

**Report of the 6th Annual Meeting  
of the  
Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians  
for Sustainable Development**

**May 3-4, 2007, Corfu, Greece**



**Report of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of  
COMPSUD**

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Organized by:



Mediterranean Information Office for Environment,  
Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE)



Global Partnership for Water – Mediterranean  
(GWP-Med)

*with the support of:*



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## *Preface*

The present publication is a compilation of the main proceedings and results of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of COMPSUD that took place on 3-4 May 2007, in Corfu Island, Greece. The main outcome is the Corfu Declaration and its annexes, which is a highly important political document that has been presented to all relevant fora of the region. Highlight of the meeting was the presence and the active participation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, Mrs. Dora Bakoyianni, as well as the participation of a number of important personalities from Parliaments of the Mediterranean countries and regional bodies.

The hospitality of the Mayor and the Municipality of the island of Corfu created the enabling conditions for considering Corfu a frequent venue for the COMSUD meetings.

The contribution of the Chairman of COMPSUD Mr. Nikos Georgiadis was extremely important for the successful organization and the important results of the meeting. Sincere thanks go also to Ms. Barbara Tomassini, Ms. Anastasia Roniotes, Mrs. Bessie Mantzara, Ms. Angela Klauschen, Ms. Olga Papathanasopoulou, Mr. Vaggelis Constantianos, Mr. Yannis Papadakis and Ms. Thomie Vlachogianni of the COMPSUD secretariat, who provided substantial support for the organization of the meeting and the compilation of the present publication.

Michael Scoullos

Chairman of MIO-ECSDE & GWP-MED





## 1

## Brief presentation of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD)

The **Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD)** was created with the encouragement of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) and the Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med) in December 2002 in the wake of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), which reaffirmed sustainable development as a central element of the international agenda and emphasized the important role of partnerships and dialogue among the various stakeholders and decision makers, including Parliamentarians and politicians at large.

The Circle is an open, flexible and light structure, aiming to promote suitable mechanisms to support the dialogue among Members of Parliaments (from EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries), politicians and other stakeholders on the protection of the Mediterranean environment and the necessary socio-economic conditions for the sustainable development of the region.

The Circle stresses on the necessity to strengthen effective governance of natural resources and the environment, with particular emphasis on good Water Governance, through the encouragement of systematic and constructive dialogues among Parliamentarians themselves and with all relevant stakeholders, civil society organizations and the public at large, as a fundamental premise for the promotion of sustainable development in conditions of peace and cooperation among all countries and peoples of the Mediterranean region.

In particular, the objectives of COMPSUD are the following:

- The promotion of sustainable development in the Mediterranean region through an integrated resources management approach, securing a healthy and peaceful environment, where the biodiversity and cultural diversity of the region are protected.
- The strengthening of effective environmental governance with particular emphasis on water governance.
- The promotion of public dialogue among all relevant stakeholders, civil society organizations and the public at large with Parliamentarians and among themselves.
- The encouragement of production, dissemination and use of reliable, timely, accurate, complete, relevant and accessible data and information for use by decision makers and as a basis for public information and awareness raising on issues of sustainable development and of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in particular.
- The promotion of capacity building, training and appropriate education with emphasis on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) for all those involved directly or indirectly in making critical choices, particularly those affecting Integrated Water Resources Management.

COMPSUD is governed by a Board composed of 6 Parliamentarians whose mandate lasts for 2 years. A Chairman and a Co-chairman are selected among the Members of the Board keeping a North-South balance.

The work of COMPSUD is jointly facilitated by GWP-Med and MIO-ECSDE. The latter also hosts the Circle's Secretariat.

The General Assembly of the Circle takes place once every year and it sets the priorities for the Action Plan of the Circle for the year to come, also in relation with on-going or forthcoming key



events related to the general framework of interest and activities of COMPSUD. These include, among others, the support of Transboundary Cooperation on Water issues, the promotion of IWRM principles in national laws through relevant legislation, the active involvement in important initiatives related to water, such as the Mediterranean component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), the Euro-Mediterranean Water and Poverty Facility (WPF), the World Water Forum (WWF) and the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability (MEdIES), as well as the endorsement of strategies, policies, etc. contributing to the promotion of Sustainable Development in the Region (i.e. the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development – MSSD, implemented in the framework of UNEP/MAP).



