

**Towards COP27: Arab Regional Forum
on Climate Initiatives to Finance Climate Action and the SDGs**
Beirut, 15 September 2022

Agenda

9:00 – 9:30	Welcome Coffee
	Welcome Coffee and Registration
9:30 – 10:30	Opening Session
	<i>Venue: Main Hall/Hybrid – Interpretation</i>
<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Mr. Tarek Sadek, Coordinator, Arab Climate Networks, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA</i>
9:30 – 10:00	Opening Statements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Minister Sameh Shoukry, COP27 President Designate, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Egypt* • Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP27 and UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Egypt • Ms. Amina Mohamed, UN Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations Secretariat, USA* • Ms. Rola Dashti, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Lebanon
10:00 – 10:30	High-Level Panel on Mobilizing Climate Finance
<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Ms. Mirande Goubran, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Minister Mohamed Maait, Minister of Finance, Egypt* • H.E. Minister Hala Elsaid, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt* • H.E. Minister Rania Al-Mashat, Ministry of International Cooperation, Egypt • H.E. Minister Nasser Yassin, Ministry of Environment, Lebanon • Amb. Ann Dismorr, Ambassador, Embassy of Sweden in Lebanon <p>RICCAR Video: Climate Change Impacts on the Arab Region</p>
10:30 – 13:00	Roundtable 1: Catalysing Action for Adaptation and Achieving Co-Benefits
	<i>Venue: Main Hall/Hybrid – Interpretation</i>
<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Director, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies; Cluster Leader, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA</i>

10:30 – 11:30 Priority Projects in Climate Action Plans

Stage-Setting: Catalysts for Adaptation Finance

- Mr. Patrick Verkooijen, CEO, Global Center on Adaptation, The Netherlands*

Egypt: Increase Agricultural Climate Resilience by Modernizing On-farm Practices; Establishing an Early Warning System for Agriculture

- H.E. Minister Rania Al-Mashat, Ministry of International Cooperation, Egypt
- Mr. Ahmed Abdelrasoul Mohamedien, Head, Central Administration for Irrigation Development Projects, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt*
- Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Mahmoud, Head, Irrigation Development Sector, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt*
- Ms. Heba Salman, Director, Needs Department, Planning Sector, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt*
- Mr. Mohamed Fahim, Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Egypt*

Lebanon: Forest Fire Prevention, Forest Management, Resilience and Reducing Wildfire Hazard in Nahr El Kabir

- H.E. Minister Nasser Yassin, Ministry of Environment, Lebanon

Algeria: Land Management and Restoration in the Koudiat Acerdoune Dam Watershed; Sustainable Management of Natural Ecosystems in the Kef-Eddir Watershed

- Ms. Fazia Dahlab, Director, Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy

Iraq: Hilla-Diwaniyah Irrigation Project

- Mr. Zaid Hammoodi Habeeb, Director General, Planning and Follow-up Department, Ministry of Water Resources, Iraq

Questions and Answers

Jordan: Hydroponic Farming; WASH in Schools; Renewable Energy in the Aqaba-Amman Water Desalination and Conveyance Project

- Mr. Raed Bani Hani, Secretary General Assistant, Ministry of Environment, Jordan
- Mr. Belal Shqarin, Director, Climate Change, Ministry of Environment, Jordan*

Oman: Flood Protection Dams in Al Rawdha, Al Jifnain, Fita and Wadi Hiliti; Treated Wastewater Reuse in Al Batina

- Mr. Zahir Al-Abri, Director General, Treasury & Accounts, Ministry of Finance, Oman
- Ms. Shamsa Alyazeedi, Engineer, Water Resources, Dams Department, Ministry of Agricultural, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources, Oman*
- Mr. Hilal Khalfan Nasser Al Dhakhri, General Manager for Business Development and Marketing, Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company, Oman

Tunisia: Water-Energy-Food Nexus for Resilience; Diverting Excess Water from the North to Central Tunisia

- Ms. Samia Selmi, Chief, Office of Planning and Water Balances, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia
- Mr. Rabi Khlifi, Deputy Director of Hydroelectric Equipment, General Directorate of Dams and Major Hydraulic Works, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia

11:30 – 11:45	Coffee Break
11:45 – 12:30	Commentators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mourad Chouaiekh, Country Operations Manager, Regional Hub – Cairo, Islamic Development Bank, Egypt • Mr. Stephen Hammer, Advisor, Global Climate Policy and Strategy, The World Bank, USA • Ms. Zoë Knight, Group Head, Centre of Sustainable Finance and Head of Climate Change MENAT, Global Sustainability, HSBC Bank Middle East, UAE • Ms. Annika Brouwer, Sustainability Specialist, Sustainability, Ninety One Plc, United Kingdom* • Mr. Mohamed Boussaid, Regional Manager, NDC Partnership, Germany
12:30 – 13:00	Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
	<i>Venue: Ground Floor/Cafeteria</i>
	Lunch is kindly offered by the Government of Sweden
14:00 – 15:45	Roundtable 2: Scaling up Climate Finance for Mitigation
	<i>Venue: Main Hall/Hybrid – Interpretation</i>
Moderator:	Ms. Hanan Sakr, Resilience Finance Lead, United Nations Climate Change High-Level Champions Team, Egypt
14:00 – 14:50	Priority Projects in National Climate Action Plans
	<p>Stage-Setting: Catalysts for Financing Mitigation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jacob Waslander, Envoy to the Middle East and North Africa for Water, Energy and Food, Embassy of The Netherlands in Jordan <p>Egypt: Energy Efficient Cooling in Buildings, Bus Rapid Transit System-Ring Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Minister Rania Al Mashat, Ministry of International Cooperation, Egypt • Mr. Ahmed Mohina, First Undersecretary for Strategic Planning, Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy, Egypt* • Mr. Elsayed Metwalli, CEO, Land Transport Regulatory Authority, Ministry of Transport, Egypt* <p>Algeria: Flared Gas Recovery in Ohanet, Tin Fouye Tabankort and In Amenas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Fazia Dahlab, Director, Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, Algeria <p>Jordan: Blue Economy for Livelihoods through Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Raed Bani Hani, Secretary General Assistant, Ministry of Environment, Jordan • Mr. Belal Shqarin, Director, Climate Change, Ministry of Environment Jordan* <p>Tunisia: Smart Transport (e-mobility)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Taoufik Mustapaha, Deputy Director, Climate Change Unit, Ministry of Environment, Tunisia • Ms. Fathia Neji, Director of Strategy and Projects, Directorate General for Strategy, Enterprises and Public Establishments, Ministry of Transport, Tunisia

