

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COUNCIL**

Distr.  
LIMITED  
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2007/IG.2/3  
1 March 2007  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

---

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

Committee on Water Resources  
Seventh session  
Muscat, 20-22 March 2007

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

**GENERAL DISCUSSION ON INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT  
FOR THE INTEGRATION MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
IN THE ESCWA REGION: STATUS AND CHALLENGES**

The increasing pressure caused by water scarcity has prompted most member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to review and develop their water strategies and policies, and adopt a number of institutional, legislative and economic measures aimed at optimizing water sector administration and realizing the integrated management of water resources. This session of the Committee on Water Resources deals primarily with the status of institutional and legislative development for the implementation of integrated management of water resources in the ESCWA region, and related challenges.

This item comprises two parts. The Committee on Water Resources will base its discussion of the first part on E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/IG.2/3 which reviews the national policies of ESCWA member countries for the implementation of integrated management of water resources. Under the second part, participants will have the opportunity to provide input on water issues in their countries and in general, with the emphasis on institutional and legislative development for the implementation of integrated management of water resources in the ESCWA region.