



Trans-boundary river basins in Spain and Portugal:

The Albufeira Agreement

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What is the Albufeira Agreement?



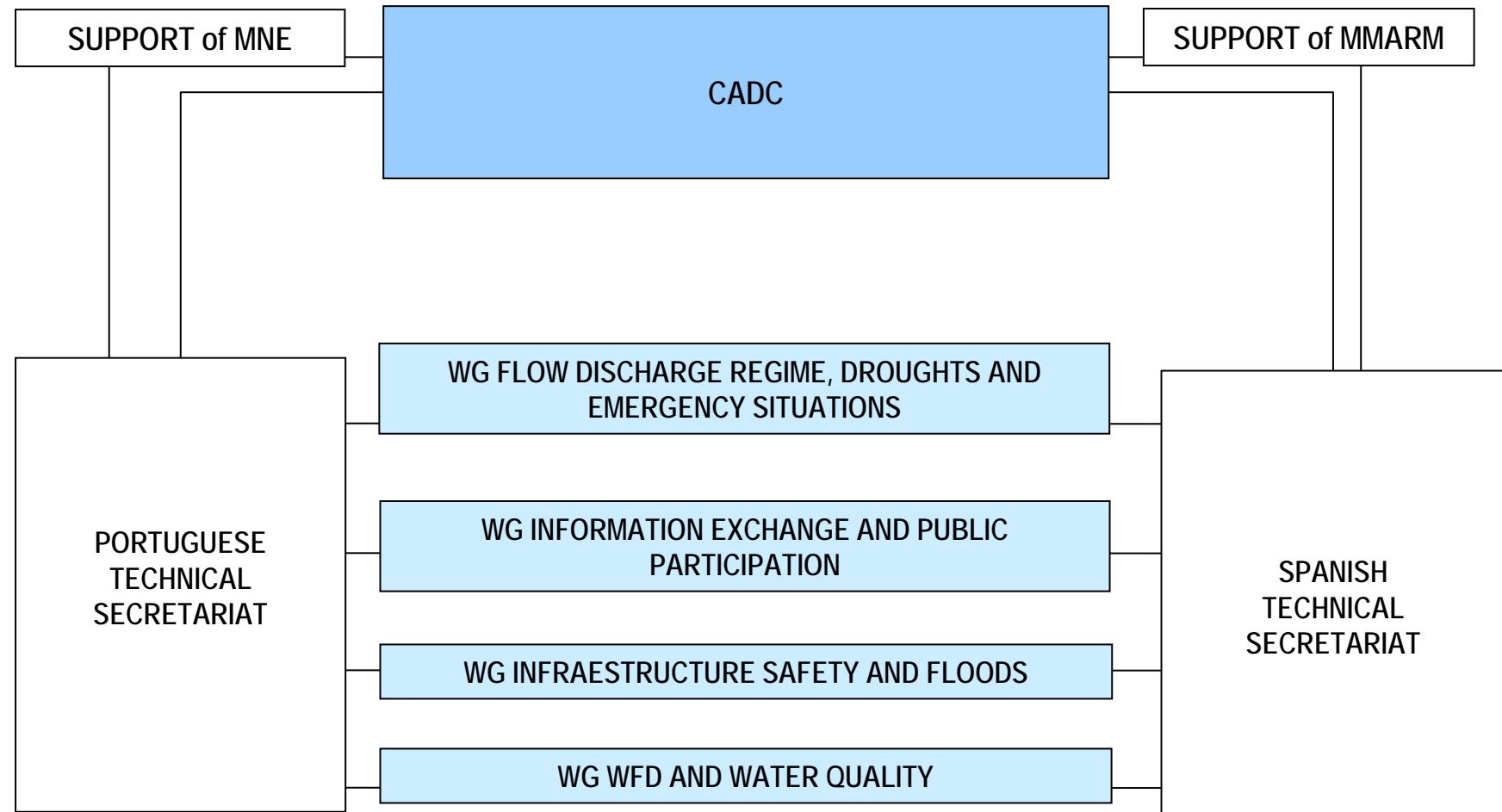
Trans-boundary basins in Spain and Portugal represent 46% of the Iberian mainland surface.

The Albufeira Agreement was signed in 1998 to improve the cooperation between Portugal and Spain, in order to encourage the sustainable use of shared water courses and, maintain and improve the ecological status of shared water bodies.

