

International Freshwater Treaty Database

Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database

A [searchable database](#) of summaries and/or the full text of more than 600 international, freshwater-related agreements, covering the years 1820 to 2007.

Codebook Updated: 2016

TFDD Basin and Spatial Information

1. **BCCODE_TreatyID**

Unique code for each entry based on the combination of the BCCODE (four-letter basin code), the CCODE (three-letter country code), and the document number for the treaty.

2. **TREATY_Metadata_DocID**

A unique numerical code identifying each document in the database, based on the newer numbering system. Treaty # corresponds to the name of the electronic text for the document, if available (e.g., 188ENG.doc or 188ENG.pdf), and to the manila folder number in which the paper text of the document, if available, is filed.

3. **PrimaryDocID (based on TREATY_Metadata_DocID)**

The original agreement to which a replacement, amendment or protocol refers.

4. **TFDD ID-number [TFDD]**

A unique numerical code identifying each document in the database, based on the older numbering system. Treaty # corresponds to the name of the electronic text for the document, if available (e.g., 188ENG.doc or 188ENG.pdf), and to the manila folder number in which the paper text of the document, if available, is filed.

5. **PrimaryTFDDID - Primary Agreement-number (based on TFDD ID) [IWMI]**

The original agreement to which a replacement, amendment or protocol refers.

6. **Document Name (text)**

The full formal name of the document or best approximation thereof. The place of signature is often included as part of the treaty name. For non-English language documents, the title is translated to English. Not all title translations are official. The title format is that the first letter of the treaty name is capitalized, along with all proper names. All other words are lowercase.

7. **Date signed (Date) [IWMI]**

This field refers to the date on which the document was signed. If such information is unavailable, the next choice is the date of entry into force, followed by the date of ratification. If the document is a series of letters written on different dates, the latest date is used and the range of dates included may be mentioned as part of the title of the document. Dates are represented in a month/day/year format.

8. **Document Type (DocType; numerical) [IWMI]**

-1 – Not Available/Not Coded

1 – Not a treaty: The document is not a treaty signed by the respective parties

2 - Semi-international treaty: The treaty has not been concluded between sovereign states, for example an agreement between one state and an international organization or an agreement between a provincial government and a state.

3 – Does not fit TFDD inclusion criteria: the treaty does not deal with water as a consumable resource

4 - Primary Agreement: The first water treaty signed between the parties about a particular issue area.

5 - Replacement of a Primary Agreement: Replaces a previously signed water agreement on the same issue area.

6 - Amendment to a Primary Agreement: Amends parts of a previously signed water agreement on the same issue area

7 - Protocol to a primary agreement: A treaty adding further aspects to an already signed water treaty and potentially modifying parts of the original treaty

8 - Financial agreement related to international waters: A treaty dealing exclusively with the financing of particular aspects related to water management, not with water itself (and thus not part of core TFDD collection)

9- Missing

10-Available but not translated to English

11-Available but not coded

9. Format (text) [IWMI]

Identifies the format of the treaties (e.g. Electronic, Partial Text, Missing, Paper) Format can also list the language of the treaty.

10. Source (text)[IWMI]

When known identifies the source of the treaty or agreement.

11. Notes (text) [IWMI]

Provides additional notes on the document, if applicable.

12. Location Signed (text) [IWMI]

Identifies where the treaty was signed. N.A. if not applicable or blank.

13. Region (text) [IWMI]

Continental region of the document; General refers to documents that are not region specific.

14. Treaty Basin(s) (text, multiple entries possible) [TFDD]

Identifies the international basins or sub-basins specifically mentioned in the document. If document applies to all basins shared between the signatories, but no basin is mentioned specifically, the code is “frontier or shared waters”. For frontier or shared waters, the TFDD Basin field will include all the basins shared between those signatories.

15. Number of Parties (numerical)

Blank – Not coded

1 – Bilateral

2 – Multilateral

16. Additional Comments

This field provides additional information of interest with regards to the document. (e.g., list unusual provisions, note whether a joint committee was created).