14:50 – 15:20	Commentators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jacob Waslander, Envoy to the Middle East and North Africa for Water, Energy and Food, Embassy of The Netherlands in Jordan • Ms. Heike Harmgart, Managing Director, Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Egypt • Ms. Lina Osman, Head, Sustainable Finance, West (MENAP, Africa, Europe and the Americas), Standard Chartered Bank, UAE • Mr. Mourad Mtibaa, Regional Head, Regional Hub-Rabat, Islamic Development Bank, Morocco • Ms. Claire Coustar, Global Head of ESG and Sustainable Finance, Deutsche Bank AG, Germany* • Mr. Tarek Hanna, Director, Global Sustainable Finance Group, Asset Finance, Global Banking and Markets, Bank of America, BofA Securities, Inc., USA* - tbc
15:20 – 15:45	Discussion
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee Break
14:00 – 15:45	Roundtable 3: Climate Adaptation Initiatives and Interventions
	<i>Venue: Mezzanine Conference Room (MZ Floor)/Hybrid – No interpretation</i>
14:00 – 14:30	Part I: Initiative and Interventions for Climate Action and the SDGs
<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environmental Policies Section, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA</i>
	<p>COP27 Presidency Initiatives: Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience (AWARE); Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Rania Abdelmegied, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt <p>Oman: Cultivate One Million Mangrove Seedlings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ahmed Al-Shukaili, Director of Marine Conservation, Environment Authority, Oman <p>Tunisia: Strengthening Coastal Resilience to Climate Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Adel Abdouli, Director, Coastal Observatory, Coastal Protection and Planning Agency, Tunisia
14:30 – 14:40	Discussion
14:40 – 15:15	Part II: Consultation on Increasing Watershed Resilience to Climate Change in Lebanon
<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Mr. Ziad Khayat, Coordinator, Integrated Water Resources Management for Water Security, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA</i>

<p>15:15 – 16:00</p>	<p>Lebanon: Nahr Al Kabir Basin and Nahr Al Kalb watersheds - project interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mona Fakhri, Director, Water, Ministry of Energy and Water, Lebanon • Mr. Elie Choueiri, Programme Associate, FAO, Lebanon • Mr. George Mitri, Expert – Nahr Al Kabir Watershed • Ms. Maya Atieh, Expert – Nahr Al Kalb Watershed <p>Discussion</p>
<p>16:00 – 17:00</p>	<p>Roundtable 4: Regional Initiatives for Mobilizing Climate Finance for Action</p>
<p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Venue: Main Hall/Hybrid – Interpretation</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Director, Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies; Cluster Leader, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA</i></p>
<p>16:00 – 16:30</p>	<p>Regional Initiatives for Climate Finance, Mitigation and Adaptation</p>
	<p>Climate/SDGs Debt Swap-Donor Nexus Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jamal Saghir, Chair, Advisory Committee, Climate/SDG Debt Swap-Donor Nexus Initiative; Professor of Practice, McGill University; Senior Advisor, Global Center for Adaptation <p>Regional Initiative to Promote Small-Scale Renewable Energy Applications in Rural Areas of the Arab Region (REGEND)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Radia Sedaoui, Chief, Energy Section, Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster, ESCWA <p>Mashreq Waters Knowledge Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Salim Rouhana, Sector Leader for Mashreq, Sustainable Development Practice Group, Middle East and North Africa Region, The World Bank • Mr. Anders Jägerskog, Senior Water Resources Management Specialist, Transboundary Waters Focal Point, Global Water Practice, The World Bank* <p>Arab States Climate Finance Access and Mobilization Strategy (2022-2030)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yolando Velasco, Manager, Climate Finance Subdivision, Means of Implementation Division, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)* • Mr. Mahmoud Fathallah, Director, Department of Environmental, Meteorological Affairs, Economic Sector, League of Arab States
<p>16:30 – 16:45</p>	<p>Commentators</p>
<p>16:45 – 17:00</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Muaffaq Saqqar, Head of Infrastructure Projects Division, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Kuwait • Ms. Sophie De Coninck, Global Climate Facility Manager, Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL), United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)* <p>Discussion on regional, transboundary and multi-country initiatives for climate finance</p>

17:00 – 17:15	Closing Session
	<i>Venue: Main Hall/Hybrid – Interpretation</i>
<i>Moderator:</i>	<i>Ms. Mirande Goubran, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt</i>
	Closing Remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amb. Wael Aboulmagd, Special Representative of the COP27 President Designate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt*• Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP27 and UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development• Ms. Rola Dashti, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
	End of Meeting