

Recommendations to be Adopted by 4th WEG Meeting

As part of WEG 4th Meeting Conclusions

Suggested by Environment & Water Division
UfM Secretariat

Suggested Recommendations to be Adopted by the 4th WEG Meeting

The Water Expert Group took note of:

- The technical mandate bestowed on the Secretariat by the Paris Joint Declaration of the UfM Heads of State and Government (July 2008), the Marseille Meeting of Foreign Ministers (November 2008) and the Statutes adopted by UfM Senior Officials Meeting (March 2010).
- The mandate and tasks entrusted to the Water Expert Group (WEG) by the Jordan Declaration of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water (December 2008), and as further detailed at the first WEG Meeting (Sep 2009).

Suggested Recommendations to be Adopted by the 4th WEG Meeting (2)

The Water Expert Group agreed to:

- Continue to seek political guidance from Co-Presidency/SOM on how and/or when to proceed with regards to the preparation of draft Action Plan. The Technical Drafting Group will be available to continue to work on the Action Plan, as and when needed.
- Work with the UfM Secretariat and with the technical support of the MED EUWI Secretariat to develop a draft work plan for WEG for the rest of 2011 & 2012 in accordance to the Jordan Ministerial Declaration on Water (December 2008) and follow up on the other tasks defined by the said Declaration.
- Support the UfM Secretariat in the attainment of its technical mandate of identifying, development and concretization of projects, with technical expertise and advice, whenever needed and possible, in order to support a more transparent and effective project appraisal/review process by the Secretariat.

Suggested Recommendations to be Adopted by the 4th WEG Meeting (3)

- In order to assess the projects received, the general criteria and guidelines adopted by the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) should be further detailed in line with the Water Ministerial Declaration (Jordan 2008), other relevant UfM approved documents and E&W Division priorities detailed in the Secretariat Workplan for 2011.
- Support the organization of technical workshops for WEG members in order to assist Governments and Civil Society in the development of joint regional, sub-regional and trans-national project proposals (using the agreed concept of Variable Geometry).
- Support the organization of workshops to exchange and encompass best practice in water resource management and joint project development.

Suggested Recommendations to be Adopted by the 4th WEG Meeting (4)

- Keep in close coordination, through the Secretariat, with the EU Water Initiative, the Arab Water Strategy and other related strategic initiatives, programmes and frameworks in order to ensure harmonization and complimentarity.
- Within the realm of projects sought by the Environment & Water Division of the UfM Secretariat, recommend to SOM to incorporate project proposals from the agriculture sector that may contribute significantly to preservation and better utilization of water resources.