



---

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Committee on Water Resources  
Twelfth session  
Amman, 22-24 March 2017

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Provisional agenda and annotations**

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Water in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
  - (a) The Water-related Sustainable Development Goals;
  - (b) The Water-energy nexus in the Arab region.
5. Arab cooperation on shared water resources.
6. Regional cooperation for climate change adaptation in the Arab region.
7. Actions taken in the field of water resources since the eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources:
  - (a) Implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its eleventh session;
  - (b) Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work.
8. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 in the field of water resources.
9. Date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee on Water Resources.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Water Resources at its twelfth session.

## ANNOTATIONS

### 1. Opening of the session

The twelfth session of the Committee on Water Resources will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 22 March 2017 at the Kempinski Hotel in Amman. Mr. Mohamed Ayadi, Director of the Artificial Recharge and Non-Conventional Water Department at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries of Tunisia, the country that chaired the eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources, will make a welcome statement. Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director of the Sustainable Development Policies Division of ESCWA, will deliver the inaugural address.

### 2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia states: “Member States shall chair the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations.\* Unless the Commission decides otherwise, those bodies shall elect all their other officers”. Pursuant to that rule, the Syrian Arab Republic, upon which the rotation by alphabetical order has fallen, shall chair the twelfth session of the Committee on Water Resources, succeeding Tunisia, which chaired the eleventh session.

The Committee shall elect two vice-chairs and a rapporteur among the representatives of member States. Based on established practice, the vice-chairs shall be the representative of the country that chaired the previous session and the representative of the country that will chair the subsequent session of the Committee, according to the Arabic alphabetical rotation. The rapporteur shall be the representative of the country next in the alphabetical order to the country of the second vice-chair. Accordingly, the representatives of Tunisia and the Sudan shall be the vice-chairs and the representative of Iraq shall be the rapporteur.

### 3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which apply to subsidiary bodies, states: “At the beginning of each session, once the Chair has assumed his/her duties in accordance with rule 12, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda”. Pursuant to that rule, the Committee on Water Resources will have before it the provisional agenda and annotations in document E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/L.1. It will also have before it the proposed organization of work in document E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/L.2. The Committee shall adopt the agenda and organization of work as submitted or in amended forms.

### 4. Water in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/3)

The Committee will have a general debate on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to water on the basis of the following reports:

#### (a) The water-related Sustainable Development Goals (E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/3(Part I))

This report reviews the water-related SDG6 which aims to “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”, and its associated targets in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Particular focus is placed on the indicators, which are still under discussion, aimed to measure the implementation of SDG6.

---

\* ESCWA member States in the Arabic alphabetical order are: Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Iraq, Oman, the State of Palestine, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania and Yemen.

(b) The water-energy nexus in the Arab region  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/3(Part II))

This report reviews progress achieved in implementing projects and supporting initiatives related to the water-energy-food nexus, with focus on the capacity-building work being undertaken to support the water-energy nexus in ESCWA member States within the context of implementing the SDGs.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of these reports and participate in the debate with comments and suggestions.

5. Arab cooperation on shared water resources  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/4)

This report reviews the work conducted to promote Arab cooperation on shared water resources under the auspices of the Arab Ministerial Water Council with ESCWA support. It also reviews global instruments that aim to improve cooperation, monitoring and reporting on shared water resources and the implications these have for cooperation on shared water resources management in the Arab region.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the report and make comments and suggestions.

6. Regional cooperation for climate change adaptation in the Arab region  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/5)

This report reviews the work undertaken by ESCWA in collaboration with its partners to support the science-policy interface in the area of climate change adaptation through the generation of regional climate change assessment outputs to inform climate change adaptation in the Arab region, as well as the work of Arab climate change negotiators.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the report and make comments and suggestions.

7. Actions taken in the field of water resources since the eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/6)

The Committee will be presented with two reports:

(a) Implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its eleventh session  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/6(Part I))

This report reviews activities implemented in the field of water resources pursuant to the recommendations made by the Committee at its eleventh session (Amman, 26-27 March 2015).

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of what has been implemented and make suggestions and recommendations in that regard.

(b) Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/6(Part II))

This report reviews progress achieved in implementing water resources-related activities under the ESCWA programme of work since the eleventh session of the Committee.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of what has been implemented and make suggestions and recommendations in that regard.

8. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 in the field of water resources  
(E/ESCWA/SDPD/2017/IG.1/7)

This document presents activities and outputs proposed to be implemented by ESCWA in the biennium 2018-2019 in the field of water resources. The proposed programme of work was prepared in line with subprogramme 1, “Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development” of the revised strategic framework for the biennium 2018-2019 which was adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-ninth session (Doha, 13-15 December 2016).

Representatives of member States are invited to review the proposed programme of work in the field of water resources and provide comments and suggestions thereon.

9. Date and venue of the thirteenth session of the Committee on Water Resources

The Committee will decide the date and venue of its thirteenth session.

10. Other matters

This item shall cover any other matters that the members of the Committee may wish to discuss.

11. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Water Resources at its twelfth session

The Committee will consider the draft recommendations for discussion and adoption.

-----