

Supplementary Materials: Undermining European Environmental Policy Goals? The EU Water Framework Directive and the Politics of Exemptions

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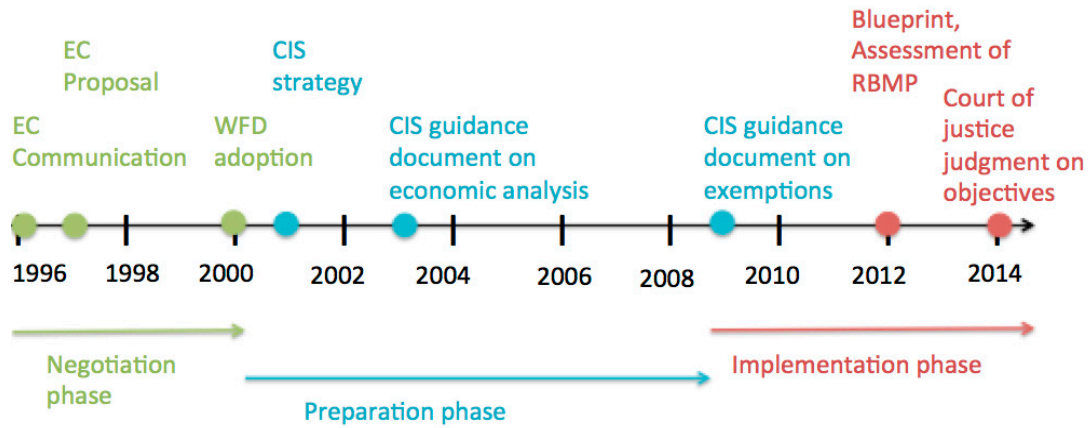


Figure S1. Timeline of WFD history.

Table S1. Documents used for the first part of the analysis (1996–2000) (40 documents).

Author	Date	Title	Type of Document	Source
Committee of the Regions	1 February 1997	Opinion of the Committee of the Regions on the 'Communication to the Council and the European Parliament on European Community Water Policy'	Opinion	EUR-Lex ¹
Committee of the Regions	12 March 1998	Opinion of the Committee of the Regions on the 'Proposal for a Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of Water Policy'	Opinion	EUR-Lex
Conciliation Committee	23 May 2000	1997/0067(COD)—23 May 2000 Formal meeting of conciliation committee	Minutes	EUR-Lex
Conciliation Committee	29 June 2000	Parliament-Council Conciliation Committee, Agreement on Water Framework Directive, Conseil/00/232	Press release	EUR-Lex
Conciliation Committee	18 July 2000	Joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee provided for in Article 251(4) of the EC Treaty	Legal text	EUR-Lex
Council	16 June 1998	2106th Council meeting—Environment	Minutes	Consilium ²
Council	19 February 1999	Amended proposal for Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Common position, from General Secretariat to Permanent Representatives Committee	Common Position	Consilium
Council	2 March 1999	Amended proposal for Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Common position, from Permanent Representatives Committee to Council	Common Position	Consilium
Council	11 March 1999	2165th Council meeting—Environment	Minutes	Consilium
Council	30 September 1999	Common Position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Draft statement of the Council's reasons	Statement	Consilium
Council	22 October 1999	Common Position (EC) No 41 /1999 adopted by the Council on 22 October 1999 with a view to the adoption of a Directive 1999.../EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy	Common Position	Consilium
Council	9 February 2000	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Second reading of the European Parliament, Outcome of proceedings of the Environment Working Party	Outcome of proceedings	Consilium
Council	3 March 2000	Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive establishing a framework for a Community action in the field of water policy—Examination of EP amendments (second reading), Introductory note from general secretariat to permanent representatives committee	Note	Consilium
Council	22 March 2000	Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Interpretation of the second and fourth indent of Article 1 of the Water—Framework Directive, Opinion of the legal service	Opinion of the legal service	Consilium
Council	18 April 2000	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a	Note	Consilium

		framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Convening of the Conciliation Committee, from General Secretariat of the Council to the Council		
Council	27 June 2000	Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (97/0067/COD)— Article 9(4), Contribution of the legal service to the proceedings of the committee of permanent representatives	Opinion of the legal service	Consilium
Council	14 July 2000	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (97/0067/COD)— Article 4, Contribution of the legal service to the preparation of the conciliation committee by the representatives of the members of the council	Opinion of the legal service	Consilium
Council	25 August 2000	Adoption by the written procedure of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, from General Secretariat of the Council to the Permanent Representative Committee (Part I)/Council	Note	Consilium
Council	25 August 2000	Adoption by the written procedure of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy—Commission statement, from General Secretariat of the Council to the Permanent Representative Committee/Council	Note	Consilium
Economic and Social Committee	30 January 1997	Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee on the ‘Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision creating a network for the epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the European Community’ (97/C 30/01)	Opinion	EUR-Lex
Economic and Social Committee	1 October 1997	Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee on the ‘Proposal for a Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy’ (97/C 355/16)	Opinion	EUR-Lex
European Commission	21 February 1996	Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, European Community Water Policy	Communication	
European Commission	26 February 1997	Proposal for a Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy	Proposal	EUR-Lex
European Commission	17 February 1998	Amended proposal for a Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (COM(97) 49 final) (98/C 108/17)	Amended proposal	EUR-Lex
European Commission	17 June 1999	Amended proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (COM(97) 49 final) (1999/C 342 E/01)	Amended proposal	EUR-Lex
European Commission	26 October 1999	1997/0067(COD)—26 October 1999 Commission communication on Council’s position	Communication	EUR-Lex
European Commission	5 June 2000	Opinion of the Commission pursuant to Article 251 (2) (c) of the EC Treaty, on the European Parliament’s amendments to the Council’s common position regarding the	Opinion	EUR-Lex

		Proposal for a European parliament and council directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (COM (97)49 final, COM(97)614 final, COM(98)76 final and COM(99)271 final) amending the proposal of the commission pursuant to Article 250 (2) of the EC Treaty		
European Commission	26 July 2000	Communication from the commission to the council, the European parliament and the economic and social committee, Pricing policies for enhancing the sustainability of water resources	Communication	EUR-Lex
European Commission	26 July 2000	1997/0067(COD)—26 July 2000 Document attached to the procedure	Note	EUR-Lex
European Parliament	24 June 1998	1997/0067(COD)—24 June 1998 Vote in committee, 1st reading/single reading	Minutes	European Parliament website ³
European Parliament	8 July 1998	REPORT on the proposal and the amended proposals for a Council Directive on establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (COM(97)0049—C4-0192/97, COM(97)0614—C4-0120/98 and COM(98)0076—C4-0121/98—97/0067(SYN)), Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	Report	European Parliament website
European Parliament	11 February 1999	Legislative resolution embodying Parliament's opinion on the proposal and amended proposals for a Council Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (COM(97)0049 C4-0192/97, COM(97)0614 C4-0120/98 and COM(98)0076 C4-0121/98 97/0067(SYN)) (Cooperation procedure: first reading)	Legislative resolution	European Parliament website
European Parliament	11 February 1999	1997/0067(COD)—11 February 1999 Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	Minutes	European Parliament website
European Parliament	25 January 2000	1997/0067(COD)—25 January 2000 Vote in committee, 2nd reading	Minutes	European Parliament website
European Parliament	2 February 2000	Recommendation for second reading on the common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a European Parliament and Council directive on establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (9085/3/1999—C5-0209/1999—1997/0067(COD))	Recommendation	European Parliament website
European Parliament	15 February 2000	Debates—Community policy in the field of water	Debates (transcript)	European Parliament website
European Parliament	16 February 2000	European Parliament legislative resolution on the common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a European Parliament and Council directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy	Legislative resolution	European Parliament website

