public Participation
- 9) GIS and the WFD
- 10) Rivers and Lakes Typology
- 11) Planning Process
- 12) Wetlands
- 13) Classification
- 14) Reporting
- 15) Groundwater protection;
- 16) prevention of groundwater pollution
- 17) characterisation of coastal waters







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## **Bringing together National and Regional research programmes to develop joint activities**

- ▶ Exchanges of experiences and good practice
- ▶ Research needs assessment on Integrated Water Resources Management brought on by the WFD
- ▶ Common strategic orientations
- ▶ Joint dissemination approaches

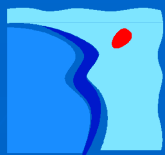
## **Common forum and platform for knowledge transfer**

- ▶ To facilitate communication between researchers, water policy makers, research programme managers and water managers
- ▶ To create new RTD/policy interfaces

## **A network based on an interdisciplinary approach**

- ▶ Encompassing social sciences, economics, technical and ecological fields
- ▶ To be extended to other research programme from all member states and neighbouring countries

## **Towards future transnational and transregional research programmes**



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# INBO

## Newsletter

### Adapting to the consequences of climate change



Istanbul - Turkey - March 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> WWF

Stockholm - Sweden - August 2009 - EURO-RIO

Zhengzhou - China - October 2009 - 4<sup>th</sup> WWF

Beirut - Lebanon - October 2009 - MENBO

**Global warming now seems to be unavoidable.**  
One of the first consequences will be a change in the hydrological cycles.

Freshwater resources will be directly affected in the coming years, with for consequences, in particular and according to the regions:

- changes in the intensity and frequency of floods and droughts;
- modification of the flows of rivers coming from mountains, because of the melting of glaciers and reduction of the snow cover;
- increased erosion caused by the modification of plant and soil cover;
- higher plant evapotranspiration leading to changes in agricultural production, regarding irrigation in particular;
- changes in the flows to the river mouths, as well as salt water intrusion inland and in coastal aquifers, because of the increase of sea and ocean level...

The demographic, economic and ecological consequences are likely to be very important and require a worldwide mobilization to quickly prepare the adaptation programs necessary in each river basin.

**This necessary adaptation to the effects of climate change on the hydrological cycles will be at the core of the work of the next 8<sup>th</sup> World General Assembly of INBO, which will be held in Dakar (Senegal) from 20 to 23 January 2010, at the invitation of the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS).**

**Register now to participate!**

[www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org)
November 2009 - n° 18



# La lettre du RIOB

### S'adapter aux conséquences du changement climatique



Istanbul - Turkey - March 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> WWF

Stockholm - Sweden - August 2009 - EURO-RIO

Zhengzhou - China - October 2009 - 4<sup>th</sup> WWF

Beirut - Lebanon - October 2009 - MENBO

**Le changement climatique apparaît désormais inéluctable.**  
Une des premières conséquences en sera une modification des cycles hydrologiques.

Les ressources en eau douce en seront directement affectées dès les toutes prochaines années, avec pour conséquences, notamment, et selon les régions :

- des perturbations dans l'intensité et dans la fréquence des inondations et de sécheresses,
- une dégradation des débits des fleuves prenant leur source en montagne, du fait de la fonte des glaciers et de la réduction de l'enneigement,
- une érosion accrue du fait de la modification des espèces végétales et de la couverture des sols,
- une plus forte évapotranspiration des cultures entraînant des changements dans la production agricole, en particulier pour l'irrigation,
- une modification des écoulements à l'embouchure des fleuves, ainsi que des intrusions salées sur le littoral et dans les aquifères côtiers, du fait de la remontée du niveau des océans ...

Les conséquences démographiques, économiques et écologiques risquent d'être très importantes et nécessitent une mobilisation mondiale pour préparer rapidement les programmes d'adaptations indispensables au niveau de chaque bassin.

**Cette nécessaire adaptation aux effets du changement climatique sur les cycles hydrologiques sera au cœur des travaux de la prochaine 8<sup>ème</sup> Assemblée Générale Mondiale du RIOB, qui se tiendra du 20 au 23 janvier 2010 à Dakar (Sénégal), à l'invitation de l'Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du fleuve Sénégal (OMVS)**

**Inscrivez-vous dès maintenant pour participer !**

[www.riob.org](http://www.riob.org)
Novembre 2009 - n° 18

- 9.500 ex in English,  
- 7.700 ex in French,  
- 2.800 ex in Spanish,  
...electronic version in Russian



# La carta de la RIOC

### Adaptar a las consecuencias del cambio climático



Istanbul - Turkey - March 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> WWF

Stockholm - Sweden - August 2009 - EURO-RIO

Zhengzhou - China - October 2009 - 4<sup>th</sup> WWF

Beirut - Lebanon - October 2009 - MENBO

**El calentamiento global ya no se puede evitar.**  
Una de las primeras consecuencias será una modificación de los ciclos hidrológicos.

