

Preparatory Meeting on the Regional Environmental Issues and Priorities for AFSD

Semiramis Hotel,
Cairo, Egypt, 23-24 April 2017

Agenda

Day 1: 23 April 2017

9:00 – 9:30	Registration
9:30 – 11:00	<p>Opening</p> <p>Session's Chair: CAMRE Technical Secretariat representative: Ms. Shahira Wahbi, Chief of Natural Resources, Sustainability and Partnerships, League of Arab States</p> <p>Welcoming remarks by organizing partners:</p> <p>Ms. Shahira Wahbi, Chief of Natural Resources, Sustainability and Partnerships, League of Arab States Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA; Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Regional Director, West Asia Office, UN Environment, Bahrain; Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Assistant for Sustainable Development and International Cooperation to H.E Dr. Khaled Fahmy, Egyptian Minister of Environment</p> <p>Tour de table</p> <p>Presentation of meeting's agenda</p> <p><i>Issues and priorities for implementing the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda on sustainable development in the Arab region</i> Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief of the Food & Environment Policies Section, ESCWA</p> <p><i>The third UN Environment Assembly "Towards a planet free from pollution"</i> Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Regional Director, West Asia Office, UN Environment, Bahrain</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Session 1: Panel discussion on environment, poverty and conflict Moderator: Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA</p> <p>- <i>Challenges encountered by Arab countries suffering from conflict in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: with a focus on the environmental dimension</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <p>Mr. Abdessalam OuldAhmed, Assistant Director General, & Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa, FAO-RNE , Egypt Mr. Hussein Abaza, Senior Advisor to the Minister of Environment, Ministry of Environment, Egypt Ms. Razan Zuayter, President, Arab Network for Food Sovereignty and Founder Member of Arab Group for the Protection of Nature, Jordan</p>

	<p>Mr. Zaghoul Samhan, Director General of Policies & Planning, Environmental Quality Authority, Palestine</p> <p>Mr. Ameen Al-Hammadi, General Manager of Monitoring and Evaluation Development Planning Program, Ministry of Water and Environment, Yemen</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30	<p>Session 2: Follow-up and review on the environmental dimensions of SDGs: Learning from other experiences</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Regional Director, West Asia Office, UN Environment, Bahrain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Experience of Morocco (VNR 106)</i> Mr. Mohammed Maktit, Chief, Division of Studies and Planning, Ministry of Energy and Sustainable Development, Morocco - <i>Experience of Jordan (VNR 2017)</i> Mr. Mohamed Afana, Director, Policies and Institutional Development Directorate, Ministry of Environment, Jordan - <i>Experience of Egypt (VNR 2016)</i> Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Assistant for Sustainable Development and International Cooperation to H.E Dr. Khaled Fahmy, Egyptian Minister of Environment - <i>Regional Cooperation for SDGs, Experience from Asia and the Pacific</i> Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Economic Affairs Officer, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Thailand - <i>Preliminary outcomes of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED) report for 2017</i> Mr. Najib Saab, Secretary General, Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED), Lebanon <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchange of experiences and lessons learned on sustaining the natural resources base in the Arab region and implementing the 2030 agenda - What are the Arab countries' needs to adequately follow-up and review on the SDGs related to environment and natural resources?
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:00	<p>Session 3: How can the region optimize the means of implementation to advance the implementation of SDGs?</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Yasmine Fouad, Assistant for Sustainable Development and International Cooperation to the Egyptian Minister of Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Importance of building partnerships for the implementation of SDGs,</i> Ms. Setta Tutunjian, Director of Partnership and Knowledge, International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA), UAE - <i>Banque du Liban green incentives</i> Mr. Mazen Halawi, Head of Subsidized Loans and Financing, Central Bank of Lebanon - <i>Science and technology for achieving SDGs in the Arab region</i> Mr. Ghaith Fariz, Director, UNESCO Cairo Office, Egypt - <i>Role of civil society organizations in implementing the 2030 Agenda on sustainable development</i>

Mr. Imadeddine Adli, General Coordinator, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), Egypt

Day 2: 24 April 2017

9:00-9:30	Coffee break and networking
9:30-11:30	<p>Session 4: Regional framework for integrating the environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda Moderator: Mr. Mohamed Al-Hamdi, First Economic Affairs Officer, Food & Environment Policies Section, ESCWA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Approach for implementing the environmental dimension of the SDGs in the Arab region</i> Mr. Cameron Allen, ESCWA Consultant - <i>Background on Arab strategic framework, updates on the joint meeting of CAMRE and health Ministers</i> Ms. Shahira Wahbi, Chief of Natural Resources, Sustainability and Partnerships, League of Arab States - <i>Case study on “Institutional mainstreaming of water in Bahrain”</i> Mr. Walid Zubari, Coordinator, Water Resources Management Program, Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How can we ensure harmonization between regional strategies and frameworks and follow-up on the 2030 Agenda? - What support do countries need from the international community to enhance the use of an integrated approach, balancing the three pillars of sustainable development? - How can the Arab region mainstream the environmental dimension in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, especially when environmental issues are dispersed across the SDGs?
11:30-12:00	Coffee Break
12:00-13:00	<p>Session 5: Industrial perspective on environment, poverty and prosperity Moderator: Mr. Mehdi Matwani, Advisor on Sustainability, Founding Member of Environmental Society of Oman (ESO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Inclusive and sustainable industrial development</i> Ms. Annachiara Scandone, Youth Employment Project Specialist, UNIDO’s Regional Office in Cairo - <i>The environmental challenges and sustainability of industry, Foulath’s case study</i> Mr. Ali Al-Hesabi, Manager, Environment and Safety Section, Foulath Holding Company, Bahrain

	<p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the policies and support mechanisms for the industrial sector so it effectively contributes to poverty eradication, given the environmental challenges of the region?
13:00-15:00	<p>Session 6: Discussion on key messages to the Arab Forum on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Moderators: Ms. Shahira Wahbi, Chief of Natural Resources, Sustainability and Partnerships, League of Arab States; Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Regional Director, West Asia Office, UN Environment, Bahrain; Ms. Roula Majdalani, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion around the key messages that stemmed from the discussions to be submitted to the 2017 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development
15:00-16:00	Lunch Break