European Environment Agency

21 April 2015

To: Experts invited for the workshop "Environmental effect of floods and flood protection measures"

Cc: ETC-Inland, Coastal and Marine waters

Invitation to the workshop "Environmental effect of floods and flood protection measures"

Dear Colleagues,

In 2015, EEA is planning a report on the effects of flooding on the environment and the environmental impacts of flood protection measures.

In a first section, the report will look at the different EU policies affecting floods and flood impacts and if they lead to an environmental friendly flood management. Following sections are about the status and trends in Europe's floodplains and recent developments in policy and research. In a last part, we want to answer the question how flood management can improve environmental quality.

A lot of information about floods in Europe is available. Nevertheless, the information on environmental impacts are underexposed and not as comprehensively available as information about economic impacts.

Therefore, we want to bring a limited number of experts who dealing with different topics related to the environmental effects of floods and flood protection measures for a lunch-to-lunch expert workshop.

Given your expertise, in research, in planning, in floodplain assessments and/or reporting environmental impacts of floods we would like to invite you to participate in this workshop that will take place **28 and 29 May 2015** at the:

European Environment Agency
Room 8.2.30, Kongens Nytorv 6, 1050 Copenhagen, K, Denmark
From Thursday 28 May 2015, 13:00 until Friday 29 May 2015 13:00

What do we expect from this expert workshop?
Please let me take the opportunity to address some more details about this event. The expert workshop will bring together 15-20 invited experts from different administrations and agencies on national and international level, researchers and NGOs.

Attached you find a first draft agenda *(Attachment 1)*. The focus is on interactions and discussions rather than presentations. To guide these, there will be short introductions and when we have a better overview of who is available we will also ask you to prepare short statements to initiate the knowledge exchange. More information about the (opening) questions we want to

deal with in this workshop can also be found in the background document *(Attachment 2)* attached to this invitation and closer to the meeting date we will share with you the draft report.

Practical information
We would very much like to know about your availability and willingness to participate in this workshop **by 30 April** to Wouter Vanneuville (e-mail: wouter.vanneuville@eea.europa.eu).

You are also welcome to provide comments on the background document and suggest topics and/or web links to help us in the further preparation of the workshop.

EEA has the possibility to reimburse the travel costs for invited external experts. In order to assist us with the logistics and budget planning for this, we would be grateful if you could please indicate your participation by registering in the following link **by 8 May 2015** at the latest.

Accepted participants will receive more information regarding the possibility of reimbursement of travel expenses and the procedure for booking flight tickets and hotels. Please note that this request for registration does not constitute a commitment on the part of EEA to reimburse your travel costs. For practical questions, please contact **Charlotte Islev** (Tel. +45 33 36 72 31, e-mail: charlotte.islev@eea.europa.eu).

If you have any questions regarding the preparation of this meeting, please do not hesitate to contact Head of Group, **Beate Werner** (Tel. +45 2368 3674, e-mail: beate.werner@eea.europa.eu), or **Wouter Vanneuville** (Tel. +45 33 36 71 81, e-mail: Wouter.vanneuville@eea.europa.eu).

Thank you very much for considering this announcement, saving the date and informing us about your interest in participating.

Beate Werner
Head of Water Group
Natural Systems and Vulnerability Programme

Attachments:
1. Draft agenda
2. Background document