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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water Issues for the 2018 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High Level Political Forum
Beirut, Lebanon, 28-29 March 2018

Agenda

Wednesday, 28 March 2018

8:15 – 9:00 **Registration**

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: *Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA*

- Ms. Nada El Agizy, Director, Sustainable Development and International Cooperation Department, League of Arab States, Egypt
- Mr. Pasquale Steduto, Regional Strategic Programme Coordinator, Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO/NENA), Egypt
- Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division (SDPD), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Lebanon

2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development: Setting the stage

Review of the Agenda

Discussion

Session I Water-related monitoring and reporting at the global and regional levels

Moderator: Mr. Regab Abdelazim, Undersecretary, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt

Rapporteur: Ms. Etaf Chehade, Ecosystems Management Consultant, Ecosystems Programme, Regional Office for West Asia, UN Environment, Bahrain

9:30 – 9:50 UN-Water *SDG6 Synthesis Report: Key findings*

- *Mr. Stefan Uhlenbrook, Coordinator and Director, United Nations World Water Assessment Program (WWAP), United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Italy; Coordinator of UN-Water Task Force on the SDG6 Synthesis Report on Water and Sanitation*

9:50 – 10:05	<p>Arab Snapshot of Water Supply and Sanitation from the WHO/UNICEF <i>Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene (JMP): 2017 Update and SDG Baselines</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Hamed Bakir, Coordinator, Environmental Health Interventions, Regional Centre for Environmental Health Activities, World Health Organization (WHO/CEHA), Jordan</i>
10:05 – 10:20	Discussion
10:20 – 10:30	<p>Lesson learned from preparing the MDG+ Initiative Reports, with focus on regional indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, ESCWA</i> • <i>Mr. Emad Adly, General Coordinator, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), Egypt</i>
10:30 – 10:40	<p>Lesson learned from preparing the Arab State of the Water Report, with a focus on regional concerns related to certain indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>H.E. Mr. Hussein Al-Atfy, Secretary General, Arab Water Council, Egypt</i> • <i>Mr. Khaled AbuZeid, Regional Water Resources Programme Manager, Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), Egypt</i>
10:40 – 11:00	Discussion
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break

Session II	National perspectives on water-related monitoring in Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development strategies and plans
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Moderator:	Mr. Tawfeeq Al-Sharjabi, Deputy Minister, Water Sector, Ministry of Water and Environment, Yemen
Rapporteur:	Mr. Ziad Khayat, First Economic Affairs Officer, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA
11:30 – 11:50	<p>VNR Experiences of Jordan and Morocco from HLPF 2017 and HLPF 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Basim Hasan, Strategic Planning Specialist, Department of Policies and Strategic Planning, Jordan</i> • <i>Mr. Belkasssem Dhimi, Responsible for Support to the Secretary of State, Secretariat of State responsible for Water, Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, Morocco (tbc)</i> <p>Discussion</p>
11:50 – 12:30	<p>VNR Preparations and Processes for 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Regab Abdelazim, Undersecretary, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt</i> • <i>Ms. Ola Sidani, Economic Officer/SDG Focal Point, Economic Team of the Prime Minister, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Lebanon</i> • <i>Ms. Rihab Yasin, Director, Strategic Planning Directorate, Palestinian Water Authority, State of Palestine</i> <p>Discussion</p>

12:30 – 13:00	Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda into National Development Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interventions from Arab Member States • Interventions from Civil Society Discussion
13:00 – 13:15	Group Photo
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch Break

Session III	Setting the Stage for the Working Groups
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Moderator:	Mr. Mohammad Al-Hmaid, Chief Executive Officer, Palestine Water Sector Regulatory Council, State of Palestine
Rapporteur:	Ms. Dima Kharbotli, Research Assistant, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA
14:15 – 14:30	Strengthening integrated water resources management (IWRM) under current and projected conditions of water stress and scarcity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Pasquale Steduto, FAO/NENA</i>, including highlights for discussion from the draft Working Paper on the Human Face of Water Scarcity (SDG 6.4.3)
14:30 – 14:45	Discussion
14:45 – 14:55	Enhancing cooperation on shared water resources management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Bisher Imam, Senior Programme Specialist, Regional Bureau for Science for the Arab States, UNESCO, Egypt</i>
14:55 – 15:05	Adapting to climate change and reducing the risk of exposure to natural disasters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Ihab Jnad, Director, Water Resources Department, Arab Center for the Studies of Arid and Drylands (ACSAD), League of Arab States, Syrian Arab Republic</i>
15:05 – 15:15	Discussion
15:15 – 15:30	Improving water-related infrastructure and services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Omar El Hattab, Regional Advisor, Middle East and North Africa Office, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Jordan</i>
15:30 – 15:40	Means of Implementation: Cross-cutting Instruments and Interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Kamel Amer, Head of the Middle Region Office, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), Egypt</i>
15:40 – 15:50	Discussion
15:50 – 16:00	Instructions for Working Group Discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, ESCWA</i>
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:30 Working Group Discussions

