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Expert Group Meeting on the "Development of a Harmonized Environmental Assessment in the ESCWA Region and a Thematic Round Table on Regional Preparation for the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development", UN-House, 9-13 April 2001.

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Monday, 9 April 2001

08:30 – 10:00 Registration
10:00 – 11:00 Opening Session

Opening Statements

- Chief, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment Division
Mr. Omar Touqan
- Regional Director /UNEP-ROWA
Mr. Mahmood Abdulraheem
- Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environment, Technical Secretariat (CAMRE)
Mrs. Fatma El-Mallah
- Division for Sustainable Development/DESA
Mr. Rod Holesgrove
- Executive Secretary of ESCWA
Mrs. Mervat Tallawy
- H.E. Minister of Environment
Dr. Michel Moussa

11:00 – 11:30 Break

Thematic Round Table on "Regional Preparations for the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development"

I. First Session (Achievements and Obstacles)

Chairpersons: - Mr. Mahmood Abdulraheem
- Mr. Omar Touqan

11:30 – 11:45 Introductory Statement: Mr. Rod Holesgrove (DESA)

1. **Socio-Economic Aspects**: 2 speakers

11:45 – 12:00 Economic Aspects of Sustainable Development in the ESCWA Region
(Mr. Zeki Fattah – ESCWA – not confirmed)

12:00 – 12:15 Social Aspects of Sustainable Development in the ESCWA Region
(Ms. Fatma Kassem – ESCWA – confirmed)

12:15 – 12:30 Discussions

2. **Environmental Management–Governance**: 2 speakers

12:30 – 12:45 Governance for Sustainable Development in the ESCWA Region
(Mr. Hosny Khordagui – ESCWA – Confirmed)

12:45 – 13:00 The Road from Environmental Protection to Sustainable Development
A Case Study of Governance in the Arab Region
(Mr. Osama El-Kholy – UNEP/ROWA – confirmed)

13:00 – 13:15 Discussions

3. **Water Supply and Management**: 2 speakers

13:15 – 13:30 Mr. Mohamed Abdulrazzak (ESCWA – confirmed)

13:30 – 13:45 Mr. Hamed Bakeer (WHO – confirmed)

13:45 – 14:00 Discussions

4. **Energy, Industry and Waste Management**: 2 speakers

14:00 – 14:15 Ms. Anhar Hegazi (ESCWA – confirmed)

14:15 – 14:30 Mr. Ghasemzadeh (OPEC)

14:30 – 14:45 Discussions

14:45 – 15:15 Break

5. **Land Degradation**: 2 speakers

15:15 – 15:30 UNEP/ROWA

15:30 – 15:45 UNEP/ROWA

15:45 – 16:00 Discussions

6. **Marine Environment**: 2 speakers

16:00 – 16:15 Mr. Hratch Kouyoumjian (UNEP/ROWA)

16:15 – 16:30 Ms. Naheda Al-Majed (UNEP/ROWA)

16:30 – 16:45 Discussions

7. **Trade and Environment**: One speaker

16:45 – 17:00 Ms. Christine Fakhoury (ESCWA – confirmed)

17:00 – 17:15 Discussions

Tuesday 10 April 2001

II. Second Session (National, Subregional and Regional Initiatives to Respond to Regional Problems).

Chairpersons: - Mr. Youssef Abu-Safieh
- Mr. Akram Chehayeb

08:00 – 12:00 Roundtable discussions for elaborating on actions, initiatives, innovative approaches, challenges and opportunities at the national, regional and international levels.

12:00 – 12:30 Break

III. Third Session (Global Initiatives)

Chairpersons: - Mr. Samir Makdessi
- Mrs. Fatma El-Mallah

12:30 – 16:30 Discussing initiatives, innovative approaches and opportunities at the Global level.

Wednesday 11 April 2001

IV. Fourth Session (Consideration of Report of Round Table)

Chairpersons: - Mr. Rod Holesgrove
- Mr. Sherif Arif

08:00 – 11:00 Discussion of report

IV. Fifth Session (Closing Session)

Chairpersons: - Mr. Hisham Al-Khatib
- Mr. Nabil Alaa El-Din

11:00 – 12:00 Adoption of recommendations

12:00 – 12:30 Break

“Expert Group Meeting on the Development of Harmonized Environmental Impact Assessment in the ESCWA Region”

VI. First Session

Chairpersons: - Mr. Omar Touqan
- Mr. Habib El-Habr

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|---------------|---|
| 12:30 – 13:00 | Evaluation of EIA policies in ESCWA Member Countries.
(Mr. Hosny Khordagui – ESCWA - confirmed) |
| 13:00 – 13:30 | Discussion |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | Development of Guidelines for a Harmonized EIA Suitable for the ESCWA Region
(Ms. El-Sayeda Moustafa – ESCWA – confirmed) |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Discussions |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | European Experience in Developing the Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context.
(Mr. Branko Bosnjakovic, Regional Adviser on Environment, ECE - confirmed) |
| 15:00 – 15:30 | Discussions |

Thursday 12 April 2001

I. Second Session (Presentations by Regional Arab and International Organizations)

Chairpersons: - Mr. Hussein Guneid
- Mr. Emad Adly

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| 08:00 – 08:20 | “Impact Assessment on Land Degradation and Biodiversity in West Asia”:
Mr. Jan Valkoun (GRU/ICARDA, confirmed) |
| 08:20 – 08:40 | Discussions |
| 08:40 – 09:00 | Status of Land Degradation in Western Asia Arab Countries and Measures Taken to Combat it Since Rio Conference
Mr. Gilani Abdelgawad (SWUD/ACSAD, confirmed) |
| 09:00 – 09:20 | Discussions |
| 09:20 – 09:40 | Water Specialist
Mr. Ahmed Wagdy (CEDARE) |

09:40 – 10:00 Discussion

10:00 – 10:30 Break

II. Third Session (Presentations by Member States)

Chairpersons: - Mr. Hisham Al-Khatib
- Mr. Ahmed Abul-Azm

10:30 – 10:45 Country Paper of Iraq
Mr. Sami Mati Polous

10:45 – 11:00 Country Paper of Jordan
Mr. Ahmad Al-Qatarneh

11:00 – 11:15 Country Paper of UAE
Mr. Waiel Basil Mustafa

11:15 – 11:30 Country Paper of Palestine to be confirmed

11:30 – 12:00 Discussions

12:00 – 12:15 Country Paper of Qatar:
Mr. Abdul Hadi Nasser Al-Marri

12:15 – 12:30 Country Paper of Syrian Arab Republic
Mr. Fouad El-O'k

12:30 – 12:45 Country Paper of Saudi Arabia
Mr. Taha Alghazi

12:45 – 13:00 Country Paper of Arab Republic of Egypt
Mr. Ahmed Abul-Azm

13:00 – 13:15 Country Paper of Sultanate of Oman
Mr. Ahmed bin Abdullah Mahroos

13:15 – 13:30 Country Paper of Yemen
Mr. Hussein Guneid

13:30 – 13:45 Country Paper of Lebanon
Mr. Ramez Kayyal

13:45 – 14:45 Discussions

Friday 13 April

III. Session Four

Round Table on Harmonization of EIA Policies in ESCWA Member Countries

Chairperson: - Mr. Omar Touqan
- Mr. Hosny Khordagui
- Mr. Sami Polous

08:30 – 10:30 Round Table Discussions

11:00 – 11:30 Conclusion and Approval of General Recommendations.