

14th Meeting of the UfM Regional Platform on Water

Agenda

5th-6th June 2024

Ministry of the Environment and Energy, Lisbon, (Portugal)

Rua de O Século 51, Room 'O Século'

Day 1 – Wednesday 5 th June	
13:00-14:00	Registration of participants and welcome lunch
14:00-14:15	Session 1. Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcoming remarks<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Maria João Pereira</i> (Secretary of State for Energy, Portugal)○ <i>Frederic Fournet</i> (EU co-presidency)○ <i>Mohammed Al-Dwairi</i> (Jordan co-presidency)○ <i>Almotaz Abadi</i> (UfM Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy)• Meeting objectives and agenda<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Samira Shaban Pina (Project Analyst, UfM)
14:15-15:30	Session 2. Progress in the implementation of the UfM Water Agenda <p><i>Chair:</i> DG NEAR/DG ENV (EU co-presidency)</p> <p><i>Session objective:</i> To review progress in the implementation of the UfM Water Agenda (including the UfM Financial Strategy for Water) since the 2023 meeting of the UfM Regional Platform on Water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keynote presentation: <i>Jaime Melo Batista</i>, National Council on Sustainable Development: Implementation of the objectives of the UfM Water Agenda in Portugal, (20 min, plus 10 min Q&A)• Roundtable (45 minutes). <i>UfM Member States will reflect on achievements, challenges, and lessons learned at national level, and their priorities for 2023</i>

15:30-16:00	<p>Session 3. Cooperation with the Protocol on Water and Health</p> <p><i>Chair: Frederic Fourtune (EU co-presidency)</i></p> <p><i>Session objective:</i> To review the conclusions of the workshop on climate resilience in Mediterranean countries carried out under the Protocol on Water and Health and better understand how UfM member states can benefit from other work carried out under the Protocol on Water and Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: <i>Nataliya Nikiforova</i>, UNECE Co-secretariat of the Protocol on Water and Health: The work of the Protocol on Water and Health and conclusions of the workshop on increasing climate resilience of the water and sanitation sector in the Mediterranean region, (15 min) • Q&A (15)
16:00-16:30	Break
16:30-18:00	<p>Session 4. Contributions of technical and financial partners to the implementation of the UfM Water Agenda</p> <p><i>Chair: Mohammed Al-Dwairi (Jordan co-presidency)</i></p> <p><i>Session objective:</i> To review efforts by technical and financial partners to support the implementation of the UfM Water Agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations (10 minutes per speaker). <i>UfM partners will present their related work carried out since RPWater-13 and their plans for the year ahead.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Dimitris Faloutsos</i>, Deputy Regional Coordinator, Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med): GWP-Med work on WEFE Nexus ○ <i>Simone Mereu</i>, Coordinator, PRIMA AQUAOUNT Project, Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change (CMCC): Outcomes of the WEFE Nexus Digitalization workshop ○ <i>Eric Mino</i>, Director of the Technical Unit, SEMIDE and <i>Ramiro Martínez Costa</i>, MENBO: The Twin Basin Initiative ○ <i>Mohamed Ftouhi</i>, Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)

Day 2 – Thursday 6 th June	
9:00-11:00	<p>Session 5. Water activities facilitated by the UfM Secretariat</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> DG NEAR/DG ENV (EU co-presidency)</p> <p><i>Session objective:</i> To review efforts to support the implementation of the UfM Water Agenda facilitated by the UfM Secretariat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Samira Shaban Pina</i> (Project Analyst, UfM). Overview of UfM Water activities, including the Mediterranean Water Forum and Mediterranean Green Week. • <i>Frédéric de Dinechin</i> (Senior Policy Advisor, UfM). Overview of WEFE-related activities and presentation of the WEFE Strategy for the Mediterranean • <i>Roberto Martín Hurtado</i> (Senior Water Economics Advisor, TA Water Finance, UfM). Overview of Finance-related activities and presentation of the Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Water and Finance for their approval • <i>Hassan Aboelnga</i> (Vice-Chair of Middle East Water Forum and TA Digitalisation, UfM). Overview of Digitalisation-related activities and presentation of the Study on Digital Transformation of the Water System in the Mediterranean
11:00 – 11:30	Break
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 6. Second UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Mohammed Al-Dwairi (Jordan co-presidency)</p> <p><i>Session objective:</i> To review the preparations for the organization of a new UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation. <i>Almotaz Abadi</i> (Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, UfM) and <i>Roberto Martin Hurtado</i> (UfM Senior Water Economics Advisor, TA). Content and status of the concept note. • Roundtable discussion. Meeting participants will provide and discuss their inputs to the preparation of the ministerial meeting, including elements to be included in the Ministerial Declaration.
13:00-14:00	Lunch break



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14:00 -15:30	<p>Session 7. The future of the UfM Regional Platform on Water (closed Session for UfM Member States only)</p> <p><i>Chair: Frederic Fournet</i> (EU co-presidency)</p> <p><i>Session objective:</i> To provide a safe space for UfM Member States to reflect on and discuss delicate issues around the future of the UfM Regional Platform on Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we increase the relevance and impact of the work carried out by the UfM Regional Platform on Water? • How can we ensure the success of the Second UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water? • What structure of working groups would be most appropriate after the Second UfM Ministerial Meeting on Water?
15:30-16:00	Break
16:00-16:30	<p>Session 8. Concluding session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusions of the meeting <i>Mohammed Al-Dwairi</i> (Jordan co-presidency) <i>Frederic Fournet</i> (EU co-presidency) • Next steps <i>Almotaz Abadi</i> (Deputy Secretary General for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, UfM) • Closing remarks <i>Bertília Valadas</i> (UfM RPWater member, Portugal)

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