1. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE PERIOD JUNE 2010 - MAY 2012

1.1 Meetings of the IHP National Committee

The National Committee meeting was held during the 6th National Congress of Hydrology, 22-24 September 2010. Committee members has been in contact via e-group in all other times.

1.1.1 Decisions regarding the composition of the IHP National Committee

The composition of the Turkish IHP Committee is mainly composed of representatives from hydrology-related governmental organizations, as well as universities. General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSI), General Directorate of Water Management (SYGM), General Directorate of State Meteorological Affairs (DMI), as well as Middle East Technical University (METU), Hacettepe University (HU), Gazi University, Istanbul Technical University (ITU) are members of the Turkish Hydrological Community.

Turkish National Hydrological Commission (TNHC) under the Union of Turkish National Geodesy and Geophysics (TNGG) is also represented in the Committee.

The composition of the Turkish IHP Committee remained the same in the mentioned period.

1.1.2 Status of IHP-VII activities

The involvement in IHP-VII activities was rather limited. Even the annual international postgraduate UNESCO course on “Sediment Transport Technology” couldn’t be held because of the financial constraints.

1.1.3 Decisions regarding contribution to/participation in IHP-VII

As the national focal point for IHP, DSI has been an increasing responsibility in shaping national water resources policies. It can be generally stated that educational, technological and institutional capacity of hydrometeorological services has been improved. Synergy among the responsible institutions has also been increased via number of conferences, symposiums, as well as joint projects.

Hydrology e-group is linked to the DSI's Web Site http://www.dsi.gov.tr. And, all available publications, as well as national activities were introduced into the hydrological community in the internet environment.

1.2 Activities at national level in the framework of the IHP

This section is prepared according to the information obtained from e-group members.
1.2.1 National / local scientific and technical meetings

National activities as a part of the hydrological program carried out by different institutions in Turkey, in the period of 2008-2010 are as listed below:

- Eastern Blacksea Region Landslide and Flood Symposium, Trabzon, 10-11 February 2011.

1.2.2 Participation in IHP Steering Committees / Working groups

1.2.3 Research/applied projects supported or sponsored

Studies Regarding Improvement of Flow Measurement Stations

Number of studies were supported in order to improve conditions of national hydrometeorological stations. In this regard, the observation errors and failures were tried to be removed/minimized via modern facilities. The measurements now are conducted in a more sensitive way and the observed data are transferred by modern telemetry technology. Real time data is read, evaluated and stored at the office simultaneously.

At present, related institutions are working on increasing the number of electronic gauges in river basins.

Studies Regarding Snow Observations

Seasonal snow-melt runoff estimates are extremely important in mountainous regions with semi-arid climatic conditions, like eastern part of Turkey. For that reason, automated snow and meteorological stations have been established at higher altitudes especially in the upper Euphrates River basin since 1996 within the context of joint research programme carried out by Middle East Technical University (METU) and General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSI).

In the 2010-2012 period, real time modelling studies were supported in order to forecast runoff (rate/volume) resulted in rain on snow events in early spring. Remote Sensing techniques were introduced into the system in order to trace the snow cover areas and measure real time snow depths.

Research Studies

Research studies carried out in the context of IHP activities in the period of 2008-2010 are as follows:
• ‘Physical and numerical investigation of dam break flood waves—Application to real dams in GIS environment’, 110M240 TUBITAK (Turkish Science and Research Council). (In Progress).

• “Investigating surface water and groundwater potential of campus of Izmir Institute of Technology”. Izmir Institute of Technology Research Fund, Project No: 2007MUHYL01, 2011.

• “Experimental and theoretical investigation of unsteady and non-equilibrium sediment transport in open channels—application of the results to Tahtali basin creeks.” TUBITAK project No. 106M274, 2010.

1.2.4 Collaboration with other national and international organizations/programs

The members of the Turkish hydrologic community are cooperated with many other institutions/programmes listed below:

IAEA, International Atomic Energy Agency
IAH, International Association of Hydro-geologists, Karst Commission
IAHS, International Association of Hydrological Sciences
JIIP, Joint International Isotopes in Hydrology Program
UNESCO, Division of Water Sciences International Hydrology Program
UNESCO, FRIEND
WMO, World Meteorological Organization
WWC, World Water Council

1.2.5 Other initiatives

22 March world water days were celebrated with a series of activities such as competition of composition, picture, photo and placard, celebration of the day and exhibition display with the aim of increasing awareness on the world water day themes of the corresponding years.

1.3 Educational and training courses

1.3.1 Contribution to IHP courses

1.3.2 Organization of specific courses / seminars

Annual one-month international post graduate UNESCO course on “Sediment Transport Technology” were organized by the Technical Research and Quality Control Department of State Hydraulic Works.

1.3.3 Participation in IHP courses

Governmental staff was stimulated to apply for IHP courses especially on the prioritized water-related issues in Turkey. Courses held by IHPHELP Center for Water Law, Policy and Science, International Center for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM), and International
1.4 Cooperation with the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and / or international / regional water centers under the auspices of UNESCO

1.5 Publications

1.6 Participation in international scientific meetings

1.6.1 Meetings hosted by the country

Following meetings were hosted:

1.6.2 Participation in meetings abroad

National representatives were participated to the
- 6th World Water Forum, Marseille, 12-17 March 2012.
- UNECE task force and working group meetings related to Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes.

1.7 Other activities at a regional level

1.7.1 Institutional relations / co-operation

The members of the Turkish hydrologic community are cooperated with many other institutions/programmes listed below:

- EMWIS, Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System
- NIMH, Bulgarian National Hydrology and Meteorological Institute
- U.S. National Committee for IHP
- UfM, Union for Mediterranean

1.7.2 Completed and ongoing scientific projects

Following projects supported by EU Programmes were completed;

- The Project on Capacity Improvement for Flood Forecasting and Flood Control in the Turkey Bulgaria Cross Border Cooperation Region
- Capacity Building Support to the Water Sector in Turkey-Buyuk Menderes River Basin Management Plan
- Water Database Project
- Development of GIS Based Discharge Estimation Models to Determine Discharges in Ungauged Basins: Case Study Kızılırımk Basin

2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

2.1 Activities planned until December 2012
DSI representative will attend 20th session of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP from 4 to 7 June 2012.

2.2 Activities foreseen for 2013 - 2014

Turkey will continue to re-organise/support its longstanding IHP activities, namely, post graduate course on sediment transport technology, world water day celebrations, national and international symposiums, seminars, congresses and forums. In this regard, already scheduled activities are as follows;

- 7th National Hydrology Congress, Isparta, 2013.

Participation to the UNESCO-IHP courses will be encouraged and supported with a view to increasing capacity especially on the integration of flood risk management, climate impact, ecosystem and transboundary water management issues into river basin management.

Attendance of governmental representatives in IHP events such as intergovernmental council sessions, committee and hydrological programme meetings, and workshops will be supported.

2.3 Activities envisaged in the long term

A working group consisting of water related institutions, universities, science and research institutions, NGOs and business representatives will be established in order to identify the research themes and projects with the aim of supporting projects and research studies in the agreed areas in line with IHP programme.

Appropriate co-ordination with respect to funding of research studies and projects will be ensured.

Links among other national and international bodies will be established in order to provide technical assistance for the studies.