

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL**

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/22/4(Part II)/Add.1
20 March 2003
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Twenty-second session
Beirut, 14-17 April 2003

Item 6 (b-i) of the provisional agenda

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION****PROGRESS MADE DURING 2002 IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2002-2003***Coordination and cooperation between ESCWA and United Nations agencies,
international organizations and civil society institutions*

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) cooperates with the United Nations Secretariat and its specialized bodies and agencies in addition to regional institutions and international organizations to increase the impact of its activities, reduce costs and meet the needs of its member countries. This is in accordance with the reform measures requested by the Secretary-General to streamline collaborative activities in line with the comparative advantages of each organization and to build upon past experience and improve performance. ESCWA has been advocating policies to develop closer cooperation and collaboration with regional and United Nations bodies and agencies and has encouraged the establishment of contacts with various relevant parties. Moreover, it has exerted particular efforts to reach agreements with a number of institutions, including civil society institutions.
2. A number of agreements were reached in 2002 with other United Nations entities, namely, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) concerning the networking of expertise of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the region; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) concerning implementation of a project on International Shared Aquifer Resource Management (ISARM); the United Nations Environment Programme/Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP/ROWA) concerning implementation of the Global International Waters Assessment project (GIWA); and the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) concerning collaboration with regard to conducting training activities in South Lebanon. In addition, an agreement was reached with the World Bank to ensure continuing cooperation on the MedPolicies Initiative and with regard to the capacity-building of member countries in relation to sustainable economic management, particularly in the areas of rural development and alleviation of poverty. These agreements complement the formal agreements that were signed in 2001 with the World Trade Organization (WTO), UNESCO and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). In addition, agreements were reached with a number of civil society institutions in Lebanon, namely, the Fares Foundation and the Safadi Foundation. These were concerned with cooperation in implementing field projects, particularly in the socio-economic sphere.
3. This report highlights the main cooperation and coordination activities undertaken with United Nations entities, specialized bodies and agencies in addition to regional institutions and international organizations. It highlights joint action, namely, the joint organization of meetings and the joint undertaking

of projects. The table in annex I outlines the attendance of ESCWA at, and its participation in, meetings and conferences, which included in the majority of cases, the presentation of papers and/or statements.

A. UNITED NATIONS BODIES

1. *United Nations Secretariat*

4. Cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) continued to focus on activities to facilitate social integration in the areas of youth, women and gender, ageing, and the disabled. Moreover, it included collaboration in the areas of FDI and statistics.
5. Cooperation with regard to issues pertaining to youth included the preparation of web sites related to the Youth NGOs Directory-Network in the Arab Region and the Youth NGOs Directory of Young Women's Organizations in the ESCWA Region. These initiatives were co-financed by DESA. Furthermore, ESCWA collaborated with the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, UNESCO and the Department of Public Information in organizing the Expert Group Meeting on Participation and Access of Women to the Media and its Impact on and Use as an Instrument for the Advancement and Empowerment of Women (Beirut, 12-15 November 2002). The aim of the meeting was to assess the manner in which information and communications technology (ICT) can promote gender equality.
6. With regard to the promotion of social integration of the disabled, ESCWA completed the implementation of a pilot project, funded by DESA. This was concerned with generating activities for persons with disabilities. In addition, ESCWA is implementing a follow-up to the Braille Computer Training Project in Lebanon by establishing an online Braille service. This has been co-financed by DESA. The aim of this activity is to improve employment opportunities for those who are visually impaired and to establish a documentation centre for the dissemination of information concerning the latest ICT developments for the blind. The project included a series of workshops on self-reliance and the employment of disabled persons and the Meeting on Disability Measurement for ESCWA Countries (Cairo, 1-5 June 2002).
7. ESCWA and DESA were also concerned with the issue of ageing. ESCWA participated in the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Madrid, 8-12 April 2002), in which the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002 was adopted. Prior to the Assembly, ESCWA organized a round-table meeting on the Arab Plan of Action on Ageing to the year 2012.
8. Furthermore, ESCWA initiated a number of projects under the United Nations Development Account, which is administered by DESA, for the biennium 2002-2003. These are as follows:
 - (a) Networking of Expertise on FDI in ESCWA Member States. This aims to enhance the capacity of ESCWA member countries with regard to the compilation, dissemination and analysis of data on FDI. It aims to do this by implementing international methodological standards that enable countries to maintain high quality and accurate databases and by strengthening networking among investment-promoting offices and relevant agencies in the region. In this regard, ESCWA has established a national team and is developing mechanisms pertaining to the implementation of the project;
 - (b) Capacity-building in Developing Interregional Land and Land-cum-sea Transport Linkages, in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). This project aims to assist member countries with regard to strengthening national capacities for developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages in addition to promoting interregional cooperation to facilitate interregional trade and tourism;
 - (c) Strengthening Statistical Capacity in the ESCWA Region. This project aims to strengthen national statistical systems in the countries of the ESCWA region and to promote interregional cooperation among these countries. A joint Steering Committee Meeting was organized to review the implementation plan of the activities of the project and to agree on concrete actions to be taken in 2002-2003. In addition, a