The **Mediterranean Regional Dialogue of Parliamentarians, NGOs and other Stakeholders on the Protection of the Mediterranean Environment and Prospects for the Sustainable Development of the Region** (also called for simplicity ‘Dialogue of COMPSUD’) is an integral part of the Circle’s annual meetings and has inscribed in its philosophy the exchange, cross-fertilization and cooperation with civil society and other important actors towards the promotion of the sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

In line with this, COMPSUD collaborates also closely with the Circle of Mediterranean Journalists for Environment and Sustainable Development (COMJESD) and the Educators for Environment and Sustainable Development (under the Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment and Sustainability, MEdIES), facilitated by GWP-Med and MIO-ECSDE having in this way a more direct feedback and effective access to the important flow of information and awareness raising activities initiated by scientists, NGOs, etc. on relevant issues.

## 2

Summary report of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of COMPSUD

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD 6) took place on 3-4 May 2007, in Corfu Island, Greece, with the participation of 30 MPs from 15 countries and representatives of International and Regional organizations and NGOs.

The Meeting was organized by MIO-ECSDE and GWP-Med and was financially supported by the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission and UNEP/MAP.



The 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of COMPSUD focused on:

- Possible ways to strengthen the dimensions of sustainable development and of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in regional political processes such as the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Neighborhood Policy, the Horizon 2020 initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean Sea, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, etc., and in particular on the role of MPs in promoting such processes, in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental partners.
- The cooperation of COMPSUD with other parliamentary bodies in the region particularly with the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly and the Arab Parliament.

The main highlights of the meeting can be summarized as follows:

- The unanimous adoption of the main outcome of the meeting, the Corfu Declaration (see page 8 -15).
- The participation and proven interest of the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Dora Bakoyannis as well as of the Secretary General of the recently established Arab Parliament, Mr. Adnan Omran. Moreover, the Chairs of the Environment and Water Parliamentary Committees of Lebanon, Portugal and Greece participated in the meeting.
- The suggestion made by MPs and the acceptance by the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs to financially support meetings of COMPSUD in Corfu Island biannually. This means that every second year the COMPSUD meetings will be organized in a Mediterranean country other than Greece (meetings were already held in Egypt, Greece, Lebanon, Spain and Turkey) and every other in Corfu.
- The invitation to COMPSUD by the European Commission representative Mr. Andrew Murphy to become Member of the Steering Committee of the Horizon 2020 Initiative. (The first meeting of that body took place in Marrakech on 5-6 June 2007 where COMPSUD has been represented by MP Mr. Milan Cvikl, Member of the Parliament of Slovenia).

- The invitation to COMPSUD by UNDP representative Ms. Mirey Atallah to participate in the “Petersberg-Africa” project. (This project was eventually launched in late 2008 by UNDP/GEF and aims to enhance synergies between African stakeholders and build capacity on issues of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). Parliamentarians and media from the African sub-regions (including North Africa) are also in the focus of the scheduled activities).

The above indicate the recognition that the Circle receives. A key challenge ahead is to use the COMPSUD in a dynamic way at the national level, through the Parliaments, for the promotion of IWRM principles in law making and to assist country implementation of regional processes.







## Address to COMPSUD by the Hellenic Minister of Foreign Affairs Mrs. D. Bakoyannis

Dear Mr. Chairman, Dear colleagues, Ladies and gentlemen,

Welcome to Greece! Welcome to Corfu!

I would like to thank you for being here today.

For contributing to this worthwhile effort.

For contributing to an initiative which seeks to promote Sustainable Development across the Mediterranean.

And of course, I would be remiss if I did not congratulate my friend and Chairman of the Circle, Nikos Georgiades, for organizing this conference with such success.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In Corfu I think one can witness much that is wonderful about the Mediterranean.

The Mediterranean region, with its cultural wealth and biodiversity, its unique landscapes and its warm and hospitable peoples, has been the cradle of civilizations for thousands of years. I am confident that, as an active interface between the more and less developed parts of the world, the Mediterranean will play again a leading role in showing ways for overcoming differences and obstacles in a constructive and creative spirit towards Sustainable Development.

To this end, allow me to frame, in political terms, the importance of Sustainable Development.

Let's be clear: sustainable development is not just the new trend or the new fashion. It is about securing our own future.