(9085/3/1999—C5-0209/1999—1997/0067(COD)) (Codecision procedure: second reading)				
European Parliament	16 February 2000	1997/0067(COD)—16 February 2000 Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	Minutes	European Parliament website
European Parliament	29 August 2000	REPORT on the joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee for a European Parliament and Council directive establish 8914 caseshing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (C5-0347/2000–1997/0067(COD)), European Parliament delegation to the Conciliation Committee	Report	European Parliament website
European Parliament	6 September 2000	Debates—Water Policy	Minutes	European Parliament website

Notes: ¹ eur-lex.europa.eu; ² consilium.europa.eu; ³ europarl.europa.eu.

Table S2. Interviews conducted for the first part of the analysis (1996–2000).

Interview Code	Organisation (1996–2000)
INT 07	Member State (Spain)
INT 10	European Commission
INT 12	European Commission
INT 13	European Commission

Table S3. Documents used for the second part of the analysis (2000–2009) (41 documents).

Author	Date	Title	Type of Document	Source
Common Implementation Strategy	2 May 2001	Strategic document as agreed by the water directors under Swedish presidency	Strategic Document	CIRCABC ¹
Common Implementation Strategy	17 June 2003	Carrying forward the Common Implementation Strategy for the Water Framework Directive—Progress and Work Programme for 2003 and 2004—as agreed by the water directors	Work Programme	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	2 December 2004	Moving to the next stage in Common Implementation Strategy for the Water Framework Directive Progress and work programme for 2005 and 2006 as agreed by the water directors	Work Programme	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	1 December 2006	Improving the comparability and quality of the Water Framework Directive implementation, Progress and work programme for 2007–2009 as agreed by the water directors	Work Programme	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy, Working Group	2003	Guidance document No. 1 Economics and the environment, The implementation challenge of the Water Framework Directive	Guidance document	CIRCABC

2.6—WATECO				
Common Implementation Strategy, Working Group 2.2—HMWB	2003	Guidance document No. 4, Identification and Designation of Heavily Modified and Artificial Water Bodies	Guidance document	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy, Working Group 2B: Drafting Group ECO1	2004	Information Sheet on River Basin characterization: Economic analysis of water uses (Art 5 Annex III)	Information sheet	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy, Working Group 2B: Drafting Group ECO2	2004	Assessment of Environmental and Resource Costs in the Water Framework Directive	Information sheet	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	2005	Environmental objectives under the water framework directive, policy summary and background document	Background document	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy, CEA Drafting Group	2006	Cost Effectiveness Analysis document	Policy Summary	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	2007	Policy Paper, exemptions to the environmental objectives under the water framework directive, Article 4.4 (extension of deadlines), 4.5 (less stringent objectives) and 4.6 (temporary deterioration)	Policy paper	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	2007	Policy paper, exemptions to the environmental objectives under the water framework directive allowed for new modifications or new sustainable human development activities (WFD Article 4.7)	Policy paper	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	2009	Guidance Document No. 20, guidance document on exemptions to the environmental objectives	Guidance document	CIRCABC
European Commission	2002	The Water Framework Directive Tap into it!	Communication document	CIRCABC
European Commission	22 March 2007	Commission staff working document Accompanying document to the communication from the commission to the European parliament and the council, 'Towards Sustainable Water Management in the European Union' First stage in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	Communication	CIRCABC
European Commission	22 March 2007	Water Policy: Member States must do more to achieve good water quality	Synthesis	CIRCABC
Institute for Integrated Water Management and Wastewater Treatment/RIZA	2004	Environmental and Resource Costs and the Water Framework Directive, An overview of European practices	Workshop proceedings	CIRCABC
Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit	15 August 2004	European workshop on WFD implementation—Status of IMPRESS and economic analysis, 16–18 June 2004 in Mannheim, Germany	Workshop proceedings	CIRCABC
Bundesministerium für Umwelt,	2005	Water Framework Directive Objectives Workshop 26–27 May 2005 in	Workshop	CIRCABC

Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit		Berlin, Germany		proceedings	
VITO	2006	First Workshop on Cost Benefit Analysis on the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, Brussels, 20 November 2006	Workshop Minutes	CIRCABC	
VITO	2007	Costs and Benefits associated with the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, with a special focus on agriculture: Final Report, Study for DG Environment	Report	CIRCABC	
Ecologic	2008	Input Paper for the workshop on 10/11 April 2008 in Copenhagen, DK	Input paper	CIRCABC	
Danish Ministry of the Environment	2008	Workshop on Disproportional Costs and Exemptions to the Environmental Objectives under the Water Framework Directive, Article 4.4–4.6, 10/11 April 2008 in Copenhagen, DK	Workshop proceedings	CIRCABC	
European Commission	2009	Plunge into the debate, 2nd European water conference 2–3 April 2009	Conference Report	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	2 May 2001	Informal meeting of water directors of the European Union, Sweden, 2 & 3 May 2001	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	8 November 2001	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Ghent-Belgium, 8 & 9 November 2001	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	11 June 2002	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Norway, Switzerland and Candidate Countries, Valencia-Spain, 11 and 12 June 2002	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	24 November 2003	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Acceding, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Rome-Italy, 24 and 25 November 2003	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	2003	Final conclusions of the Water Directors (WD) on the agreement of the economic guidance documents to be included in the foreword of the guidance	Agreement	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	2 December 2004	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Amsterdam-The Netherlands, 2–3 December 2004	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	20 June 2005	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Mondorf-les-Bains, Luxembourg, 20 June 2005	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	1 June 2006	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Salzburg, 1/2 June 2006	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	30 November 2006	Informal Meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Inari, 30 November/1 December 2006	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	18 June 2007	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Dresden, 18/19 June 2007	Minutes	CIRCABC	
Water Directors	2007	Towards a common understanding on disproportionate costs, Conclusions of discussions under on agenda item 2.3 in relation to disproportionality	Agreement	CIRCABC	

Water Directors	17 June 2008	Conclusions on Exemptions and Disproportionate Costs, Water Directors' meeting under Slovenian Presidency, Brdo, 16–17 June 2008	Minutes	CIRCABC
Water Directors	24 November 2008	Informal meeting of Water Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Paris, 24–25 November 2008	Agreement	CIRCABC
Water Directors	28 May 2009	Informal meeting of Water and Marine Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Brno, 28–29 May 2009	Minutes	CIRCABC
WWF, EEB	2004	'Tips and tricks' for water framework directive implementation	Report	
WWF, EEB	2005	EU water policy: Making the Water Framework Directive work the quality of national transposition and implementation of the water framework directive at the end of 2004	Report	
WWF, EEB	2009	What future for EU's Water? Indicator based assessment of the draft River Basin Management Plans under the EU Water Framework Directive	Report	

Notes: ¹ <https://circabc.europa.eu>

Table S4. Interviews conducted for the second part of the analysis (2000–2009).

Interview Code	Organisation (2000–2009)
INT 03	Academic
INT 05	Member State (FR) and European Commission
INT 06	Member State (FR)
INT 08	Member State (Spain)
INT 09	Academic
INT 10	European Commission and Consultant
INT 11	Member State
INT 14	Academic

Table S5. Documents used for the third part of the analysis (2009–2015) (39 documents).