Seminar on Management and Organization of Statistical Systems (Muscat, 7-9 April 2002) was held to address strategic issues pertaining to the organization and management of official statistics;

(d) Capacity-building in Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business in the Mediterranean. This project aims to increase the competitiveness of companies in the Mediterranean region in regional and global markets by simplifying and harmonizing trade procedures throughout the transaction chain; implementing automated process and information technology (IT) for administration and commerce; and facilitating the participation of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in electronic business.

2. United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

9. ESCWA and UNIFIL agreed to cooperate under the umbrella of ESCWA Assistance for South Lebanon in June 2002. Cooperation in this regard includes the provision of vocational training and technical assistance in the fields of ICT, transport, agriculture, water and the environment, urban development, social issues and vocational and small business training. Under the terms of this agreement, a number of training workshops were undertaken pertaining to cars, cellular phones and maintenance, computers and the English language. In addition, a course on How to Start Your Own Business was initiated. The training is being provided in partnership with the Association d'Aide au Développement Rural, a Lebanese non-governmental organization (NGO).

3. United Nations Population Fund

10. Collaboration between ESCWA and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) focused on population issues. ESCWA conducted the Regional Training Workshop on Integrating Population Issues, such as Reproductive Health in Development Planning (Cairo, 28-31 July 2002), which was co-financed by UNFPA. The meeting aimed to strengthen national capacities with regard to the methodological aspects of integrating population issues into socio-economic plans. Moreover, ESCWA continued its work on the Population Policies Information System (PPIS) and issued an information kit on population policies and indicators in the Arab world in addition to a brochure on PPIS in the Arab countries.

4. Regional commissions

11. Cooperation between ESCWA and United Nations regional commissions included the organization of a consultative meeting in coordination with ECE and ECA, entitled Mediterranean Initiative: Interregional Project on Sustainable Utilization, Management and Protection of Internationally Shared Groundwater Resources in the Mediterranean Region. This was a preparatory step towards submitting a project proposal at the Consultative Meeting on Shared Aquifer Resources Management in the Euro-Mediterranean Region (Beirut, 27-28 February 2002).

5. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

12. Cooperation between ESCWA and UNCTAD was largely focused on FDI and other economic issues.

13. Both organizations are implementing a project on Networking of Expertise on FDI in ESCWA Member States. To this end, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed in May 2002. Under the umbrella of this project, the Regional Workshop on International Methodological Standards for Data Compilation on Foreign Direct Investment was organized (Beirut, 28 October – 1 November 2002).

14. Other activities undertaken in coordination with UNCTAD included the organization of the Expert Group Meeting on Competition Laws and Policies: Identification of Common Ground in ESCWA Member Countries (Abu Dhabi, 28-30 January 2002). The meeting provided a forum for discussing the interrelationship between competition, trade, development and FDI policies and laws in the Arab countries; promoting a dialogue between the private and public sectors with regard to national competition policy; and formulating guidelines for developing good practices in competition laws and policies in ESCWA member countries.

6. United Nations Development Programme

15. ESCWA has developed joint fields of cooperation in the areas of social development with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) national offices in the Arab world. Furthermore, it has collaborated with UNDP in implementing projects concerning gender statistics and poverty issues.