Sustainable development is all about balance: the balance of the fulfillment of human needs with the protection of the natural environment. If we fail to make the right choices now, we jeopardize our future. Politicians around the globe have a clear mandate. To find ways to achieve economic prosperity while ensuring our natural resources are effectively and efficiently managed. Make the wrong choices



now and global peace and stability will surely be threatened in the foreseeable future. Failure to respond to the emerging global needs and changes will definitely lead to an erratic climate with depleted resources. We must protect the green spaces which constitute our planet's lungs, the blue seas which, we around the Mediterranean know so well, our delicately balanced ecosystem and rich biodiversity. They are both our present and our future.

In this respect, we are merely the 'keepers' – the guardians if you wish – of our natural resources for future generations. We must have a common vision. In order to materialize this vision, we must have a strategy.

The strategy includes clear actions to promote equal and sustainable development. Hence I would like to welcome the Corfu declaration. We must involve people, lead by example, and demonstrate our commitment in implementing concrete policies. If we are to secure a more just future for the peoples of our planet, we must also secure an environmentally viable future. Development, growth, prosperity,

sustainability and respect for the planet are not mutually exclusive.

We must approach the issue bottom-up, through each neighborhood, and at the same time top-down. Across all levels of government. We must work trans-nationally, and supra-nationally. We must engage the smallest island with the whole of the Mediterranean region.

We must also actively engage the private sector. We must seek to stimulate the market to innovate and to produce more cost effective and sustainable options for all consumers. We must empower citizens by supporting them when they demand corporate social responsibility.

In order to be successful ladies and gentlemen, we need the commitment of all stakeholders. Above all we need to influence the everyday 'lifestyle' choices we all make. All of us -and this is the key to success- governments, businesses, the public and private sectors, voluntary and community non-governmental organizations, communities and families need to make informed and viable choices.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Sustainable Development is neither a dream nor a fixed end-product. I understand it as a clear direction and a process. It should guide all our policies, from foreign affairs to health, from the environment and agriculture to transport, from industrial development to tourism.

Sustainable Development is not about reversing environmental degradation alone. Nor is it only about reducing economic and social inequalities or even devising policies that improve the lives and prospects of the poor and marginalized. Above all it's about building good governance. It is about building the capacity of transparent, accountable and representative institutions at the national, regional and international level, a strong civil society, and responsible business to work together for a sustainable world.

It requires that we, politicians and governments of the region, who have subscribed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and to

so many other international commitments, actually do our homework.

That means turning words into actions.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to address, at this point, some of the issues raised in your deliberations more specifically. Drawing from the results of your meeting in Cairo last year, I would like to underline that I share the view that we must start from square one. And square one means preventing and removing the root causes of regional conflicts, armed conflicts in particular. To this end, Greece is firmly committed to supporting the UN and EU peace initiatives and relevant dialogues in all sensitive regions, including the Middle East peace process.

Greece has also stepped up its action in the international community by discussing the issue of global environmental governance. We are convinced that the greatest impact comes from a co-ordinated action of governments across all institutions, organizations or fora. We are open to all possibilities which may enhance the coordination and efficacy of the international environmental institutions. This could include setting up an International Authority and an International Court.

Greece has always been supportive of Dialogue initiatives. Your Circle, COMPSUD, the Circle of Parliamentarians from all Mediterranean countries is a remarkable example. It shows how the interest of people like you could be particularly helpful in expanding, explaining and debating policies in the Mediterranean region in a proactive and visionary way.

Greece has been, I dare say, quite constructive in this regard. We have been founding members of the Mediterranean Forum, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the European Neighborhood Policy which is the main mechanism for the implementation of EU policy in the region. It represents an effort to link the two sides of the Mediterranean, linking three different continents, in order to create an area of peace, stability and prosperity.

We have also ratified the Kyoto Protocol and along with our European partners consider it a

basis of effective international action for combating climate change.

Since March 2002, Greece has been drawing up a National Programme for Climate Change for 2002-2010. This programme foresees a 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions for the country between 2008 and 2012. In tandem, Greece underscores the primordial role that renewable energy sources can play in saving energy. Among the recently arising challenges which also require our attention are the issues of genetic engineering and genetically modified organisms. Of equal importance is the implementation - in full - of the Convention on Biodiversity and the Convention to Combat Desertification.

Greece considers regional cooperation as a necessary element for the effective implementation of the principles of Sustainable Development. We have promoted the drafting of Memoranda of Understanding with neighboring countries. The Mediterranean is among the most arid regions of the world and, unfortunately, the pressures on its water resources are growing.

Greece also supports the work of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSDD) and the 'Water for Life' initiative. In parallel, it complements all other relevant regional on-going processes and initiatives. Along with the European Commission, Greece is the lead country of this component. We aim to assist the design of better, demand-driven and output-oriented water programmes in the region.