Los recursos de agua dulce se verán afectados directamente en los años venideros, con consecuencias en particular, y según las regiones:

- perturbaciones en la intensidad y frecuencia de las inundaciones y sequías,
- desregulación de los caudales en los ríos que nacen en las montañas, debido a la fundición de los glaciares y la reducción del manto de nieve,
- erosión incrementada debido a la modificación de especies de plantas y suelo,
- fuerte evapotranspiración de los cultivos que implica cambios en la producción agrícola, en particular para el riego,
- modificación de los flujos a la desembocadura de los ríos, así como intrusiones de agua salada en las tierras y acuíferos costeros debido al incremento del nivel de los océanos ...

Las consecuencias demográficas, económicas y ecológicas serán muy significativas y requerirán una movilización mundial para preparar rápidamente programas de adaptación indispensables en cada cuenca.

**Esta necesaria adaptación a los efectos del cambio climático sobre los ciclos hidrológicos estará en el centro de los trabajos de la próxima 8<sup>a</sup> Asamblea General Mundial de la RIOC, que tendrá lugar del 20 al 23 de enero de 2010 en Dakar (Senegal), por invitación de la Organización para el Aprovechamiento del Río Senegal (OMVS).**

**¡Inscriben desde ahora para participar!**

[www.rioc.org](http://www.rioc.org)
Diciembre de 2009 - n° 18



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« **INBO Newsletter** »

**Réseau International des Organismes de Bassin**  
International Network of Basin Organizations  
Red Internacional de Organismos de Cuenca  
الشبكة الدولية لهيئات الأحواض

**www.riob.org**  
"Le site internet de la Gestion par Bassin"

**Assemblée Générale Mondiale du Réseau International des Organismes de Bassin**  
World General Assembly of the International Network of Basin Organizations  
Reunión General Mundial de la Red Internacional de Organismos de Cuenca  
الجمعية العامة للشبكة الدولية لهيئات الأحواض

**Première rencontre des Organismes de Bassin d'Asie Latine et des Caraïbes**  
First meeting of the Basin Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean  
Primer encuentro de las organizaciones de cuencas de América Latina y el Caribe

**Actualités et l'actualité des réseaux régionaux**  
Regional networks news and actuality  
Actualidad y actualidad de las redes regionales

**Amérique du Nord**  
Amérique Latine  
Asie  
Asie centrale  
Europe Centrale et Orientale  
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Первая встреча Бассейновых организаций Латинской Америки и Карибских островов  
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#### Starting with an institutional inventory

Any effort to change institutional arrangements should begin with identifying the problems to be solved and the roles of the various actors engaged in water management. This involves asking, to what end, and how well. Based on this analysis, gaps can be filled and coordinating mechanisms developed or strengthened.

This process can be initiated from the bottom up (as in the example of some watershed initiatives) or the government water agency can take the lead—working closely with existing water users, NGOs and other government agencies to develop appropriate co-management arrangements. In addition to making sure that the various actors are carried out (see Table 1), this means making sure regulation and operational duties are separate, that checks and balances are established, and that roles are clear and are supported by adequate legislation.

A key factor in the success of basin institutional arrangements is the definition of water allocation mechanisms and monitoring systems to ensure water use is consistent with available resources and ecosystem integrity. The CA analysis suggests that allocating water between competing uses and users, including the environment, has often not received enough attention, although it is at the heart of integrated water resources management. Most important is the need to define allocation arrangements to be activated in times of shortage. Allocation and monitoring depend on adequate and reliable data; data collection is thus a critical first step that can help get water users and government and nongovernment organizations working together. In addition to water allocation, handling floods and reducing water pollution are key issues in many countries.

Institutional arrangements for sustainable basin management should involve existing organizations, customary practices, and administrative structures. This will often require reshaping the mandates of traditional water bureaucracies—turning unilateral decision-makers to facilitators—and shifting the balance of decision-making power towards users. Such a shift takes high-level political support, capacity-building, and incentives for change on the part of the organizations themselves. It also takes time and often significant resources—basic requirements that efforts of institutional change have often foundered upon. This is challenging for basins contained within one country but becomes truly complex in the case of

transboundary rivers and aquifers. For the 263 transboundary rivers and hundreds of aquifers shared by two or more countries, special agreements need to be reached by the riparian countries based on a basin perspective.