16. ESCWA and UNDP/Lebanon, in coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Government of Lebanon agreed to organize a series of training workshops in all districts of the country. This was based on a common desire to propagate the concept of local community development and to establish technical and organizational foundations. The aims of this endeavour are to implement an integrated reform and capacity-building programme in Social Development Services Centres (SDSCs) and to consolidate the relationship between NGOs and SDSCs. The objective in this regard, is to increase the efficiency and relevance of the programmes of SDSCs in line with the needs of the communities and social groups that they serve. Furthermore, ESCWA and UNDP/Lebanon organized the Workshop on Water Tariffication and Groundwater Legislation in Lebanon (Beirut, 17 January 2003), under the umbrella of a project on National Policy Framework for Water Resources Management in Lebanon. The project aims to strengthen the capacities of major Government institutions in the area of integrated water resources management.

17. ESCWA cooperated with UNDP/Jordan in implementing the Regional Support for UNDP Programme and Pipeline Development project. This project aims to assist the Government of Jordan with regard to the identification of development priorities for future technical assistance, preparation of high impact project initiatives geared towards sustainable human development and the identification and optimal use of technical assistance resources from bilateral and multilateral donors. In addition, ESCWA and UNDP/Jordan are negotiating a project entitled Towards Integrated Social Development Policies in Jordan, which aims to support the development of social policies by assessing the approach of the Government with regard to the formulation and implementation of social policy. Another aim is to promote the role of the Government within the social sector by strengthening national capacities for social policy analysis and advice in concerned governmental and non-governmental agencies. The first phase of the project includes background studies on social policy concepts and best practices, a national expert group meeting and a survey that incorporates a comprehensive country profile. Further cooperation with UNDP/Jordan will centre on the improvement of human development profiles and strategies for the country.

18. ESCWA is providing assistance to UNDP/Iraq with regard to the formulation of a national human development report. Furthermore, UNDP/Egypt and UNDP/Syrian Arab Republic are administering the financial monitoring of ESCWA local community development field projects in their respective countries.

19. UNDP is the primary source of funding for a major project concerning the development of national gender statistics programmes in the Arab countries. The project, initiated in 1997, aims to strengthen the capacities of Arab countries with regard to the production, use and dissemination of gender statistics that are likely to influence policies and promote changes for the benefit and empowerment of women. The project is being administered in 12 Arab countries. It engages a variety of producers and users of gender statistics, including statistical offices and NGOs in addition to experts in gender issues, researchers and the media. It aims to increase the capacity of national statistical systems with regard to producing reliable gender statistics and recognizing the importance of incorporating a gender perspective into all national policies.

20. Further cooperation with UNDP with regard to capacity-building in the area of statistics was related to the organization of the Meeting on Disability Measurement for ESCWA Countries (Cairo, 1-5 June 2002) and the Meeting on a Core Set of Census Topics (Cairo, 8-12 June 2002).

7. United Nations Environment Programme

21. Cooperation with UNEP was primarily focused on preparations for, and participation in, the Johannesburg Summit 2002, World Summit on Sustainable Development (see paragraph 39 below) and on water issues. In addition, ESCWA participated in the GIWA Start-up Meeting (Manama, 28-29 April 2002). GIWA has been undertaken by UNEP in collaboration with the University of Kalmar in Sweden and other

regional organizations. The aim of the meeting was to present the scope of the project, its phases, the proposed methodology and a timetable for completing the report and initiating a network of stakeholders in the area of international water issues at the regional and global levels. Subsequently, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between ESCWA and UNEP with regard to the implementation of the GIWA project in the Jordan Valley subregion.

B. UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

1. *International Labour Organization*

22. ESCWA, in cooperation with the International Labour Organization, organized the Forum on Technology, Employment and Poverty Alleviation in the Arab countries (Beirut, 16-18 July 2002). The Forum was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Lebanon and attended by a number of Arab ministers, representatives of United Nations agencies and other regional agencies, the private sector and research institutions in addition to a number of NGOs. The Forum addressed the implications of recent developments in the field of new technology, discussed policy responses and considered strategic initiatives aimed at harnessing selected new technologies capable of generating employment opportunities and improving economic conditions. In addition, the Regional Agenda for Action on Technology, Employment and Poverty Alleviation in the Arab countries was adopted.

2. *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*

23. A Letter of Agreement was signed with UNESCO in February 2002 concerning the implementation of an inter-agency project on ISARM. In addition, ESCWA, UNESCO, the International Telecommunication Union, the World Bank and other national agencies jointly organized the Western Asia Preparatory Conference for the World Summit on the Information Society (Beirut, 4-6 February 2003). The Conference addressed central issues pertaining to the information society, namely, formulation of policy, socio-economic development and cultural, ethnic and technological concerns.

