

Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe

STATUTE

I.

Basic Provisions

1. Name of organization is Global Water Partnership Central and Eastern Europe. Official abbreviation is GWP CEE. GWP CEE fulfils its mission according to approved programmes and the mission of Global Water Partnership (GWP) based in Stockholm, Sweden. GWP CEE is an integral part of the GWP Network but is not organizationally a part of the Global Water Partnership Organization (hereinafter referred to as the "GWPO") that is an intergovernmental agency hosted by the Government of Sweden.
2. Seat and address of the Civil Association, established under Slovak Law is Jeseniova 17, 833 15 Bratislava - Nove Mesto, Slovak Republic.
3. Area of activity of the Civil Association: GWP CEE objective is systematically contribute to implementation of integrated water resources management (IWRM) in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and in particular in the field of sustainable management of water by:
 - a. Raising awareness of professional organizations and the general public on the issue of protection and use of water resources;
 - b. Promoting education and cooperation with partner organizations and institutions especially in the region of Central and Eastern Europe.
4. The Association is a single, independent and non-profit entity.

II.

Goals and fields of GWP CEE activities

1. Contributes to implementation of IWRM and supports cooperation among GWP Consulting Partners and diverse groups of society which are active in the protection and use of water resources;
2. Assists in implementing principles of sustainable water use in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and beyond, and acts as the catalyst of this process in the region;

3. Supports development and implementation of projects and programmes focused on and related to IWRM in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and beyond;
4. Supports participation of the public and interested parties in the decision making process
Organises and facilitates meetings of experts, dialogues, seminars, workshops and conferences;
5. Cooperates with granting organisations in projects preparation, evaluation of grants and grants awards;
6. Cooperates with governmental institutions including ministries in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and beyond, with non-governmental organisations, local municipalities, academic, scientific, and educational institutions, private sector, international and intergovernmental organisations;
7. Supports knowledge generation and dissemination focused on IWRM among experts and general public.

III. Membership

1. Membership in GWP CEE is free of charge and open to all organizations that are active in water protection and management of water resources. Partnership is originating from electronic or hardcopy application to be sent to GWP CEE Regional Secretariat and is a subject to the decision of GWPO Executive Secretary. Partnership in GWP CEE is withdrawn by the written statement of the Partner, disestablishment of the Partner, discharging of GWP CEE and excluding the Partner (in line with the Conditions for Accreditation for Regional and Country Water Partnerships). GWP CEE Regional Coordinator recommends to GWPO Executive Secretary about acceptance and excluding the member after consultations with Council members.
2. Application for partnership includes:
 - a. Agreement to abide by the Dublin-Rio Principles;
 - b. A pledge a willingness to actively participate in the GWP network;
 - c. Agreement to act in accordance with GWP CEE;
 - d. Confirmation that the information submitted with the application is correct, and ensures that any changes in the information are reported to GWP CEE Secretariat.

IV. Rights and obligations of members

1. Member has the right to:

- a. Participate in Association activities;
 - b. Participate in all activities in frame of GWP on the regional and global levels;
 - c. Turn to bodies of the Association with issues and complaints and ask for their opinion;
 - d. Be informed about decisions of the Association bodies;
 - e. Participate in meetings of the Association organized on the national as well as international levels.
2. Obligations of the members are:
 - a. Comply with the Association Statutes;
 - b. Fulfil resolutions of the Association bodies;
 - c. Actively participate in the Association activities and defend its interests.
 3. Voting right in frame of the Association has delegated representative of Country Water Partnership.

V. GWP CEE Bodies

1. Highest decision-making body of the Association is GWP CEE Council comprising representatives of Country Water Partnerships.
2. GWP CEE Regional Secretariat is executive body of the Civil Association.
3. GWP CEE Board of Supervisors. Its members are nominated by the Country Water Partnerships, out of which three are selected and approved by GWP CEE Council.