- **Institutional Regime** (Articles 20 and 23)
- **Exchange of Information** (Articles 5, 6 and 7 and Annex I)
- **Transboundary Impacts** (Articles 8 and 9 and Annex II)
- **Quality and Pollution** (Articles 13 y 14)
- **Water Uses** (Article 15)
- **Exceptional Situations** (Articles 17, 18 y 19)
- **Flow Regime** (Article 16, Additional Protocol and Annex)

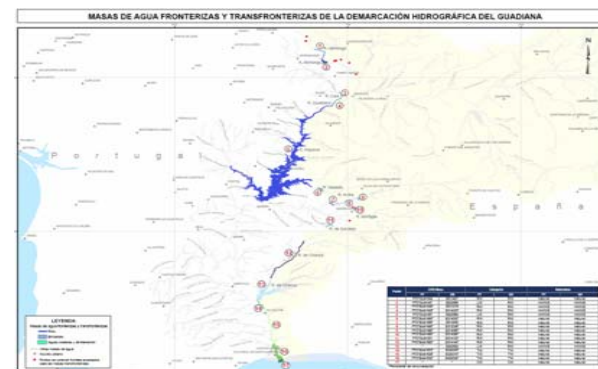
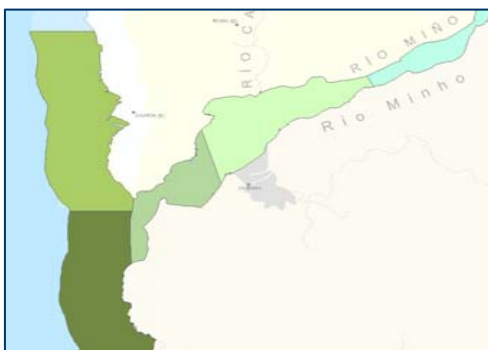
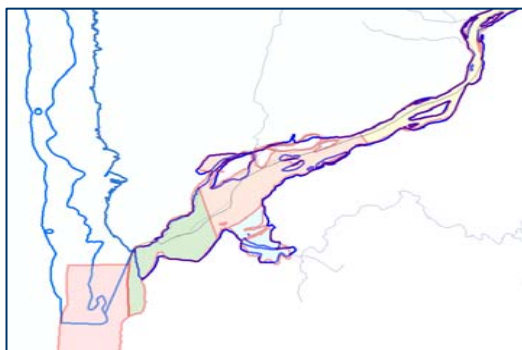
- Two bilateral bodies were created for the application and development of the Albufeira Agreement:
 - The **Conference of the Parties**, with a high political level (formed by Ministers from both countries)
 - The **Commission for the Development and Application of the Agreement (CADAC)**, with a more technical content
- The main technical elements of the CADAC are the Working Groups.

Commission for the Development and Application of the Agreement (CADDC)



Main tasks

- Exchange of information on WFD implementation
- Harmonisation of Geographic Information Systems
- Development of common cartography for boundary and transboundary water bodies



- Exchange of information on water quality
- Establishment of reaction mechanisms against pollution accidents

Main tasks:

- Creation of a common database on historical flow discharges
- Control of flow discharge regime
- Establishment of a new flow discharge regime
- Criteria harmonisation of Drought Indicator Systems



WG Exchange of information and public participation (I)



Members

Group	Description
■ CADC Albufeira	

Description

Grupo de Interés creado en el marco del "Convenio sobre Cooperación para la Protección y el Aprovechamiento Sostenible de las Aguas de las Cuencas Hidrográficas Hispano-Portuguesas", firmado en Albufeira el 30/11/1998

Main tasks:

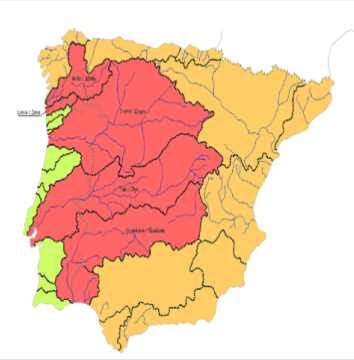
- Use of EC CIRCA platform
- Data exchange
- Exchange of river basin management plan reports
- Elaboration of joint annual reports on Flow Discharges Regimes and Water Quality

CONVENIO DE ALBUFEIRA

CONVENÇÃO DE ALBUFEIRA

INFORME HIDROMETEOROLÓGICO
RÉGIMEN DE CAUDALES

RELATÓRIO HIDROMETEOROLÓGICO
REGIME DE CAUDAIS



Año hidrológico 2006 - 2007

CUENCA HIDROGRÁFICA DO GUADIANA
BACIA HIDROGRÁFICA DO GUADIANA




Figura 11 Cuena hidrográfica do Guadiana / Bacia hidrográfica do Guadiana

PRECIPITACIONES	PRECIPITACIÓN
La precipitación de referencia en la cuenca del Guadiana, en el conjunto de los hidrologios 2006-2007, representa el 95% de la media mensual hidrológica.	A precipitação de referência na bacia do Guadiana, no conjunto de dois hidrologios 2006-2007, representa 95% da média mensal hidrológica correspondente.

