

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

Committee on Water Resources
Eleventh session
Amman, 26-27 March 2015

Information note*1. Background*

The Committee on Water Resources was established pursuant to Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) resolution 205 (XVIII) of 25 May 1995, which was endorsed by Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/26 of 24 July 1995. The decision to establish the Committee on Water Resources took into account the importance of the participation of ESCWA member States in the planning, development and monitoring of the ESCWA programme of work in the field of water resources. The Committee held its first session in Amman in 1997, the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth sessions in Beirut in 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002 and 2004 respectively, the seventh session in Muscat in 2007, the eighth, ninth and tenth sessions in Beirut in 2008, 2011 and 2013.

2. Objectives

The eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources will provide ESCWA member States with an intergovernmental forum to discuss the challenges and obstacles facing the region in the area of integrated water resources management; regional approaches for addressing water supply and sanitation; climate change and shared water resources management; the water-energy-food nexus; and preparations for the post-2015 development agenda. Given that the topic “Water and Sustainable Development” was declared by UN-Water as the theme for 2015 World Water Day, the theme of the eleventh session of the Committee shall be “Water for Sustainable Development”.

Representatives of ESCWA member States participating in the current session will discuss issues related to monitoring and reporting on water supply and sanitation, strengthening the assessment of climate change on water resources, managing shared water resources, the water-energy-food nexus in the Arab region and the post-2015 development agenda. They will also review progress achieved in implementing the recommendations made by the Committee at its tenth session and work undertaken by ESCWA in the field of water resources under its programme of work since that session, in addition to the ESCWA programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017.

3. Agenda

The provisional agenda for the current session includes items and annotations related to the above-mentioned issues, and will be presented to the session in document E/ESCWA/SDPD/2015/IG.2/L.1.

4. *Participants*

Representatives of ESCWA member States will participate in the session. Relevant international and regional organizations and institutions and civil society organizations are also invited to attend the session as observers. Participating Governments shall be responsible for the travel and accommodation expenses of their representatives, in accordance with United Nations practice, which also applies to participating organizations.

5. *Date and venue*

The eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources will be held at Kempinski Hotel in Amman on 26 and 27 March 2015. Registration will commence at 9 a.m. on Thursday, 26 March 2015 and the opening session will convene at 9:30 a.m. on the same day. Session meetings will conclude at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 27 March 2015.

6. *Language of the session*

Session proceedings will be in Arabic. English may be used to present some papers. Simultaneous interpretation from and into Arabic and English will be provided.

7. *Accommodation and transportation*

Kempinski Hotel in Amman is offering preferential rates to participants. Participants should provide the ESCWA secretariat with details regarding their travel, including airline, flight number and date and time of arrival and departure, in order to enable the secretariat to make the necessary arrangements for room reservation and airport pick-up with the hotel management.

The hotel address is the following:

Kempinski Hotel
Abdul Hamid Shouman Street
Shmeisani, 941045 Amman 11194
Tel. /Fax: 962 6 5200200
E-mail: reservations.amman@kempinski.com

8. *Entry visas*

Participants may apply for an entry visa to Jordan through the Jordanian Embassy in their respective countries.

9. *Correspondence*

All session-related correspondence should be sent to the following ESCWA officials:

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