3. *United Nations Industrial Development Organization*

24. Collaboration with UNIDO centred on the development of SMEs and industrial development in general. ESCWA and UNIDO/Investment and Technology Promotion Office in Bahrain co-sponsored the Expert Group Meeting on Enhancing Competitiveness through the Promotion of Innovative Approaches in SMEs (Manama, 10-12 June 2002). The meeting was held in cooperation with the Bahrain Development Bank, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Economic Development Board of Bahrain.

25. In addition, discussions between ESCWA and UNIDO focused on the implementation of joint activities to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of SMEs through networking and clustering and the control of land degradation and water conservation. A proposal was developed on a Preliminary Framework of Cooperation on Cluster-Network Development in the Garment and Agro-food Industry Sectors in the ESCWA Region (Vienna, 4-7 November 2002).

4. *United Nations Research Institute for Social Development*

26. Within the framework of an agreement with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), ESCWA translated and launched the Arabic version of the UNRISD flagship publication *Visible Hands*. The launch was followed by a round-table discussion in December 2002. The report explores recent efforts to reassess the value of equity and social cohesion in an increasingly individualistic world. ESCWA also participated in Improving Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations: Second Annual Retreat (Prangins, Switzerland, 29-30 May 2002).

5. *World Intellectual Property Organization*

27. ESCWA and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) co-organized the Joint ESCWA/WIPO Training Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights (Beirut, 31 July – 2 August 2002).

C. BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS

The World Bank

28. Cooperation with the World Bank with regard to the MedPolicies Initiative was extended for a further period of one year with the objective of providing capacity-building, training and advisory services in the areas of environment, rural development and poverty alleviation in addition to sustainable economic management. Furthermore, activities include dissemination of experiences and best practices in the aforementioned areas.

29. ESCWA and the World Bank jointly organized the Capacity-building Workshop on Rural Development: Policies, Strategies and Institutional Reform (Beirut, 3-6 June 2002). A report on the workshop was issued.

30. In addition, the World Bank contributed to the joint ESCWA and WTO Trade in Services Training Workshop (Beirut, 17-19 December 2002) (see paragraph 35 below).

D. INTERNATIONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Effective Micro-organisms Research Organization of Japan

31. ESCWA organized the Regional Workshop on Effective Micro-organisms Uses and Agricultural Waste Recycling (Cairo, 27-28 March 2002), in cooperation with the Effective Micro-organisms Research Organization of Japan, the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of the Government of Egypt.

2. Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of Germany

32. The Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources of Germany continued to finance a project that has provided technical assistance to ESCWA and its member countries in the field of water resources over the past six years. During 2002, activities included the meeting on Inter-State Cooperation on Shared Groundwater Management in Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic (Beirut, 13-14 February 2002); and the Regional Training Workshop on the Application of Groundwater Rehabilitation Techniques to Different Hydrogeological Environments in the ESCWA Region (Beirut, 18-22 March 2002).

3. German Institute of Technical Cooperation

33. The German Institute of Technical Cooperation (GTZ) also cooperated with ESCWA with regard to water issues. ESCWA and GTZ jointly organized three workshops on the Harmonization of Diverging Interests in the Use of Shared Water Resources (Beirut, 2-3 October 2002, Delft/the Netherlands, 23 November 2002 and Beirut, 17-19 December 2002). The workshops endeavoured to improve the preparedness of water officials with regard to holding negotiations on water allocation and to address the constraints and problems of competing interests over scarce water resources.

4. Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering of the Netherlands

34. Under the umbrella of a project that is being implemented in cooperation with the Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering, ESCWA held the Workshop on Frontiers in Water and Environment: Capacity-building Initiatives in the Western Asia Region (Beirut, 6-8 March 2002). The project aims to enhance capacity-building by conducting training programmes and research on water issues pertaining to the region.

5. *World Trade Organization*

35. Cooperation with WTO is centred on preparations for the next WTO Ministerial Conference, which is scheduled to be held in Mexico in September 2003 in addition to the follow-up to the Doha Development Agenda. ESCWA and WTO, in collaboration with the World Bank, jointly organized a Trade in Services Training Workshop (Beirut, 17-19 December 2002). The workshop endeavoured to assist the Arab countries with regard to reviewing the major provisions under the General Agreement on Trade in Services and participating in negotiations on trade in services prior to the next WTO ministerial conference.