Año hidrológico 2006 - 2007



- Creation of CADC Web Page: www.cadc-albufeira.org



- Organization of Technical Sessions on Public Participation



Main tasks:

- Exchange of information on infrastructures with possible transboundary impacts
- Coordination of emergency plan implementation
- Promotion of joint flood studies

The 2nd Conference of the Parties took place on February 19th, 2008 in Madrid.

The main agreed issues are:

- ✓ **Endorsement of a new protocol concerning an innovative flow regimen in the international Albufeira Agreement.**
- ✓ **Creation of a Common Permanent Technical Secretariat.**
- ✓ **Endorsement of a Protocol for Action to apply the Strategic Environmental Assessment with cross border effects.**

New flow discharge regime of the Albufeira Agreement

Before

Annual control of river flows



Spain guaranteed a minimum annual flow with a regime of exceptions.

This system sometimes presented large discharges fluctuations

Now

Annual, three-monthly and weekly control of river flows

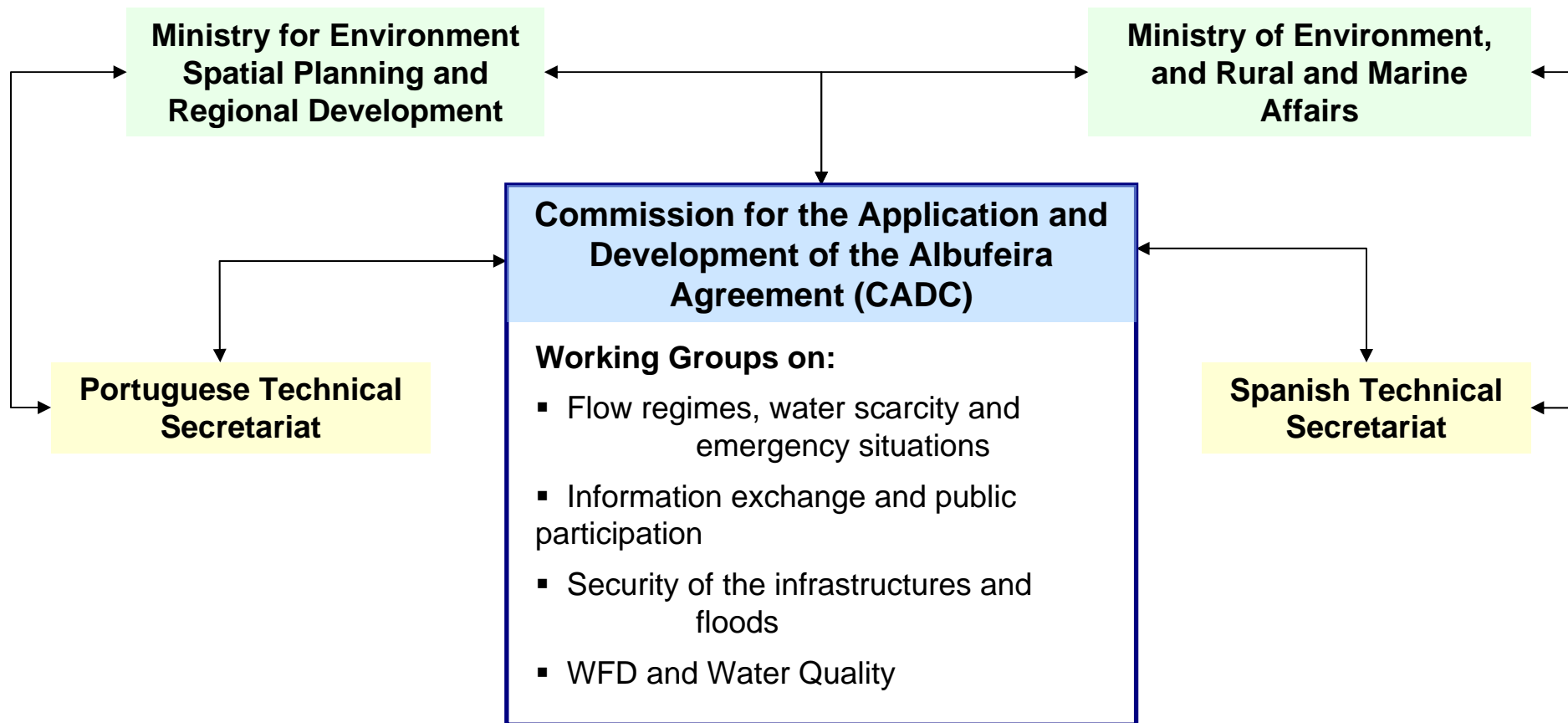


River flows will be guaranteed on a 3 monthly base.