There are still a few more interesting initiatives in the region, such as the joint Petersburg Process and Athens Declaration, and the Ionian-Adriatic act. All of these initiatives aim to promote a cleaner, safer and more sustainable Mediterranean.

In fact, all of our efforts until now have managed to break and slow down the negative impacts of our activities on our common Mediterranean natural and cultural heritage.

What we need now is to try to reverse the trend and move towards the clean-up, restoration and upgrading of the environmental and social conditions in our region.

This is difficult, yet feasible. It requires vision, persistence, creativity and committed politicians working alongside NGOs and the Civil Society. It needs MPs like you, gathered here today, acting beyond or in parallel with your governments and political parties, with the aim to strengthen democratic processes and the public spheres in the countries of the region. It requires more to be done in major sections of our policies such as education by providing, for example, systematic information for Sustainable Development, or by promoting equal opportunities for men and women at home, at work, in society.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

What people want is a world which respects and preserves our ecosystem; a world which respects and promotes peoples and our planet. Sustainable development is all that. To do this, we must foster good governance- at the local, regional, national and international level; a strong civil society; and a private community which takes its corporate responsibility seriously. It also needs environmentally conscious consumers. In other words, a broad social alliance.

I wish you success in your remaining deliberations and I can assure you of our continued support in your good work.

Thank you.



# 4

## Outcome of the meeting – the Corfu Declaration and its annex

We, Parliamentarians coming from 15 different Mediterranean countries, present at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD), held in Corfu, Greece (3-4 May 2007), adopt unanimously the following declaration:

1. While overviewing the achievements of the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we acknowledge that, despite the vision and framework set by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) seven years ago and despite the initiatives and efforts invested by international organizations and the Governments of the region, there is still a considerable gap between the time-bound tasks and targets of the various relevant processes and the achievements realized.

2. In particular, we express our anxiety about the deterioration of living conditions in parts of the Mediterranean region due to the exacerbation of armed conflicts, as well as the high pressures exerted on natural resources resulting, among others, from increasing population, higher climate variability, expansion of desertification and unsustainable models of production and consumption.

3. We are convinced that the promotion of Sustainable Development in the countries of the Mediterranean Region depends on a set of prerequisites that still need to be fulfilled, among which, of priority, are:

a) The removal of the root causes of armed conflicts and wars through the honest implementation of the UN resolutions, conventions and declarations.

b) The coordinated action of governments and their increased cooperation on issues of management of shared and national resources in consultation with competent stakeholders including the civil society.

c) The systematic provision of information on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) with emphasis on education on sustainable consumption (ESC) to all concerned stakeholders, including elected representatives.

d) The creation of suitable conditions for women and the increased recognition of their role and participation in society, especially filling existing gaps.

e) The enhancement of the role and active involvement of MPs, acting beyond governments and political parties, in order to strengthen democratic processes in the countries of the region, particularly on issues important for development, employment, environment and education.

4. We are convinced that the major socioeconomic humanitarian problem of illegal migration to and through the Mediterranean is closely linked to serious problems and pressures on environment and natural resources in the countries of Sub Saharan Africa. We urge all Mediterranean countries and the EU to implement policies assisting the aforementioned countries in effectively addressing these problems.

5. We emphasize that the effective management of national and shared water resources must become an integral part of all countries' efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), an approach that takes account of competing water needs in an

equitable, efficient and sustainable manner, is recognised as the appropriate response to the challenges faced. IWRM should be reflected in all national development planning instruments and budgets as well as the plans of sectors such as agriculture, energy, industry, health, etc. Activities within the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem, the joint Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process on Shared Water Resources Management and other processes, contribute to these objectives and should be strengthened. Water should be recognised as a critical area and should be placed higher in the EU agenda as well as in the operational programmes of EU and Mediterranean countries. Furthermore, acknowledging the Petersberg Africa Process (facilitated by UNDP/GEF) and recognizing the potential for exchange of experiences between COMPSUD and Parliamentary networks in Africa we express the willingness of COMPSUD to participate in the Petersberg Africa Process.

6. We call all countries to ratify and implement the Kyoto Protocol and to participate in the international action for reducing pollutants causing climate change. To this end we strongly support the development of Renewable Energy Sources in the Mediterranean, which has sun and wind as some of its prominent features and encourage governments and the Commission to place renewable energies in the centre of their energy policies in the region, as well as to enhance research on global warming effects on the Mediterranean.