6. *Fares Institute of Lebanon*

36. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Fares Institute in March 2002. This was concerned with cooperation and coordination in the socio-economic sphere in Lebanon and ESCWA member countries in general, the strengthening of regional, subregional and national cooperation and the formulation and implementation of development projects. In 2002, joint activities included the provision of training for local community workers, one component of which was the Training of Local Community Development Workers Workshop (Tripoli, Lebanon, 23 September – 1 October 2002).

7. *Safadi Foundation of Lebanon*

37. ESCWA and the Safadi Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding in January 2002. The aims of the agreement were to promote cooperation between the two parties, to implement common field projects and to collaborate in the area of ICT. To this end, ESCWA and the Safadi Organization co-organized the Training Workshop for Community Development Workers (Tripoli, Lebanon, 19-27 August 2002).

E. REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. *The League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies*

38. Cooperation with the League of Arab States included a number of activities, the most important of which concerned preparations for major international conferences. In this context, ESCWA and the League of Arab States co-organized the Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Beirut 5-8 February 2002). The main purpose of the meeting was to harmonize the various positions of the Arab countries *vis-à-vis* contentious issues. ESCWA distributed an information kit that included a brochure on the demographic situation in the Arab countries, the Arab Plan of Action on Ageing to the year 2012, a media pamphlet on the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Second World Assembly on Ageing and a poster and a pamphlet on ESCWA and the Ageing, for the Second World Assembly on Ageing (Madrid, 8-12 April 2002).

39. In addition, ESCWA and the League of Arab States cooperated in preparations for, and participation in, the Johannesburg Summit 2002, World Summit on Sustainable Development. ESCWA, in collaboration with the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment in the League of Arab States and UNEP/ROWA, held various preparatory meetings, which ultimately led to the following: the preparation of a regional assessment report that identified the achievements and requirements pertaining to sustainable development in the Arab region; the Arab Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Development; and the Joint Arab-African Ministerial Declaration. Furthermore, ESCWA prepared a number of briefing papers that dealt with the themes set out in Agenda 21.

40. ESCWA contributed to and participated in the Second Conference on Disability in the Arab World: Towards an Arab Decade on Disability (Beirut, 2-5 October 2002). The conference, organized by the League of Arab States, the Arab Organization of Disabled People and the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Government of Lebanon, discussed the Arab Decade for Disability and determined the mechanisms for its implementation.

41. ESCWA attended the Twenty-ninth Session of the Arab Labour Conference of the Arab Labour Organization. Discussions largely focused on the issues of migration and globalization, in addition to the Arab strategy for the development of the labour force and employment (Cairo, 2-8 March 2002). The joint undertaking of a project on the employment of youth was discussed.

2. Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations

42. The Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND) has been financing a project concerned with community development in Arab rural areas and the participation of women. A number of activities took place under the framework of this project. These included the publication of a guide on the training of trainers and a programme for the training of community development workers. In addition, a number of workshops were held for local community development workers. Finally, the *Training Manual on Visiobraille for Blind Persons* was issued in two languages, Arabic and English. This was a component of a promotion of electronic Braille and IT for disabled persons project.

43. ESCWA participated in a meeting held at the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and Natural Resources to discuss the results and methodologies of a population and housing survey and a multi-indicator health survey conducted among Palestinian refugees in Syrian camps. The Bureau organized this session under the umbrella of a project for strengthening the Palestinian statistical system, funded by AGFUND (Damascus, 11-14 November 2002).

3. Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting

44. At the request of the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting, ESCWA conducted a five-day training programme on Start Your Small Business (Doha, 11-15 May 2002).

F. OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. National Broadcasting Network of Lebanon

45. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between ESCWA and the National Broadcasting Network (NBN) in September 2002. This was concerned with the production of approximately 12 television episodes to raise public awareness on the role of ESCWA in various fields.

2. New and Renewable Energy Authority of Egypt

46. The Second Training Workshop on Wind Energy Assessment and Capacity-building was organized by ESCWA in collaboration with the New and Renewable Energy Authority of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy of Egypt (Cairo, 29 June – 4 July 2002). The workshop covered two areas: assessment of the capacity of wind energy resources and site selection and the design and specifications of wind energy projects. This was the second workshop in this domain; the first took place in September 2001.

