



Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2014/WG.1/L.1
28 March 2014
ORIGINAL: ARABIC



UN-DESA

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Arab High Level Forum on Sustainable Development

2-4 April 2014

Kempinski Hotel, Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

ANNOTATED PROGRAM

DAY 1: Wednesday 2 April 2014	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Director and Regional Representative, United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for West Asia - Mr. Djamel Eddine Djaballah, Director of Environment, Housing, Water Resources and Sustainable Development, League of Arab States - Mr. Nadim Khouri, Deputy Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia - H.E. Mr. Taher Al Shakhshir, Minister of Environment, Deputy President of the Supreme National Committee on Sustainable Development, Jordan <p><u>Keynote Address</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.R.H. Prince Hassan bin Talal, Chairman of the United Nation’s Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation
10:30 – 11:00	Morning tea/coffee break
11:00 – 11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is Arab Development Unsustainable? <i>Mr. Omar Razzaz, Chair of the Board of Trustees, King Abdullah II Fund for Development</i>
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Session 1: Overview of Post-2015 and SDG Processes at the Global and Regional Levels The session will brief participants on progress of the global post-2015 and SDG processes and expected next steps. Key messages emanating from regional consultation processes will also be presented. Discussions will aim to gather the views of participants regarding the envisioned role of the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development as a mechanism for promoting an integrated and balanced approach to the three dimensions of sustainable development at the regional level and providing regional perspectives to the global agenda of the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development and Productivity Division, ESCWA <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Development and Post-2015 Agenda: Global Context and Regional Aspirations <i>Mr. Amr Nour, Director, Regional Commissions New York Office</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AFSD and LAS: Views on Way Forward <i>Mr. Djamel Eddine Djaballah, Director of Environment, Housing, Water Resources and Sustainable Development, League of Arab States</i> • Perspectives on the AFSD: Challenges and Opportunities <i>Ms. Reem Nejdawi, Chief, Food and Environment Policies Section, SDPD, ESCWA</i> <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 15:00	<p>Lunch, networking and side event Side event: Major Groups Workshop</p>
15:00 – 18:00 (including afternoon tea/coffee break)	<p><u>Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 2014 Annual Ministerial Review of the Economic and Social Council</u></p> <p>Session 2: Addressing On-going and Emerging Challenges for Meeting the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and for Sustaining Development Gains in the Future The session will support regional preparations for the 2014 Annual Ministerial Review, which is being held under the theme indicated in the session title. Presentations will: a) summarize MDG progress in the Arab region as well as progress made at the global level in implementing the compact of commitments as embodied in MDG8; b) provide a perspective on the future role of the League of Arab States in supporting a new post-2015 agenda, stemming from the League’s previous MDG experience; c) highlight what challenges Arab countries will face in meeting the MDGs and sustaining gains in the future in a time of conflict and cultural upheavals. A high-level panel of member country representatives will reflect on ideas presented and highlight key messages emanating from their national experiences. Discussion will be focused on a set of recommendations to be conveyed to the global 2014 AMR.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Nadim Khouri, Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCWA <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of ECOSOC in Linking Actions at the Global, Regional and Local Levels <i>Mr. Navid Hanif, Director, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)</i> • Perspective on the Future Role of LAS in Relation to the Post-2015 Agenda <i>Mr. Tarek Nabulsi, Head of Cooperation and Follow-up Unit, Technical Secretariat of the Arab Ministerial Social Council, LAS</i> • Arab Regional Progress on the MDGs <i>Mr. Niranjana Sarangi, First Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development and Globalization Division, ESCWA</i> • MDGs in the Arab Region in a Time of Change: Sustaining Gains in the Future <i>Mr. Adib Nehmeh, Regional Advisor on Governance and National Dialogue, Emerging and Conflict Related Issues Division, ESCWA</i> <p><u>Member country reflections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Ameer Dawood, Director, Social Services Department, Directorate of Social Sector Planning, Ministry of Planning and Administrative Development, Palestine</i> • <i>Ms. Mariana Al-Khayat, Head, Department of Public Relations and Conferences, Ministry of Social Affairs, Lebanon</i> <p><u>Major group reflections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Civil society representative from the region</i> <p>Discussion</p>
18:00	Close Day 1