#### Adapting to changing conditions

Institutions and institutional structures emerge out of a specific context. For example, a strong old engineering body capable of planning, designing and constructing infrastructure to tap available water is appropriate when the objective is developing water resources. The problem is that such organizations—whose capacity and structure are oriented towards basin development—can be slow to adapt as the basin's water resources become increasingly committed. They continue to do what they do best—build infrastructure—with the result that basins become developed to the point where ecosystem integrity is threatened. In such basins, institutional arrangements need to be reoriented towards improving water productivity of existing uses, dealing with stakeholders competing for a limited supply of water, including the environment, and regulating water quality and ecosystem health.

In addition, various other types of changes—social, economic and political—can influence the types of demands on water institutions. Climate change may also present new challenges for basin management, which will require adaptive management approaches.



For more information. Email: [comp.assessment@gwp.org](mailto:comp.assessment@gwp.org) Visit: [www.lewmi.giar.org/assessment](http://www.lewmi.giar.org/assessment)

The Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (CA) is a five-year initiative to analyze the benefits, costs, and impacts of the past 50 years of water development and management in agriculture, to identify present and future challenges, and to evaluate possible solutions. The CA's Issue Brief series, published by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), presents key findings from the main Assessment report *Water for Food, Water for Life: A Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture* (Earthscan). More on the CA donors, co-sponsors (CGIAR, FAO, IFPRI), process and publications can be found at [www.lewmi.org/assessment](http://www.lewmi.org/assessment).

The Global Water Partnership (GWP) is a worldwide network to support sustainable management of water resources. This Brief complements the GWP's Catalyzing Change publications series. The series, developed by the GWP Technical Committee, assists countries in taking a strategic approach to improving their water-related policies and institutions through the creation of national IWMI and water efficiency plans. More information about the GWP and access to the Catalyzing Change handbook and briefs are available at [www.gwpforum.org](http://www.gwpforum.org).

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) is a worldwide network to support sustainable water management at basin level. It links Basin Organizations and other government agencies responsible for basin management in order to promote the exchange of experiences and develop suitable tools for better basin management at transboundary, national and local levels. More information about INBO activities and members is available at [www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org).

This Brief was authored by François Moite (INRA/IRD), P. Weiler (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), and Philippe Weiler (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and is based on the chapter "River basin development and management" by F. Moite, P. Weiler and P. Hirsch and others in *Water for Food, Water for Life: A Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture* (2007). It also draws on the chapter "Policy and institutional reform for sustainable agricultural management: The art of the possible" by D. J. Murrey, R. Merson-Davies, P. Hirsch, and F. Moite. The GWP Technical Committee contributed substantially to the Brief. Reviews included Harriet Bruhn, Roberto Lenton, Mike Muller and Humberto Peña of the GWP-TEC and Daniel Valdesua and Jean-François Dondor of INBO. [www.inbo-news.org](http://www.inbo-news.org)

Writers: F. Moite (INRA/IRD), P. Weiler (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), and S. Crampton ([www.waterwines.com](http://www.waterwines.com)).



## water for food, water for life issuebrief#12

### Developing and managing river basins:

### The need for adaptive, multilevel, collaborative institutional arrangements

Pressure on water resources heightens hydrological, social, and ecological interdependencies in river basins (as well as the basins of lakes and aquifers). More interdependency demands more integrated approaches to developing and managing water resources at the basin level. Many countries have implemented or are testing such approaches. Even if not struggling with how to put in place institutional arrangements to support more integrated management.

The Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (CA) analyzed river basin governance and management in the context of increasing competition for water for agriculture and other uses, pollution of water resources, and degradation of ecosystems. This analysis showed that to cope with the diversity of competing values and political and economic interests in basins and increasing water scarcity, natural hazards, and climate change, we need adaptive, multilevel, collaborative governance arrangements. It also showed that progress in establishing such arrangements has been slow—often with undue emphasis on form over process and a lack of redistribution of decision-making power from centralized "hydro-bureaucracies" to users.

To speed progress, the Technical Committee of the Global Water Partnership (GWP), whose regional and country partnerships are engaged in different aspects of basin management, has undertaken this joint brief with the Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (CA) and the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO).

