



Distr.:
LIMITED:
E/ESCWA/ENR/1999/WG.2/L.1
24 September 1999
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Expert Group Meeting on Harmonization of Environmental Standards
in the Water Sector of ESCWA Member States

Eighth Biennial Meeting of the Arab National Committees
of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO

Beirut, 28 September – 1 October 1999

UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR WESTERN ASIA
4 OCT 1999
LIBRARY & DOCUMENTS

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Adoption of the programme of work.
4. Presentation and discussion of the working papers¹

A. ESCWA Papers:

- (i) Towards harmonization of environmental standards in the water sector of ESCWA member States;
- (ii) Potential for harmonization of environmental standards in the water sector of ESCWA member States;
- (iii) Harmonization for protection of the quality of shared water resources in the ESCWA region;

¹ Some of the papers listed will be presented at a joint meeting during the first two days; during the third and fourth days the remaining papers will be presented at two separate parallel sessions(see the Provisional Programme of Work for further details)

- (iv) Environmental standards related to project of wastewater collection, treatment, proposal and reuse;
- (v) Regional harmonization of groundwater management for sustainable development;
- (vi) Water environmental standards in Saudi Arabia;
- (vii) Water vision for the Arab countries towards the year 2025;
- (viii) Water quality standards in irrigation;
- (ix) The energy sector's environmental impacts on water resources and the relevant regulations and standards.

B. UNESCO Papers:

- (i) UNESCO activities of International Hydrological Programme and Wadi Hydrology;
- (ii) Regional network on wadi hydrology: current activities and future projects;
- (iii) Hydrologic processes of arid and semi-arid areas;
- (iv) Rainfall-Run off analysis and modeling in wadi system;
- (v) Surface water/ groundwater interaction;
- (vi) Sediments to water quality and vulnerability of water resources;
- (vii) Integrated development of wadi systems;
- (viii) Regional network on wadi hydrology: current activities and future projects;
- (ix) Sustainable management of wadi systems;
- (x) Water resources management in wadi systems;
- (xi) Technical reports and country papers;
- (xii) International Hydrological Programme.

5. Country Papers reflecting the national experience in topics relevant to the subject of the meeting:

- (a) Jordan country paper;
- (b) Yemen country paper;
- (c) Qatar country paper;
- (d) Kingdom of Saudi Arabia country paper.

6. Regional and international organizations' papers:

- (a) Water Vision for the Arab countries of Western Asia: Alternative water policies;
- (b) Policy formulation for groundwater management;
- (c) Developing national drinking water quality standards based on WHO guidelines for drinking water quality;
- (d) An overview of UNEP's water related activities (UNEP/ROWA);
- (e) Techniques for improving on farm water use efficiency in dry areas;
- (f) The proposal for a general water directive in the European Union.

7. Universities and research institutes' papers:

Laws, policy measures, effluent standards and regulations in the water sector in Lebanon.

8. Conclusions and recommendations.

9. Adoption of the final report.