

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

Committee on Water Resources
Thirteenth session
Beirut, 27-28 June 2019



Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Water in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

4. Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals in national development plans.
5. Progress towards achieving the water-related Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab region.
6. Energy-water-food nexus in the Arab region.
7. Round-table discussion: Water in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Regional cooperation on climate change in the Arab region

8. Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies: an integrated approach to climate change.
9. Linkages between climate change and disaster risk reduction in the Arab region.

Progress achieved since the twelfth session of the Committee

10. Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee on Water Resources at its twelfth session.
11. Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work.

Programmatic issues

12. Proposed programme plan for 2020 in the area of integrated natural resource management for sustainable development.
13. Date and venue of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Water Resources.

14. Other matters.
15. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Water Resources at its thirteenth session.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session

The thirteenth session of the Committee on Water Resources will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, 27 June 2019 at the United Nations House in Beirut. The representative of the Sudan, the country that chaired the twelfth session of the Committee on Water Resources, will make a welcome statement. The representative of the ESCWA secretariat will deliver the inaugural address.

2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia states: “Member States shall chair the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations.* Unless the Commission decides otherwise, those bodies shall elect all their other officers”. Pursuant to that rule, Sultanate of Oman, shall chair the thirteenth session of the Committee on Water Resources, succeeding the Sudan, which chaired the twelfth session.

The Committee shall elect two vice-chairs and a rapporteur among the representatives of member States. Based on established practice, the vice-chairs shall be the representative of the country that chaired the previous session and the representative of the country that will chair the subsequent session of the Committee, according to the Arabic alphabetical rotation. The rapporteur shall be the representative of the country next in the alphabetical order to the country of the second vice-chair. Accordingly, the representatives of the Sudan and State of Palestine shall be the vice-chairs and the representative of Qatar shall be the rapporteur.

3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which apply to subsidiary bodies, states: “At the beginning of each session, once the Chair has assumed his/her duties in accordance with rule 12, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda”. Pursuant to that rule, the Committee on Water Resources will have before it the provisional agenda and annotations in document E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/L.1. It will also have before it the proposed organization of work in document E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/L.2. The Committee shall adopt the agenda and organization of work as submitted or in amended forms.

Water in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

4. Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals in national development plans (E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/3-E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/10)

The document presents progress in integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in national plans and programmes, major challenges that were overcome during implementation, and the next steps.

The Committee is invited to review progress at the national level and make comments and recommendations thereon.

* ESCWA member States in the Arabic alphabetical order are: Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Iraq, Oman, the State of Palestine, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania and Yemen.

5. Progress towards achieving the water-related Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/4)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the Arab region's progress in implementing SDG 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and its related targets, based on the results of relevant indicators.

The Committee is invited to take note of progress achieved, and to discuss key challenges facing the implementation of SDG 6 at the regional level.

6. Energy-water-food nexus in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/5-E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/12)

Under this item, the Committee will consider existing initiatives under the energy-water-food nexus, and capacity-building activities undertaken by the secretariat to support those initiatives in member States to implement related SDGs. The Committee will also consider collaboration with the League of Arab States in this field.

The Committee is invited to provide guidance on applying the energy-water-food nexus in relevant ministries, and to make comments and recommendations thereon.

7. Round-table discussion: Water in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Committee is invited to make interventions on progress in implementing SDG6 and on the integration of SDG 6 targets in national plans and programmes utilizing an energy-water-food nexus approach.

Regional cooperation on climate change in the Arab region

8. Arab Centre for Climate Change Policies: an integrated approach to climate change
(E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/6-E/ESCWA/C.3/2019/9)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the work of the Arab Centre for Climate Change, which was established pursuant to resolution 329 (XXX) adopted by ESCWA at its thirtieth session (Beirut, 25-28 June 2019).

The Committee is invited to provide proposals and recommendations on strengthening member States' participation in the Centre's work and on ways to support it.

9. Linkages between climate change and disaster risk reduction in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/7)

Under this item, the Committee will consider work undertaken by ESCWA, in collaboration with its partners, under global action plans to support consistency and integration in addressing climate change and disaster risk reduction. The aim is to strengthen regional cooperation in that regard, promote the link between science and public policy, and support monitoring and reporting.

The Committee is invited to take note of current work and to make proposals on the way forward.

Progress achieved since the twelfth session of the Committee

10. Implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee on Water Resources at its twelfth session (E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/8)

Under this item, the Committee will consider completed activities in the field of water resources, pursuant to recommendations made by the Committee at its twelfth session (Amman, 22-24 March 2017).

The Committee is invited to take note of the implemented activities and comment thereon.

11. Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work (E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/9)

Under this item, the Committee will consider progress in implementing activities related to water resources, since its twelfth session.

The Committee is invited to take note of the implemented activities and comment thereon.

Programmatic issues

12. Proposed programme plan for 2020 in the area of integrated natural resource management for sustainable development (E/ESCWA/C.4/2019/10)

Under this item, the Committee will consider the proposed programme plan for 2020 that was prepared under ESCWA subprogramme 1 on the integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development. The proposed programme plan for 2020 was presented to the ESCWA Executive Committee, which adopted it at its fifth session (Beirut, 18-19 December 2018).

The Committee is invited to take note of the plan and to make comments and recommendations thereon.

13. Date and venue of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Water Resources

Under this item, the Committee will consider the date and venue of its fourteenth session.

14. Other matters

This item shall cover any other matters that the members of the Committee may wish to discuss.

15. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Water Resources at its thirteenth session

The Committee will consider the draft recommendations for discussion and adoption.