#### Box 1: Strengthening institutional arrangements

The appropriate institutional arrangement for a particular basin depends on its scale (transboundary, national, local), the stage of basin development, the main water management challenges to be addressed, and the existing social, economic, political and institutional environment. There are no universally applicable solutions, but it is possible to learn from experiences in other basins.

The CA analysis revealed several key lessons that decision-makers should keep in mind when considering how best to strengthen institutional arrangements for basin governance and management:

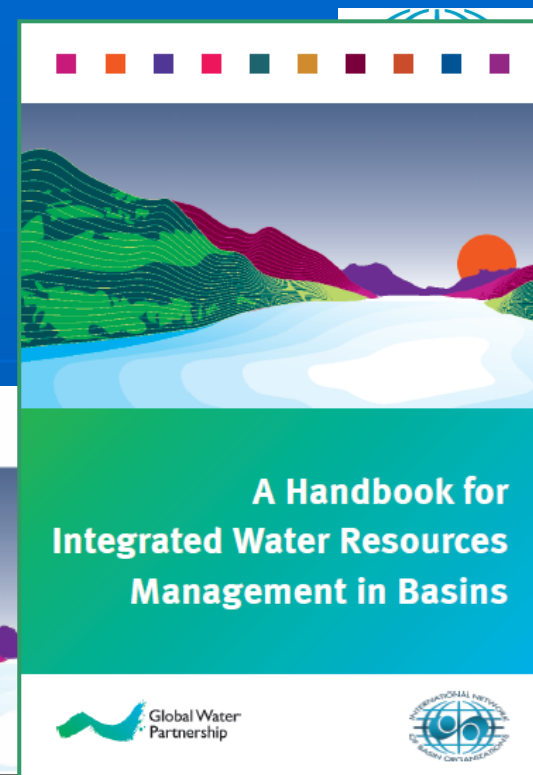
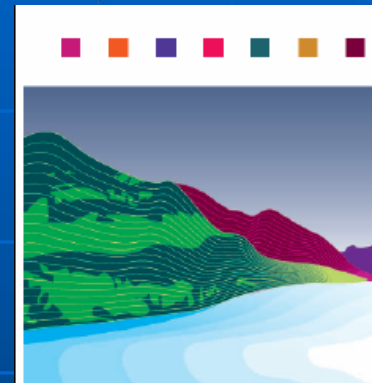
- Some important challenges that institutional arrangements should address include coordinating decision-making between levels, establishing water allocation mechanisms, reducing water pollution, and handling flooding and droughts.
- Because different basins face different challenges and often involve different institutional environments, rolling out blanket country-wide reforms without adaptation to local specificities or directly copying institutional models from other countries as blueprints is seldom effective. What works for one basin, may not work for its neighbor.
- Establishing institutional arrangements is a "learning by doing" process—there must be enough flexibility to make adjustments and to adapt to changing conditions.
- Not all water-related problems can or should be solved at the river basin level. Some problems are best addressed at the sub-basin or local level. Others have solutions beyond the basin itself and even outside the water sector, for example in national or federal agricultural policies.



**With « l'International Water Management Institute »  
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**Et, bien sur!  
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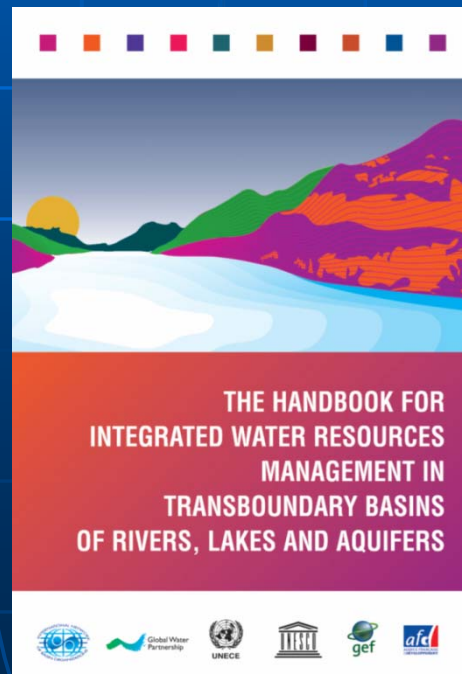


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## **The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), The Global Water Partnership (GWP), The French Development Agency (AFD), The GEF, UNESCO and UNECE,**







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NOM: JOST

Prénoms: RAYMOND

Date de naissance: 1405 1943

Sexe: M

Date d'expiration: 21 05 2012

Lieu de naissance: SIE - RIOD

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Autres destinations: ILL, BASSIN DU RHIN

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