7. We urge governments to introduce innovative instruments, including ‘green’ investment, in order to promote their policies and effectively protect the natural resources, in particular water and forests.

8. We strongly recommend enhancing regional cooperation to share visions, experiences and good practices that can bring societies and concerned stakeholders closer, increasing their synergies and speeding-up the processes towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the creation of a sustainable future for the Mediterranean and the continents surrounding it. In this spirit, we call for a more effective cooperation between Parliaments and environmental movements.

9. To this respect, we applaud the relevant work of Parliamentary bodies, such as the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, the Inter Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, etc., that promote a coordinated action of elected people from different countries and regions towards common goals and we recommend COMPSUD to strengthen the links with these bodies, particularly on issues related to Environment and Sustainable Development.

10. We endorse the efforts undertaken by the European Commission under the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) and we expect that a sufficient level of funding within the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) will be earmarked for environmental integration both at regional level of implementation (Regional Strategy for the Mediterranean) and at the national level (National Action Plans).

11. We fully support the Horizon 2020 Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean and express our wish to see the proper implementation of the agreed operational programme, in cooperation with all relevant partners and in particular with UNEP/MAP, supported politically and with adequate funding from the EU and other sources. To this end, it is crucial that all Mediterranean countries ratify the “Land-based Pollution Sources” Protocol of the Barcelona Convention. The role of civil society and other stakeholders in the Horizon 2020 programme should be instrumental. In this framework, COMPSUD should respond to the call of the European Commission and be involved actively in the Steering Group of Horizon 2020.

12. We reiterate our suggestion that the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP), the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) and the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), as well as all countries and institutions involved, must be fully supportive of the relevant recommendations of the Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (SIA EMFTA).

13. We call on governments to introduce and discuss Trade Agreements in Parliaments.
  14. We call that the provisions of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development are fully streamlined in those of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership.
  15. We call for sub-regional cooperation of neighboring Mediterranean countries on designating Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA) in specific parts of the Mediterranean Sea including in parts of the Adriatic-Ionian.
  16. We welcome a Mediterranean Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) along the lines of the Strategy on ESD already agreed by the majority of the Mediterranean countries within the framework of the UNECE; such a strategy should pay particular attention to the growing unsustainable consumption in the region. This strategy should be considered as an addendum to the MSSD elaborated in the framework of the Barcelona Convention.
  17. We urge that the role and work of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), being one of the rare regional examples of advanced form of consultation and governance be upgraded, strengthened and enriched by inputs from the region's Parliamentarians. It should be examined if MCSD could be used as a monitoring body of the EMFTA implementation.
  18. In view of the Greek Presidency of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly in 2008, we recommend that COMPSUD becomes available and acts as a think tank and supportive mechanism for the most in-depth and effective work of the EMPA in areas covering the protection of the environment and sustainable development.
  19. We welcome the organisation, within COMPSUD activities, of Biannual Meetings of Mediterranean Parliamentarians in Corfu Island, under the aegis of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs that would review progress achieved and identify ways for parliamentarians to assist such processes.
- COMPSUD by its nature is firmly committed to work with all other relevant Parliamentary Bodies, International Organizations and networks and contribute to all regional initiatives promoting the Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean Region.

## **Annex to the Corfu Declaration**

### **ESD: Education for Sustainable Development**

According to the UNECE Strategy for ESD, adopted at the High-Level Meeting in Vilnius (March 2005) "*Education for Sustainable Development*" (ESD) is an evolving and dynamic concept that encompasses a new vision of education seeking to balance human and economic welfare with cultural traditions and respect for the environment and the earth's natural resources. To this end, ESD is interdisciplinary and holistic, value – driven, promoting critical thinking, problem-solving and participatory decision-making, and employing a variety of educational methods.

ESD broadens the scope of Environmental Education (EE) integrating the components of governance and culture and including the themes of: protection of the environment and natural resources, poverty, health, citizenship, democracy, human rights, social and economic development, gender equity, cultural diversity and sustainable production and consumption patterns.