Group 1 Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Scarcity
Moderator: *Ms. Maya Mhanna, Head, Rural Projects and Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon*

Rapporteurs:

- *Mr. Pasquale Steduto, FAO/NENA*
- *Mr. Mohamed Abdel Moneem, Senior Advisor, FAO/NENA*
- *Ms. Mary Therese Snyder, Intern, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA*

Group 2 Shared Water Resources Management
Moderator: *Mr. Jamal Mohsin Ali, General Manager, Directorate of Planning and Follow-up, Ministry of Water Resources, Iraq*

Rapporteurs:

- *Mr. Bisher Imam, UNESCO*
- *Mr. Khaled AbuZeid, CEDARE*

Group 3 Climate Change and Natural Disasters
Moderator: *Mr. Nadim Farajalla, Program Director, Climate Change and the Environment, Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut*

Rapporteurs:

- *Mr. Ihab Jnad, ACSAD*
- *Ms. Joelle Comair, Water Expert, UN-LAS Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources and Socio-Economic Vulnerability in the Arab Region (RICCAR), Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA*

Group 4 Water Infrastructure and Services
Moderators: *Mr. Kassim Al Jabri, Senior Manager Project Support, Public Authority for Electricity and Water, Oman*

Rapporteurs:

- *Mr. Omar El Hattab, UNICEF*
- *Ms. Dima Kharbotli, ESCWA*

17:30 End of Day 1

Thursday, 29 March 2018

Session IV Water Security in the Arab Regional Context

Moderator: *Mr. Mahmoud Doro, Member of Board and Development Director, General Company of Water and Wastewater (GCWW), Ministry of Water Resources, Libya*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Mohamed Abdel Moneem, Senior Advisor, FAO/NENA*

9:00 – 9:15 Arab Water Security Strategy for Sustainable Development 2010-2030 and Action Plan

- *Mr. Ihab Jnad, ACSAD*

9:15 – 9:30 Conceptual framework for understanding water security in the Arab Region

- *Mr. Ziad Khayat, ESCWA*

9:30 – 9:45 Discussion

Session V Reporting Back by Working Groups

Moderator:	Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, ESCWA
Rapporteur:	Ms. Souraya Zein, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA
9:45 – 10:15	IWRM and Water Scarcity Presentation on priorities and means of implementation by Group 1 Discussion
10:15 – 10:45	Shared Water Resources Management Presentation on priorities and means of implementation by Group 2 Discussion
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 – 11:45	Climate Change and Natural Disasters Presentation on priorities and means of implementation by Group 3 Discussion
11:45 – 12:15	Water Infrastructure and Services Presentation on priorities and means of implementation by Group 4 Discussion
12:15 – 12:30	Revisiting Water Security in the Arab Context
12:30 – 13:00	Discussion of Key Messages
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch

Session VI Review of the Revised Draft Outcome Document

Moderator:	Ms. Roula Majdalani, ESCWA
14:00 – 15:00	Review of Revised Outcome Document <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of Regional Priorities• Discussion of Means and Implementation• Discussion of Key Messages
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee Break

Session VII Closing Session

Moderator:	Mr. Pasquale Steduto, FAO
15:30 – 15:45	Presentation of the final Outcome Document <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, ESCWA
15:45 – 16:00	Final Comments

16:00 – 16:15	Discussion of Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Roula Majdalani, ESCWA
16:15 – 16:30	Discussion
16:30 – 16:45	Closing statements <ul style="list-style-type: none">• League of Arab States• FAO• ESCWA
16:45	End of meeting