Author	Date	Title	Type of Document	Source
Common Implementation Strategy	2009	Work Programme 2010–2012 As agreed by the Water Directors—30 November 2009, ‘Supporting the implementation of the first river basin management plans’	Work Programme	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	19 October 2010	Background paper to the workshop: “CIS-Workshop on WFD-economics: taking stock and looking ahead” 19–20 October 2010—Palais des Congrès, Liege (Belgium)	Background paper	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	2010	Report on project to gather SCG members’ views of the experience in the implementation of the economic aspects of the WFD—questionnaire and interview results	Questionnaire results	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	13 September 2011	Water management, Water Framework Directive & Hydropower, Common Implementation Strategy Workshop Brussels, 13–14 September 2011	Issue Paper	
Common Implementation Strategy	2012	Work Programme 2013–2015, ‘Strengthening the implementation of EU water policy through the second river basin management plans’	Work Programme	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	20 March 2014	Working group WATECO—Meeting minutes	Minutes	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	17 October 2014	Draft document on affordability—Version 2	Draft document	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	20 October 2014	Working group WATECO—Meeting minutes	Minutes	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	17 February 2015	Draft document on affordability—Version 3	Draft document	CIRCABC
Common Implementation Strategy	23 February 2015	WG Economics—3rd meeting—23 February 2015	Minutes	CIRCABC
Council	21 June 2011	3103rd Council meeting Environment	Press Release	Consilium
European Environment Agency	2012	European waters—current status and future challenges, EEA Report No. 9/2012	Report	European Agency Website
European Court of Justice	22 August 2013	Request for a preliminary ruling from the Bundesverwaltungsgericht (Germany) lodged on 22 August 2013—Bund für Umwelt und	Request	CURIA ¹

		Naturschutz Deutschland e.V. v Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Case C-461/13)		
European Court of Justice	23 October 2014	Opinion of advocate general Jääskinen delivered on 23 October 2014 (1) Case C-461/13, Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland e.V. v Bundesrepublik Deutschland	Opinion	CURIA
European Court of Justice	21 August 2015	Judgment of the Court (Grand Chamber) of 1 July 2015 (request for a preliminary ruling from the Bundesverwaltungsgericht—Germany)—Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland e.V. v Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Case C-461/13)	Judgment	CURIA
European Court of Justice	3 September 2015	Conclusions De L’avocat Général Mme Juliane Kokott présentées le 3 septembre 2015 (1) Affaire C-346/14 Commission européenne contre République d’Autriche	Conclusions	CURIA
European Commission	2011	Support to Fitness Check Water Policy	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2012	Communication from the commission to the European parliament, the council, the European economic and social committee and the committee of the regions, A Blueprint to Safeguard Europe’s Water Resources	Communication	CIRCABC
European Commission	2012	Commission staff working document executive summary of the impact assessment Accompanying the document Communication from the commission to the European parliament, the council, the European economic and social committee and the committee of the regions, A Blueprint to Safeguard Europe’s Water Resources	Communication	CIRCABC
European Commission	2012	Commission staff working document impact assessment Accompanying the document communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the council, the European economic and social committee and the committee of the regions, A Blueprint to Safeguard Europe’s Water Resources	Communication	CIRCABC
European Commission	2012	Report from the commission to the European parliament and the council on the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) River Basin Management Plans	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2012	Commission staff working document European Overview (1/2), Accompanying the document, report from the commission to the European parliament and the council on the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) River Basin Management Plans	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2012	Commission staff working document European Overview (2/2), Accompanying the document, report from the commission to the	Report	CIRCABC