Annex

EVENTS ATTENDED BY ESCWA, 2002-2003

Name of event	Venue	Date
<i>United Nations Secretariat</i>		
Bali PrepCom IV, Fourth Preparatory Committee Meeting Ministerial Level for the World Summit on Sustainable Development	Bali, Indonesia	24 May – 7 June 2002
Johannesburg Summit 2002, World Summit on Sustainable Development	Johannesburg	26 August – 4 September 2002
Fourth Interregional Consultative Meeting of United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance (UNPAN)	Palermo, Italy	9 April 2002
International Conference on E-Government for Development	Palermo, Italy	10-11 April 2002
Second World Assembly on Ageing 2002	Madrid	8-12 April 2002
Meeting of the Expert Group on the World Economic Situation and Prospects (Project LINK)	New York, United States of America	24-26 April 2002
International Conference on Financing for Development	Monterrey, Mexico	18-22 March 2002
Expert Group Meeting on International Indicators for Monitoring the Implementation of the Millennium Declaration	New York, United States	19-22 March 2002
Thirty-third Session of the Statistical Commission	New York, United States	5-8 March 2002
Forty-Sixth Session of the Commission on the Status of Women	New York, United States	4-15 March and 25 March 2002
Expert Group Meeting on Participation and Access of Women to the Media and its Impact on and Use as an Instrument for the Advancement and Empowerment of Women	Beirut	12-15 November 2002
Workshop on Self-Employment of Disabled Persons	Beirut	19 June 2002
<i>Regional commissions</i>		
Workshop on Integrated Water Resources Management, Economic Commission for Africa	Cairo	20-23 July 2002
Work Session on Gender Statistics, Economic Commission for Europe	Geneva, Switzerland	23-25 September 2002
First Session of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality	New York, United States	26 February – 1 March 2002
Third Meeting of the Directors of Divisions Responsible for Transport in the Five United Nations Regional Commissions	Bangkok	13-15 March 2002
International Forum on Trade Facilitation, ECE	Geneva, Switzerland	29-30 May 2002
<i>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</i>		
Workshop on the Impact of Trade in Energy Services on Oil Exporting Countries	Vienna	3-6 November 2002

Name of event	Venue	Date
<i>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</i> <i>(continued)</i>		
Expert Meeting on Experiences with Bilateral and Regional Approaches to Multilateral Cooperation in the Area of Long-term Cross-border Investment, Particularly Foreign Direct Investment	Geneva, Switzerland	12-14 June 2002
Third Debt Management and Financial Analysis System Advisory Group Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland	12 September 2002
<i>United Nations Development Programme</i>		
World Renewable Energy Congress VII (Training Workshop)	Cologne, Germany	29 June – 5 July 2002
Social Protection in an Insecure Era (Workshop)	Santiago, Chile	14-17 May 2002
Workshop on Information and Communications Technologies for Development Targeting	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	5-7 March 2002
<i>United Nations Development Fund for Women</i>		
First Regional Workshop on Gender Equality Measured through Statistics Project	Cairo	23-24 October 2002
<i>United Nations Environment Programme</i>		
Global International Water Assessment (GIWA) Start-up Meeting	Manama	28-29 April 2002
Workshop on Capacity-building on Trade, Environment and Development	Geneva, Switzerland	20-21 March 2002
<i>United Nations Centre for Human Settlements</i>		
World Urban Forum	Nairobi	29 April – 3 May 2002
<i>International Labour Organization</i>		
Training Course on Labour Market Analysis in the Arab Countries	Amman	19-23 August 2002
<i>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</i>		
Meeting of the Task Force on International Trade Statistics	Rome	14-19 April 2002
Expert Consultation on Irrigation: Advisory Services in the Near East Region	Tunisia	13-16 May 2002
<i>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization</i>		
Third International Symposium on Environmental Hydrology	Cairo	8-10 April 2002
Conflict Assessment and Resolution for Reservoir Systems (Workshop)	Delft, the Netherlands	19 November 2002
From Conflict to Cooperation in International Water Resources Management: Challenges and Opportunities	Delft, the Netherlands	20-22 November 2002
Expert Group Meeting on Socially Sustainable Management of Non-renewable Groundwater Mining from Aquifer Storage	Paris	4-6 September 2002