VI. GWP CEE Council

1. Council of representatives of Country Water Partnerships (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") is the highest decision making body of GWP CEE, equally representing each Country Water Partnership. Each Country Water Partnership delegates one member to the Council. The Council elects its Chairperson and its representative to other GWP bodies. Members of the Council serve a three year terms of office, with a maximum of two additional periods. Working language of the Council is English.
2. Main tasks of the Council are:

- a. Approves GWP CEE regional work plan and the use of GWP CEE financial resources in line with GWP CEE strategy and worldwide strategy and programmes of GWP;
 - b. Regulates programme and project activities of GWP CEE;
 - c. Regulates reception of contributions and grants;
 - d. Participates in grant awards to other organisations;
 - e. Decides on GWP CEE Secretariat staffing and salaries after consultation with GWPO Secretariat in Stockholm;
 - f. Advises on changes and approves changes of GWP CEE statute.
3. The Council meets at least two times per year. It can use IT technology for meetings, according to its decision. Observers or Task Force members may be invited to the meetings of the Council. The Council meeting is initiated by Regional Coordinator and is chaired by the Chair. The Council takes its decision by the decision of absolute majority of members. In acute circumstances decision is admitted by per rollam based on written statement of the Council members.

VII.

GWP CEE Regional Secretariat and Task Forces

1. The Regional Secretariat comprises the personnel who are responsible for daily management of the Association. Personnel of the Secretariat is elected and removed by the Council. The Regional Secretariat comprises the following positions:
 - a. Regional Coordinator is head of Secretariat and statutory representative of GWP CEE;
 - b. Communication Officer is deputy of the Regional Coordinator;
 - c. Administration Officer;
 - d. Financial Officer;
 - e. Programme Officer.
2. Regional Coordinator is selected on the basis of transparent process and appointed by the Council for a period that shall not exceed three years, which may be subject to renewal. Regional Coordinator is responsible for overall implementation of GWP CEE Association work and is a statutory representative of GWP CEE. Regional Coordinator is legitimate to act in the name of the Association. Regional Coordinator, in the case of impossibility of duty performance (e.g. sickness or foreign travel), can authorise in written and/or oral form his/her deputy from members of the Secretariat.
3. Communications Officer is hired by the Regional Coordinator in line with decision of the Council and is responsible for communication of the Association. If Regional Coordinator decides otherwise, Communications Officer is his/her deputy. Another duty is to support communication activities of Country Water Partnerships.

4. Administration Officer is hired by the Regional Coordinator and provides efficient support for operational activities of the Secretariat.
5. The Regional Secretariat after end of the calendar year ensures annual audit of GWP CEE according to the rules and regulations of GWPO carried out by an independent audit firm.
6. Task Forces are working on specific assignments that are approved by the GWP CEE Council. Country Water Partnerships nominate representatives of the Task Forces, approved by the Council. The Council elects leaders out of members of the Task Force, confirms and dismisses them.

VIII. Board of Supervisors

1. The Board of Supervisors is the supervisory body of the Association, which accountable to the GWP CEE Council.
2. Membership of the Board of Supervisors is incompatible with membership of the GWP CEE Secretariat.
3. The Board of Supervisors has at least three members who shall elect the Chair from among themselves. It meets at least once per year. Its proceedings shall be convened and chaired by the Chair. The Board of Supervisors has a quorum if the requisite majority. Decisions are taken by a majority of the members present. The term of office of the Board of Supervisors is three years.
4. The Board of Supervisors shall in particular:
 - a. Monitors compliance with the Statutes;
 - b. Presents to the GWP CEE Council reports on the activities and management of the Association, developed by the independent audit firm;
 - c. Reminds GWP CEE Council and the Secretariat on challenges identified by the audit and proposes solutions to overcome them.

IX. Financial Management of the Association

1. Association manages movable property.
2. Sources of its assets are:

- a. Financial support from GWPO that is used to perform basic administrative duties of GWP CEE in accordance with its work plan and conditions set forth in the General Rules of GWPO;
 - b. Financial support from other national and international donors, from grants, voluntary contributions from private and legal persons of public activities, collections in accordance with applicable law, proceeds from the sale of publications and other information materials, as well as the training activities and consultancy services . Assets and benefits of GWP CEE may be used solely to fulfil its mission and goals, as well as its function.
3. Financial management of the Association is carried out according to the budget approved by the GWP CEE Council. GWP CEE Secretariat and statutory are responsible for the Association financial management.
 4. The Association shall establish a separate bank account in a financial institution.

X. Discharge of GWP CEE

1. Association terminates by voluntary dissolution or a final decision of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic on its dissolution.
2. During discharge of the Association, all debts of the Association shall be paid first. Assets in case of discharge may be used solely for beneficial and charitable purposes.

XI. Terminal Provisions

1. Statutes shall enter into force on the date of approval by the GWP CEE Council.
2. GWP CEE Council decides on change of the Statute.
3. Statute was approved by the Council on 7 April 2014.
4. Civil Association arises on the day of registration at the Ministry of Interior.