		European parliament and the council on the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) River Basin Management Plans		
European Commission	2012	Commission staff working document The Fitness Check of EU Freshwater Policy	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2015	Screening Assessment of Draft Second Cycle River Basin Management Plans	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2015	Commission staff working document, Report on the progress in implementation of the Water Framework Directive Programmes of Measures, Accompanying the document, communication from the commission to the European parliament and the Council, The Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive: Actions towards the 'good status' of EU water and to reduce flood risks	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2015	Communication from the commission to the European parliament and the council, The Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive: Actions towards the 'good status' of EU water and to reduce flood risks	Report	CIRCABC
European Commission	2015	SPEECH—19 NOVEMBER 2015 European Parliament Water Group Dinner	Speech	CIRCABC
European Commission	2015	4th European Water Conference Brussels, 23–24 March 2015	Conference Report	European Commission website
Eftec	2010	Scoping Study on the Economic (or Non-Market) Valuation Issues and the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive, Final report	Consultancy report	European Commission website
EPI Water	2013	Economic Policy Instruments in European water policy	Consultancy report	European Commission website
Acteon	2012	Comparative study of pressures and measures in the major river basin management plans in the EU, Task 4 b: Costs & Benefits of WFD implementation, Financing Water Management and the Economic Crisis—A review of available evidence, Final report	Consultancy report	European Commission website
Acteon	2012	Comparative study of pressures and measures in the major river basin management plans in the EU, Task 4 b: Costs & Benefits of WFD implementation, Recommendations for filling the (economics) knowledge gap	Consultancy report	European Commission website
Acteon	2012	Comparative study of pressures and measures in the major river basin management plans in the EU, Task 4 b: Costs & Benefits of WFD implementation, Guidance note on the assessment and reporting of costs and benefits	Consultancy report	European Commission website
Acteon	2012	Comparative study of pressures and measures in the major river basin	Consultancy report	European Commission

		management plans in the EU, Task 4 b: Costs & Benefits of WFD implementation: Final Report		website
Water Directors	28 May 2009	Informal meeting of Water and Marine Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Brno, 28–29 May 2009	Minutes	CIRCABC
Water Directors	1 December 2009	Informal meeting of Water and Marine Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Malmö, 30 November–1 December 2009	Minutes	CIRCABC
Water Directors	29 March 2012	Extraordinary informal meeting of EU Water Directors, 29 March 2012, Borschette Centre, Brussels	Minutes	CIRCABC
Water Directors	4 June 2012	Informal meeting of Water and Marine Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Copenhagen, 4–5 June 2012	Minutes	CIRCABC
Water Directors	4 December 2013	Informal meeting of Water and Marine Directors of the European Union, Candidate and EFTA Countries, Vilnius, 4 and 5 December 2013	Minutes	CIRCABC

Notes: ¹ <http://www.curia.europa.eu>.

Table S6. Interviews conducted for the third part of the analysis (2009–2015).

Interview Code	Organisation (2009–2015)
INT 01	European Commission
INT 02	European Commission
INT 04	EEB
INT 10	Consultant
INT 15	European Commission

Table S7. Main steps of the WFD negotiation process, Sources: Kaika and Page 2003; Eur-Lex.

Date	Institution	Event/Document
21 February 1996	European Commission	Communication on European Water Policy
30 January 1997	Economic and Social Committee	Opinion on the Communication
1 February 1997	Committee of the Regions	Opinion on the Communication
26 February 1997	European Commission	Proposal for a Water Framework Directive
1 October 1997	Economic and Social Committee	Opinion on the proposal for a Water Framework Directive
26 November 1997	European Commission	Amended proposal following consultation
17 February 1998	European Commission	Amended proposal (Annex V)
12 March 1998	Committee of the Regions	Opinion on the proposal for a Water Framework Directive
16 June 1998	Council	Adopts a common position
8 July 1998	European Parliament Environment Committee	Report: Recommendations for 1st reading
11 February 1999	European Parliament	1st reading
11 March 1999	Council	Agrees on a common position
17 June 1999	European Commission	Amended Proposal
22 October 1999	Council	Adopts a common position
2 February 2000	European Parliament	Report: Recommendations for 2nd reading
16 February 2000	European Parliament	2nd reading
23 May 2000	Conciliation Committee	Formal meeting
5 June 2000	European Commission	Opinion on the European Parliament's 2nd reading
29 June 2000	Conciliation Committee	Agreement on a common text
18 July 2000	Conciliation Committee	Join text approved
7 September 2000	European Parliament	3rd reading
October 2000	–	Publication of the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)