Name of event	Venue	Date
<i>United Nations Industrial Development Organization</i>		
Meeting on Public Sector Reform and National Industrial Strategy	Damascus	25-26 September 2002
Expert Group Meeting on Cluster Network Development with a Focus on Impact Measurement Tools	New Delhi	8-14 December 2002
<i>United Nations Research Institute for Social Development</i>		
Improving Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations: Second Annual Retreat	Prangins, Switzerland	29-30 May 2002
<i>World Trade Organization</i>		
Workshop on Main Issues of Negotiations after Doha Meeting (Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization)	Kuwait	6-7 April 2002
OPEC and Meeting the Challenges of Intergovernmental Negotiations	Vienna	28 June – 1 July 2002
<i>The World Bank</i>		
Knowledge for Development: A Forum for Middle East and North Africa	Marseilles, France	9-12 September 2002
Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Programme NFPs and Partners Meeting	Tripoli	22-23 May 2002
Basic Impact Evaluation Course	Cairo	1-6 June 2002
<i>Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey</i>		
Meeting on Improving Arab-Iranian Relations	Tehran	23-27 January 2002
<i>General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries</i>		
Forum on Arab Business Community and WTO Agreements	Beirut	3-4 June 2002
<i>European Commission</i>		
Preparatory Meeting of the Regional Workshop on Statistics	Tunisia	17-21 April 2002
<i>Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment</i>		
Joint Meeting of the Bureaux of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE)	Cairo	23-24 January 2002
The Twenty-eighth Meeting of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment	Damascus	21-23 May 2002
Expert Group Meeting on Arab Strategy for Sustainable Development: Abu Dhabi Declaration from Strategy to Action	Abu Dhabi	14-16 May 2002
<i>AOL Time Warner Foundation</i>		
Twenty-first Century Literacy Summit	Berlin	7-8 March 2002

Name of event	Venue	Date
<i>National Observatory for Children's Rights</i>		
The Rights of the Child and Human Security in the Euro-Mediterranean Region	Marrakesh, Morocco	22-24 October 2002
<i>International Council on National Youth Policy</i>		
First Session of the International Council on National Youth Policy	Vienna	17-18 January 2002
<i>World Customs Organization</i>		
Information Technology and Customs: The New Economic Reality	Brussels	11-12 February 2002
<i>International Road Transport Union</i>		
TIR Customs Seminar	Damascus	20-22 April 2002
<i>International Association Cities and Ports</i>		
Eighth International Conference of Ports Cities	Dalian, China	22-25 October 2002
<i>League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies</i>		
Seventh Arab Energy Conference	Cairo	11-14 May 2002
Regional Workshop on the Arab Media and Sustainable Development	Cairo	30 June – 2 July 2002
Third Round of General Assembly of the Joint Committee for Environment and Development in the Arab Region	Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt	20-21 October 2002
Expert Group Meeting on Arab Population Strategy	Cairo	29 April – 30 April 2002
Fifteenth Session of the Council of Arab Transportation Ministers	Cairo	29 October – 1 November 2002
Sectoral Coordination Meeting between United Nations Organizations and Agencies of the League of Arab States	Cairo	17-21 June 2002
Meeting of the Standing Technical Statistical Committee	Amman	24-28 October 2002
<i>Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization</i>		
Workshop on Profile of Arab Industrial Strategy	Damascus	19-21 October 2002
First Arab Conference and Exhibition on Industrial Information and Networks	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	15-17 December 2002
Forum of Arab Ministers of Industry	Amman	22-24 December 2002
Seventeenth Ministerial Meeting of the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization	Riyadh	11-15 May 2002
<i>Arab Planning Institute</i>		
Enhancing Links Between Education and Labour Markets in Arab Countries	Beirut	4-6 March 2002
<i>Islamic Organization for Medical Sciences</i>		
Seventh International Conference on the Impact of Globalization on Development and Health Care Services in Islamic Countries	Kuwait	23-27 March 2002

Name of event	Venue	Date
<i>Arab Labour Organization</i> Twenty-ninth Session of the Arab Labour Conference	Cairo	2-8 March 2002
<i>Arab Science and Technology Foundation</i> Second Symposium on Scientific Research Outlook in the Arab World	Sharjah, United Arab Emirates	24-27 March 2002
<i>Arab Federation for Food Industries</i> Workshop on Business and Technology Incubators and their Role in Sustainable Development	Damascus	7-8 October 2002
<i>Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands</i> Workshop on the Means of Managing, Protecting and Monitoring the Quality of Groundwater and Soil	Amman	23-25 June 2002