DAY 2: Thursday 3 April 2014

9:00 – 9:15	Chair – Opening of Day 2
9:15 – 9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Arab Youth ... a catalyst for sustainable development in the region <i>Mr. Ahmad Al-Hendawi, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth</i>
9:30 – 13:00 (including morning tea/coffee break)	<p>Session 3: Sustainable Development Goals that Support Arab Regional Priorities</p> <p>The session will present a proposal for a set of SDGs that work for the Arab region based on the background paper prepared by ESCWA. The proposal reflects on the regional context and the key principles, priorities and transformational changes needed to achieve sustainable development, provides a critical review of goals proposed by the global community in terms of suitability for the Arab region, and comes out with a set of goals and targets that the region needs to push forward by Arab negotiators in the coming period. Member country representatives will supplement the presented proposal with views based on their involvement so far in the Open Working Group on SDGs. In the discussions, participants will be invited to provide comments to be incorporated by ESCWA in a revised proposal to be disseminated to the member countries.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Director and Regional Representative, UNEP/ROWA <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Arab SDG Proposal <i>Ms. Reem Nejdawi, SDPD and Mr. Niranjan Sarangi, EDGD, ESCWA</i> • Integrating the Three Dimensions of Sustainable Development - How to Achieve a Balanced, Ambitious and Inclusive Framework <i>Ms. Melanie Hutchinson, Programme Officer, UNEP/ROWA</i> <p><u>Member country reflections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Omar Abou Eish, Deputy Assistant Minister for International Cooperation for Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Egypt</i> • <i>Mr. Elyes Lakhal, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations</i> <p><u>Major group reflections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Barbara Adams, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Policy Forum</i> • <i>Civil society representative from the region</i> <p>Discussion</p>
13:00 – 15:00	<p>Lunch, networking and side event</p> <p>Side event: UNIDO Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development</p>
15:00 – 18:00 (including afternoon tea/coffee break)	<p>Session 4: Proposal for an Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development</p> <p>The session will present a draft version of an Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development prepared by ESCWA in cooperation with UNEP and LAS (Department of Environment, Housing, Water Resources and Sustainable Development) at the request of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE). The Framework represents an update to the Sustainable Development Initiative in the Arab Region (SDIAR) and reflects ongoing and emerging challenges and opportunities for the Arab region. The session will also discuss the proposed structure of a Green Economy Investment Roadmap for the Arab Region, which is considered as the operational arm of the Strategic Framework. This will be supported by experiences from Arab countries and other regions that have linked green economy to their national sustainable development agendas. The views of participants on the Framework and the Roadmap will be collected and incorporated into the revised versions to be submitted for the consideration of CAMRE at their next session.</p>

	<p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Abdullah Al-Marwani, Deputy Assistant for Planning, Ministry of Economy and Planning, Saudi Arabia <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sustainable Development Initiative in the Arab Region: Lessons learned <i>Ms. Shahira Wahbi, Chief, Sustainable Development & International Cooperation, Environment, Housing, Water Resources and Sustainable Development Department, LAS</i> Proposed Arab Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development <i>Mr. Ibrahim Abdel Gelil Abdalla, Professor, Academic Chair, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan for Energy and Environment, Arabian Gulf University</i> Proposed Framework for a Green Economy Investment Roadmap for the Arab Region <i>Ms. Jana El-Baba, Food and Environment Policies Section, Sustainable Development and Productivity Division, ESCWA</i> Experiences from other Regions in Advancing Green Economy <i>Ms. Meriem Ait Ali Slimane, Programme Officer, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, UNEP Geneva</i> <p><u>Member country experiences:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Mr. Raouf Dabbas, Advisor to the Minister of Environment, Jordan</i> <p><u>Major group reflections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Civil society representative from the region</i> <p>Discussion</p>
17:30	Close Day 2

DAY 3: 4 April 2014	
9.00 – 9.15	Chair – Opening of Day 3
9:15 – 11:00	<p>Session 5: Means of Implementation</p> <p>The session will reflect on the means of implementation that are needed to support the implementation of the new sustainable development agenda in the Arab region. In particular, panelists will address capacity-building, technology and partnership gaps, providing examples from selected sectors where transformational changes have been achieved. Discussions will address domestic and regional resources that could be mobilized, and the enabling environment needed, to bridge the persistent divide in knowledge, capacity and technology.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Mokhallad Al-Omari, Director, Policies and Strategies Department, Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing the Technology Gap in the Arab Region <i>Mr. Haidar Fraihat, Director, Information and Communication Technology Division, ESCWA</i> Research and Development in the Agriculture Sector as a Springboard for Sustainable Development in the Arab Region <i>Mr. Halim Ben Haj Salah, Regional Coordinator for West Asia, ICARDA</i> Water-Food-Energy Nexus <i>Mr. Waleed Zubari, Director, Water Resources Management Program, Arabian Gulf University</i> <p>Discussion</p>

11:00 – 11:15	Morning tea/Coffee Break
11:15 – 12:30	<p>Closing Session: Discussion of the AFSD Outcomes and Next Steps</p> <p>The session will present key messages emanating from the Forum’s discussions and highlight next steps that will be undertaken in respect of the items discussed on the Forum agenda. Closing statements by Forum partners will follow.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Djamel Eddine Djaballah, Director of Environment, Housing, Water Resources and Sustainable Development, League of Arab States <p><u>Presentations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal on functions and organizational aspects of the AFSD • Key AFSD outcomes <p><u>Closing statements:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing statement by UNEP – Mr. Iyad Abumoghli, Director and Regional Representative, Regional Office for West Asia • Closing statement by ESCWA - Mr. Nadim Khouri, Deputy Executive Secretary • Closing statement by Jordan - H.E. Mr. Taher Al Shakhshir, Minister of Environment
12:30	Close of the meeting