

OUTLINE OF RECOMMENDED CONCLUSIONS

1. BACKGROUND

- Recall the 2008 Declaration and the validity of the commitments therein as well as the technical relevance of the issues identified in the 2010 SWM.
- Recall the challenges of the region and identify new emerging ones as per the Concept Note, e.g.:
 - Natural (water scarcity, arid/climate conditions, hydro-morphologic, hydrologic, droughts and floods, etc.);
 - Socio-economic;
 - Human-made (pollution, pressures from agriculture, tourism, hydropower, industry, migration and refugees, etc.)
 - Cross-cutting and transboundary issues: climate change, biodiversity loss including the Mediterranean Sea conditions
- A number of initiatives (including legal frameworks, platforms or projects) are working in parallel in the region with similar lines of action (5+5 WMS, SEE 2020 Strategy (RCC), UNECE Water Convention, Nexus dialogues either existing or about to be launched, UNEP/MAP, SIDA-supported projects, Austria, etc.) and new international and global commitments (e.g. support for SDG follow-up and implementation) offer new opportunities, including opportunities for funding.
- Recall the items of the agenda and the attached Concept Note and presentations

2. REAFFIRM THE NEED TO JOIN EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES AND THE NEED FOR COOPERATION

3. DRAW UP A ROADMAP WITH OBJECTIVES, ACTIONS AND AN ASSOCIATED WORK PLAN (to be revised on a 2- to 3-year basis)

- Analyse how the initiatives/existing legal frameworks/organisations can work together and ensure synergies and efficient cooperation;
 - Identify existing and potential funding mechanisms and agencies and encourage synergies between them;
 - Identify commonalities and gaps;
 - Identify an overview of guiding principles and objectives;
- Draft a Roadmap bringing the initiatives together and develop an operational work programme

4. ACTORS INVOLVED

- WEG (giving a mandate to a smaller drafting group to work on the Roadmap and associated Work Plan) duly coordinated/supported by the UfM Secretariat with the technical assistance GWPMED continues to provide

The drafting group will include:

- Co-Presidencies (Jordan and European Commission);
 - UfM Secretariat (with GWP as technical facilitator);
 - Country representatives (1 representative Maghreb, 1 representative Middle East, 1 representative Balkans & Turkey, and 1 representative from EU MS);
- Outcome of the Drafting Group will be presented for discussion and approval to the WEG. This may involve discussion by the WEG of interim report(s) prior to final approval.
 - Political level: Ministers to validate the process, including the Roadmap and Work Programme

5. TIMELINE

- 2016 preparation, including 1(+ 1, provided funds available) WEG(s) meeting(s)

- Mid 2017 approval during the Maltese Presidency of the EU

Nominations representing the sub-regions for the drafting group to be sent to the UfM Secretariat (water@ufmsecretariat.org) by 31/12/2015