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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Expert Group Meeting on Pursuing Improved Shared Water Resources Management within the Framework of Global and Regional Agreements
 Cairo, Egypt, 29-30 November 2017

AGENDA

Wednesday, 29 November 2017

8:30 – 9:00 **Registration**

The meeting will be held in Al-Hambra Hall, level -2, Intercontinental City Stars Hotel. Sponsored participants are kindly asked to bring their passport, visa stamp and airline ticket stub to the meeting.

9:00 – 9:30 **Opening Statements**

Moderator: Mr. Hammou Laamrani, Integrated Senior Expert, Department of Environment, Housing and Water Resources and Sustainable Development, League of Arab States, Egypt

- Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Lebanon
- Mr. Djamal Eldine Djaballah, Director, Department of Environment, Housing and Water Resources and Sustainable Development, League of Arab States, Egypt

Tour de Table

Review of the Agenda

- Mr. Ziad Khayat, First Economic Affairs Officer, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA, Lebanon

Discussion

9:30 – 11:00 **Session 1: Legal Instruments of International Water Law**

Moderator: Mr. Seifeldin Abdalla Hamad, Head, Technical Organ, Ministry of Water Resources and Electricity, Sudan

9:30 – 9:45 Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region: An Overview

- Mr. Ziad Khayat, ESCWA

9:45 – 10:00	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lena Salame, International Transboundary Water Expert, France
10:00 – 10:15	Discussion
10:15 – 10:30	Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Chantal Demilecamps, Environment Affairs Officer, Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Switzerland
10:30 – 10:45	Draft Articles of the Law of Transboundary Aquifers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Raya Stephan, International Transboundary Water Expert/ESCWA Consultant, France
10:45 – 11:00	Discussion
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 Session 2: The 2030 Agenda from a Shared Water Perspective

Moderator: *Mr. Dhimi Belkassem, in charge of tasks to the General Secretary, General Secretariat, State Secretariat in charge of Water, Morocco*

11:30 – 11:45	Pursuing SDG 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 in a Shared Water Resources Management Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Khaldon Khashman, Secretary-General, Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA), Jordan
11:45 – 12:00	Discussion
12:00 – 12:15	Addressing Water Scarcity (SDG 6.4) in the 2030 Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, ESCWA
12:15 – 12:30	Discussion
12:30 – 12:45	Measuring and Monitoring Transboundary Water Cooperation (SDG 6.5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Chantal Demilecamps, UNECE
12:45 – 13:00	Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch

14:00 – 15:00 Session 3: Regional Experiences in Shared Water Cooperation: Recent Developments

Moderator: *H.E. Hussein El-Atfy, Former Minister of Water and Irrigation, Egypt; Secretary General, Arab Water Council, Egypt*

14:00 – 15:15	Iraqi Perspective on Acceding to Global Conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Murtadha Al-Sudani, Researcher, Planning and Follow-up Department, International Water Studies Section, Ministry of Water Resources, Iraq
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14:15 – 14:30	Cooperation on the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Khalid AbuZeid, Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), Egypt
14:30 – 14:45	Discussion
14:45 – 15:00	Shared Water Resources Management Under Occupation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Deeb Abdelghafour, Director General, Palestinian Water Authority, State of Palestine
15:00 – 15:20	Managing Shared Water Resources in Tunisia: Surface Water and Groundwater Perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Abderrahman Ouasli, Director of Office of Planning and Water Balances, Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia • Badiia Chelli, Professor, Georesources, Water Research and Technologies Centre (CERTe)
15:20 – 15:30	Discussion
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break

15:45 – 16:45	Session 4: Improving Shared Water Cooperation for Water Security in the Arab Region
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Moderator: Mr. Ziad Khayat, ESCWA

15:45 – 16:15 Small group discussions on improving transboundary water cooperation in the Arab Region.

- Legal and institutional strengthening
- *Facilitated by Ms. Raya Stephan, France*
- Research and scientific cooperation
- *Facilitated by Mr. Hammou Laamrani, League of Arab States*
- Water-energy-food nexus in a transboundary setting
- *Facilitated by Mr. Bisher Imam, UNESCO Cairo Office*
- Shared water cooperation for water security in the regional context
- *Facilitated by Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherrane, ESCWA*

16:15 – 16:45 Reporting on Outcomes of Group Discussions

16:45 – 17:00 **Closing Remarks**

- Mr Djamel Eldine Djaballah, League of Arab States
- Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherrane, ESCWA

17:00 End of Day 1

Thursday, 30 November 2017

(Al-Gauhara Hall, level -1, Intercontinental City Stars Hotel)

Closed Meeting by Invitation Only

**Meeting of the Committee for the Draft Guidance Principles for
Shared Water Cooperation between Arab States**

- 9:00 – 10:00 **Session 1: Draft Guidance Principles for Shared Water Cooperation between Arab Countries**
- Opening Statement
 - Mr. Djamal Eldine Djaballah, Director, Department of Environment, Housing and Water Resources and Sustainable Development, League of Arab States, Egypt
 - Shared Water Cooperation Guidelines and Principles: Evolution and status
 - Mr. Hammou Laamrani, Integrated Senior Expert, Department of Environment, Housing and Water Resources, Economic Sector, League of Arab States
 - Presenting the Draft Guidance Principles for Shared Water Cooperation between Arab Countries
 - Ms. Raya Stephan, International Transboundary Water Expert/ESCWA Consultant, France
- 10:00 – 10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:30 – 13:30 **Session 2: Discussion on the Draft Guidance Principles for Shared Water Cooperation between Arab Countries**
- Facilitator: Mr. Hammou Laamrani, League of Arab States
- 13:30 – 14:30 Lunch
- 14:30 – 15:30 **Session 3: Capacity Building for Arab Countries Negotiators on Shared Water Resources**
- Facilitator: Mr. Ziad Khayat, First Economic Affairs Officer, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA
- Discussion
- 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Session 4: Moving Forward and Conclusions**
- Facilitator: Mr. Djamal Eldine Djaballah, League of Arab States
- Discussions on next steps
 - Preliminary conclusions of the Committee on the Draft Guidance Principles for Shared Water Cooperation between Arab States
- 16:30 **End of Meeting**