17. Treaty_Data_Single_DocID

A unique numerical code identifying each document in the database, based on the newer numbering system. Treaty # corresponds to the name of the electronic text for the document, if available (e.g., 188ENG.doc or 188ENG.pdf), and to the manila folder number in which the paper text of the document, if available, is filed.

18. Minor Agreement-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

An agreement with components related to water as a resource but whose water component is believed insignificant and with little relation to international water management issues (e.g. a clause allowing border guards to access drinking water on adjacent territory). Essentially, the agreement's focus, subjectively, is not or has little to do with water.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

19. Geographic Scope (GeoScope - numerical) [IWMI]

0 – Not Available/Not Coded

1 – Global: an agreement potentially open to any country but without reference to specific basins (e.g. 1997 UN Convention)

2 – Regional: an agreement potentially open to any country in a defined region but without reference to specific basins (e.g. SADC Protocol)

3 - All waters of two or more countries: an agreement covering all waters shared between two or more contiguous states but generally without reference to specific basins (e.g. US/Canada Boundary Waters Treaty)

4 - Entire named basin(s): an agreement covering the entire hydrologic area of one or more specifically named basins.

5 - Sub-basin(s) or other specified area(s): an agreement covering only a part of one or more specifically named or implied basins (e.g. a treaty on the Syr Darya within the Aral Basin), for example, often only the boundary parts of basins, or an activity confined to only part of a specifically named or implied basin (e.g. some hydropower treaty).

20. RBO – Y/N/N.A.

Agreement establishes a River Basin Organization, i.e. a joint management institution with a broad, general mandate to manage water issues in the entire basin.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

21. Infrastructure – Y/N/N.A.

An agreement with the major purpose of constructing some form of infrastructure, i.e. barrages, canals, dykes, etc.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

Content Related to Water as a Resource

22. Allocation: Article (Alloc_Article) [IWMI]

Number or location of text discussing allocation in the document

23. Allocation: Text (Alloc_Text)

Notes or comments on allocation text

24. Hydropower - Y/N [IWMI]

An agreement which mentions hydropower

Y – Yes

N – No

0/N.A. – Not applicable

25. Hydropower Article (Hydro_Article)

Number or location of text discussing hydropower in the document

26. Hydropower Text (Hydropower_Text)

Notes or comments on hydropower text

27. Irrigation-Y/N [IWMI]

An agreement which mentions irrigation.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

28. Irrigation Article

Number or location of text discussing irrigation in the document

29. Groundwater-Y/N [IWMI]

An agreement which mentions groundwater. Does not include agreements which might implicitly cover groundwater

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

30. Groundwater Article

Number or location of text discussing groundwater in the document

31. Environment Article

Number or location of text discussing environment in the document

32. Equity or Sustainability-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

An agreement in which the parties refer to some general principle, such as equity, sustainability, rationale etc., which should overarch their cooperative endeavors

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

33. Equity or Sustainability Article (Equity_Article)

Number or location of text discussing equity or sustainability in the document

34. Equity or Sustainability Text

Notes or comments on equity or sustainability text

35. Local Needs-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

An agreement which explicitly states that the needs of the local population living in border areas should be considered

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

36. Local Needs Article [IWMI]

Number or location of text discussing local needs in the document

37. Right to Construct Y/N/N.A. (Construct_Right) [IWMI]

An agreement giving one or a number of signatories the right to construct particular infrastructure, such as dams

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

38. Right to Construct Article (Construct_Article)

Number or location of text discussing construction rights in the document

39. Ban on Particular Constructions (Construct_Ban) Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

An agreement which bans the construction of particular infrastructure in certain areas or in general by one or more signatories.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

40. Ban on Construction Article (ConstructBan_Article)

Number or location of text discussing construction bans in the document

41. Prior Notification Before New Water Needs are Realized Article (PriorNotif_Article)

Number or location of text discussing prior notification in the document

Content Not Related to Water as a Resource

42. Navigation-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

The agreement mentions navigation as an issue

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

43. Navigation Article (Nav_Article)

Number or location of text discussing navigation in the document

44. Fishing-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

The agreement mentions fishing as an issue

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

45. Fishing Article (Fish_Article)

Number or location of text discussing fishing in the document

46. Border Issues-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

The agreement delineates, adjusts or reaffirms the border between two or more countries

