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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Intergovernmental Consultative Meeting on the
Draft Legal Framework for Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region
Beirut, 24-26 May 2011

AGENDA

Tuesday, 24 May 2011

9:00-9:30 Registration at MZ Conference Room, United Nations House, Riad Al-Solh

OPENING SESSION

Moderator: *Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development and Productivity Division (SDPD), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)*

9:30-10:00 Opening Statements

- *Mr. Walid Sukkar, Advisor, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan on behalf of the Minister of Water and Irrigation, Chair of the Arab Ministerial Water Council*
- *Mr. Hans-Joachim Kümpel, President, Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe (BGR) {Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources}, Germany*
- *Ms. Chahra Ksia, Chief, Center for Water Studies and Arab Water Security, League of Arab States, Syrian Arab Republic*
- *Ms. Anhar Hegazi, Deputy Executive Secretary, a.i., ESCWA*

10:00-10:30 Tour de table of Government Representatives

10:30-10:45 Review of the objectives, programme of work and rules of procedure of the meeting
Formation of Drafting Committee
Election of the Secretary of the Drafting Committee
Facilitated by the Moderator

10:45-11:15 Coffee Break

Tuesday, 24 May 2011 (continued)

SESSION I: SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Moderator:	<i>Ms. Franca Schwarz, Head of Sub-Department 4.1, International Cooperation, BGR</i>
11:15 – 11:25	Rationale and Regional Specificities for Justifying the Preparation of a Legal Framework for Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region <i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, SDPD, ESCWA</i>
11:25 – 11:35	Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region: An illustrative overview <i>Mr. Andreas Renck, Coordinator, ESCWA-BGR Cooperation;</i> <i>Mr. Yusuf Al-Mooji, Senior Water Expert, ESCWA-BGR Cooperation</i>
11:35 – 11:45	Challenges facing Shared Water Resources in the Arab Region <i>Mr. Abdullallah Droubi, Director, Water Resources Section, ACSAD</i>
11:45 – 12:00	Discussion
12:00 – 12:10	Proposal that the Structure of the Draft Legal Framework be based on the Principle that Form should follow Function <i>Ms. Chahra Ksia, Chief, Center for Water Studies and Arab Water Security, LAS</i>
12:10 – 12:20	Proposed Scope of the Draft Legal Framework <i>Mr. Mohamed Al-Hamdi, First Economic Affairs Officer, WRS/SDPD, ESCWA</i>
12:20 – 12:30	Definitions and Technical Terminology for informing the Preparation of the Draft Legal Framework <i>Mr. Tarek Majoub, Water Law Expert, Lebanon</i>
12:30 – 13:15	Discussion
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch Hosted by BGR

SESSION II: DISCUSSION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES – CLUSTER A

Moderator:	<i>Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, SDPD</i>
14:15 – 14:30	Review of the General Principles related to Cooperation <i>Mr. Mohamed Al-Hamdi, First Economic Affairs Officer, WRS/SDPD, ESCWA</i>
14:30 – 15:30	Discussion of the Principles related to Cooperation in Good Faith and Exchange of Data and Information
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:45	Discussion of the Principles related to Prior Notification of Planned Measures, Emergency situations and Peaceful Resolution of Disputes
16:45 – 17:00	Review of the Discussion Outcomes <i>By the Secretary of the Drafting Committee</i>
17:00	Close of Official Session
17:00 – 18:00	Drafting Committee Working Session

Wednesday, 25 May 2011

SESSION III: DISCUSSION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES - CLUSTER B

Moderator:	<i>Mr. Hassan Charif, Expert, National Council for Scientific Research, Lebanon</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Review of the No Significant Harm Principle <i>Mr. Mohamed Al-Hamdi, First Economic Affairs Officer, WRS/SDPD, ESCWA</i>
9:45 – 10:45	Discussion of the No Significant Harm Principle
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:15	Review of the Principle related to Equitable and Reasonable Utilization <i>Mr. Mohamed Al-Hamdi, First Economic Affairs Officer, WRS/SDPD, ESCWA</i>
11:15 – 12:15	Discussion of the Principle of Equitable and Reasonable Utilization
12:15 – 12:30	Review of the Principle of Environmental Protection <i>Mr. Tarek Sadek, First Economic Affairs Officer, SDPD, ESCWA</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Discussion of the Principle of Environmental Protection
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Hosted by BGR

SESSION IV: FORM AND FUNCTION OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Moderator:	<i>Ms. Chahra Ksai, Chief, LAS Center for Water Studies and Arab Water Security</i>
14:00 – 14:15	Typology of legal frameworks under the League of Arab States <i>Ms. Najet Basha, Jurist and Legal Expert, Tunisia</i>
14:15 – 14:30	Review of Articles on Institutional Arrangements <i>Mr. Tarek Majoub, Water Law Expert, Lebanon</i>
14:30– 15:00	Discussion
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee Break
15:15 – 15:30	Review of the Final Clauses <i>Mr. Tarek Majzoub, Water Law Expert, Lebanon</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Discussion of the Final Clauses
16:00 – 16:15	Review of the Discussion Outcomes <i>By the Secretary of the Drafting Committee</i>
16:15	Close of Official Session
16:30 – 18:00	Drafting Committee Working Session
20:00	Departure by Bus from the Golden Tulip Serenada Hotel (Hamra) to Restaurant
20:30 – 22:30	Dinner hosted by BGR
22:30	Return by Bus from Restaurant to Golden Tulip Serenada Hotel (Hamra)

Thursday, 26 May 2011

SESSION V:	REVIEW OF THE DRAFT LEGAL FRAMEWORK
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Moderator:	<i>Mr. Walid Sukkar, Ministry of Irrigation and Water, Jordan on behalf of the Chair of the Arab Ministerial Water Council</i>
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9:30 – 11:30	Reading of the Draft Legal Framework – <i>by the Secretary of the Drafting Committee</i>
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11:30 – 11:45	Coffee Break
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CLOSING SESSION

Moderator:	<i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, WRS/SDPD, ESCWA</i>
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11:45 – 12:30	Discussion of Recommendations and Next Steps
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12:30 – 13:00	Closing Statements
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- *Mr. Walid Sukkar, Ministry of Irrigation and Water, Jordan on behalf of Chair of the Arab Ministerial Water Council*
- *Mr. Andreas Renck, Coordinator, ESCWA-BGR Cooperation*
- *Ms. Chahra Ksia, Chief, LAS Center for Water Studies and Arab Water Security*
- *Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, SDPD, ESCWA*

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch hosted by BGR
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