In some cases minimum weekly river flows are established in order to preserve ecological flows.

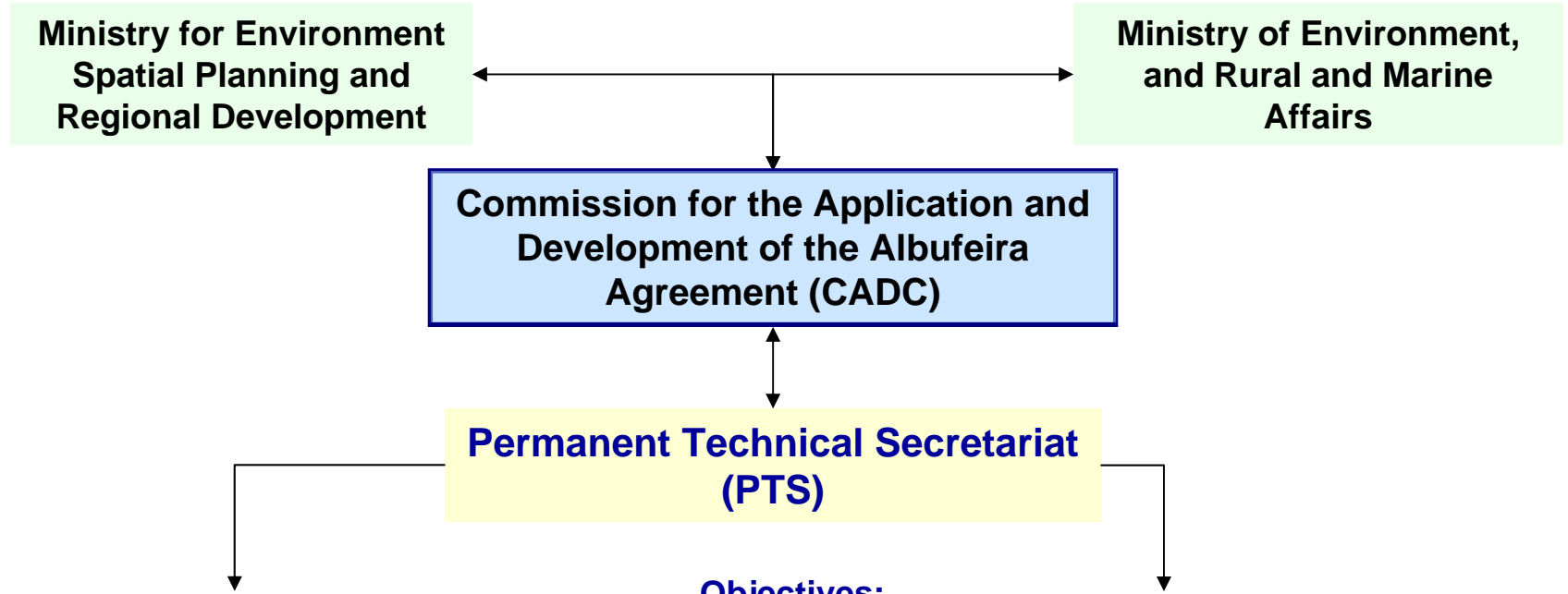
When the precipitation in the previous 6 months is around 60-70% lower that in the reference period, there will be an exception situation.

Before



Permanent Technical Secretariat of the Commission (2/2)

Now is being implementing



General concepts:

- Every two years the **headquarters** of the PTS will switch **between Madrid and Lisbon**.
- It will be composed by **civil servants from Portugal and Spain**.

Objectives:

- Providing technical, administrative and promotional **support** to the CADC.
- Define methodologies for developing international RBMP for 2015
- Consolidate bases for bi-national public participation processes

INDEPENDENT RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

Each country develops river basin planning according to its own legislation.

- **WFD** - - - - -

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS OF THE CORRESPONDING PARTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASIN DISTRICTS (SEPARATED REPORTS)

Elaboration of river basin plans for the corresponding part

Coordination: Structures derived from the Albufeira Agreement

Progressive elaboration of joint reports

-- **PERMANENT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT** - - - - -

A UNIQUE RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EACH INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASIN DISTRICT