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

47. Border Issues Article (Border_Article)

Number or location of text discussing border issues in the document

48. Territorial Issues-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

The agreement (re)divides or affirms territorial sovereign rights.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

49. Territorial Issues Article (Territorial_Article)

Number or location of text discussing territorial issues in the document

50. Non-Water Linkages Article (NonWater_Article)

Number or location of text discussing non-water linkages in the document

51. Non-Water Linkages Comments

Notes or comments on non-water linkages in text

52. Embedded in a larger Non-Water Context-Y/N/N.A. (NonWater_Embed) [IWMI]

An agreement in which water as a consumable resource is only one issue in a larger overall agreement, for example as related to peace, navigation or territorial delimitations.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

Content Related to Uncertainty Management

53. Uncertainty Explicit Article (UncertExplicit_Article)

Number or location of text discussing explicit uncertainty in the document

54. Variability Management (VarMgmt)

The document needs to talk specifically about an EXTREME EVENT.

-1 – Not Available/Not Coded

0 - None

1 - Flood control: an agreement which refers to the control of flooding

2 - Dry season control: an agreement which refers to water management to offset low season flow reductions

3 – Both: an agreement which refers to both flood and dry season control

55. Variability Management Article (VarMgmt_Article)

Number or location of text discussing variability management in the document

56. Variability in Water/Hydro needs-Y/N/N.A. (NeedsVariability) [IWMI]

The variability of the parties' needs for water and/or hydropower is mentioned in the text and/or accounted for.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

57. Needs Variability Article (NeedsVar_Article)

Number or location of text discussing needs variability in the document

58. Alternative Scenarios-Y/N/N.A. (AltScenarios) [IWMI]

The treaty mentions at least one situation in which a different development can occur and alternative modes of action are stipulated.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

59. Alternative Scenarios Article (AltScen_Article)

Number or location of text discussing alternative scenarios in the document

60. Prediction Modeling-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

The treaty develops or mentions available mechanisms for predicting particular aspects about the future, such as for example the occurrence of floods.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

61. Prediction Model Article

Number or location of text discussing prediction modelling in the document

62. Joint Management – Y/N/N.A. (JointMgmt) [IWMI]

An agreement which institutes some form of joint management institution or Commission – a specialized institutional body for dealing with the issues stipulated in the treaty and whose scope of action and authority depends upon the treaty. The mandate may be more narrowly defined than a River Basin Organization.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

63. Joint Management Article (JointMgmt_Article)

Number or location of text discussing joint management in the document

64. Commission Name (CommName)

The name of the joint management body formed.

Content Related to Procedural Rules

65. Technical or Financial Cooperation or Assistance-Y/N/N.A. (TechCoop) [IWMI]

The parties agree to cooperate with each other or to assist each other in technical and/or financial matters

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

66. Technical Cooperation Article (TechCoop_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Technical or Financial Cooperation or Assistance in the document

67. Information Exchange-Y/N/N.A. (InfoExchange) [IWMI & TFDD]

The parties agree to exchange data about flows, etc. [IWMI] A yes/no variable as to whether the document contains provisions concerning the exchange of water-related information. If not available, code as “Not Available”. [TFDD]

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

68. Information Exchange Article (InfoExchange_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Information Exchange in the document

69. Monitoring-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI & TFDD]

The parties create mechanisms to monitor treaty compliance, to supervise the construction of works, or the financial terms of an agreement, etc.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

70. Monitoring Article

Number or location of text discussing monitoring in the document

71. Conflict Resolution Mechanism Article (ConflictRes_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Conflict Resolution Mechanism in the document

72. Agreement Finance-Y/N/N.A. (AgreeFinance) [IWMI]

The treaty stipulates how the provisions made in the treaty will be financed.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

73. Agreement Finance Article (AgreeFinance Article)

Number or location of text discussing Agreement Finance in the document

74. Stakeholder Participation-Y/N/N.A. (StakeholderParticip) [IWMI]

Is some form of stakeholder participation mentioned in the treaty?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

75. Stakeholder Participation Article (Stakeholder_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Stakeholder Participation in the document

76. Consultations-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

Does the treaty provide for the parties’ direct and regular consultations on water issues through diplomatic channels?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

77. Consultations Article

Number or location of text discussing consultations in the document

78. Compensation-Y/N/N.A. [IWMI]

Does the treaty provide for any form of compensation in case one of the parties is harmed?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

79. Compensations Article

Number or location of text discussing Compensation in the document

80. National Programs or Laws-Y/N/N.A. (National_Prog_Laws) [IWMI]

Does the treaty oblige the parties to adopt national laws or develop national programs in order to meet treaty provisions?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

81. National Programs or Laws Article (NationalLaws_Article)

Number or location of text discussing National Programs or Laws in the document

82. Interests of Non-Signatory Riparians-Y/N/N.A. (NonSig_Riparians) [IWMI]

Does the treaty mention that non-signatory riparians could have an interest in issues discussed in the agreement?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

83. Interests of Non-Signatory Riparians Article (NonSigInterests_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Interests of Non-Signatory Riparians in the document

84. Interests of People Mentioned-Y/N/N.A. (People_Interests) [IWMI]

Is it mentioned that the treaty has been signed in the interest of the populations or that some measures were taken for that purpose?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

85. Interests of People Mentioned Article (PeopleInterests_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Interests of People in the document

86. Amendment Mechanism-Y/N/N.A. (AmendMech) [IWMI]

Is the possibility of an amendment of the treaty mentioned in the text?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

87. Amendment Mechanism Article (AmendMech_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Amendment Mechanism in the document

88. Not Establishes Precedence-Y/N/N.A. (Precedent_NotEst) [IWMI]

Does the treaty explicitly mention that the agreement reached in this concrete case does not represent a precedent for any other issues which might arise?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

89. Not Establishes Precedent Article (PrecedentNotEst_Article)

Number or location of text discussing Not Establishes Precedent in the document

90. Establishes Precedent-Y/N/N.A. (Precedent_Est) (IWMI)

Does the treaty explicitly state that it establishes a precedent for other similar issues which could arise in the future?

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

91. Establishes Precedent Article (PrecedentEst_Article) [IWMI]

Number or location of text discussing Establishes Precedent in the document

92. Enforcement- Y/N/N.A. [TFDD & WB]

A yes/no variable as to whether the document contains provisions concerned with enforcement of the provisions of the document. If not available, code as “Not Available”.

Y – Yes

N – No

N.A. – Not applicable

93. Enforcement Mechanism – text (EnforceMech)

What is the general mechanism for the enforcement provision?

94. Method for Water Division-Text (WaterDiv_Method) [TFDD]

Provides information on the methodology used to allocate the water resources. E.g., divide equally, share according to pre-existing need, through a complex formula, percentages based on seasonally available water supplies. If none mentioned, code as “None”. If information not available, code as “Not Available”.

95. CCODE

Three digit TFDD country code of the Basin Country Unit

96. Country (Country_name)

Name of the country associated with the CCODE

97. Primary_Country_Continent

Continental region of the document; General refers to documents that are not region specific.

98. Primary_Country_Region

Name of sub-region, e.g. Eastern Europe, Middle East

99. BCODE

Four digit TFDD Basin code for the basin

100. Basin Name

TFDD Basin Name for the above BCODE. If a document addresses multiple TFDD basins, this column only lists the specific Basin name for the specific BCCODE of the entry. Global international agreements are coded as General (GNRL), as are agreements in which no basins are

specified. Documents concerning groundwater that cannot be identified as being within an international basin are coded as Groundwater (GRND). Documents where the international basin is not identifiable or the document is missing are coded as Unknown (UNKN).