**ESC: Education on Sustainable Consumption**

Education for Sustainable Consumption (ESC) is an integral part and component of ESD aiming to contribute to the development and reinforcement of sustainable production and consumption patterns through appropriate behavioural changes and cultural models adaptation. ESC was stimulated from the Marrakech Process that is actually the international collective effort to develop the 10 Years Framework Programme<sup>1</sup> (10YFP) (Morocco, 2003). In order to valorise the experiences of the Marrakech Process and to create appropriate synergies among different processes on sustainability and education, Italy has decided to take leadership of a Task Force on “Education for Sustainable Consumption” (ESC). The Task force on ESC will focus on the Mediterranean basin with main objective to focus on the role of formal learning processes in providing knowledge, awareness and competences aimed at enabling individuals and social groups to be the key actors of change towards more sustainable consumption behaviours.

**EMP: Euro-Mediterranean Partnership**

The Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in Barcelona on 27-28 November 1995, marked the starting point of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (Barcelona Process), a wide framework of political, economic and social relations between the Member States of the European Union and Partners of the Southern Mediterranean.

The Barcelona Process is a unique and ambitious initiative, which laid the foundations of a new regional relationship and which represents a turning point in Euro-Mediterranean relations. In the Barcelona Declaration, the Euro-Mediterranean partners established the three main objectives of the Partnership:

1. The definition of a common area of peace and stability through the reinforcement of political and security dialogue (Political and Security Chapter).
2. The construction of a zone of shared prosperity through an economic and financial partnership and the gradual establishment of a free-trade area (Economic and Financial Chapter).
3. The rapprochement between peoples through a social, cultural and human partnership aimed at encouraging understanding between cultures and exchanges between civil societies (Social, Cultural and Human Chapter).

**ENP: European Neighborhood Policy**

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) was developed in 2004, with the objective of avoiding the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and our neighbours and instead strengthening the prosperity, stability and security of all concerned. The EU offers our neighbours a privileged relationship, building upon a mutual commitment to common values (democracy and human rights, rule of law, good governance, market economy principles and sustainable development). The ENP goes beyond existing relationships to offer a deeper political relationship and economic integration. The level of ambition of the relationship will depend on the extent to which these values are effectively shared. The ENP remains distinct from the process of enlargement although it does not prejudice, for European neighbours, how their relationship with the EU may develop in future, in accordance with the Treaty provisions.

The central element of the European Neighbourhood Policy is the bilateral ENP Action Plans agreed between the EU and each partner. These set out an agenda of political and economic reforms with short and medium-term priorities. Implementation of the first seven ENP Action Plans (agreed in early 2005

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<sup>1</sup> The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, signed at the WSSD (2002), calls upon all governments to take action to “change unsustainable patterns of consumption and production”. In order to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production, the Plan invited all institutional and non institutional subjects to promote the development of the 10-year framework of programmes (10YFP) of sustainable consumption and production, as an integral part to the follow-up to the WSSD.

with Israel, Jordan, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Tunisia and Ukraine) is underway and that of the latest to be agreed (with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia) is about to begin. Lebanon will follow shortly and the EU-Egypt ENP Action Plan is nearly agreed. Implementation is jointly promoted and monitored through sub-Committees.

### **ENPI: European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument**

As part of the reform of EC assistance instruments started in 2007, the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument will replace the MEDA and TACIS and various other programmes in place until today. The ENPI is designed to target sustainable development and approximation to EU policies and standards - supporting the agreed priorities in the ENP Action Plans (as well as the Strategic Partnership with Russia, which was previously also covered by the TACIS programme). Funds allocated to individual country programmes will depend on their needs and absorption capacity as well as their implementation of agreed reforms.

### **GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems**

The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established in 1991, helps developing countries fund projects and programs that protect the global environment. GEF grants support projects related to biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants.

In order to accelerate the implementation of the Strategic Action Plans signed by the Mediterranean countries in the framework of UNEP/MAP, the Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem is being launched by GEF, UNEP and the World Bank as a collective effort open to all the countries of the Basin and to all international and bilateral cooperation agencies.

The Strategic Partnership will provide financial resources and technical knowledge readily available to countries that embrace the goal of improving the environmental conditions of the Mediterranean Sea through a combination of capital investments, economic instruments, policy and regulatory frameworks and public participation.

It will also develop a strategic regional approach to investments for greater benefit to the basin countries. In addition, a framework will be designed to replicate and transfer investment experiences throughout the region.

### **Horizon 2020 Initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean**

Following-up on the commitment of all of the Euro-Mediterranean Partners the European Commission launched in 2006 the “Horizon 2020” initiative that aims to tackle the top sources of Mediterranean pollution by the year 2020. The Commission is building a coalition of partners to implement it. The recent Commission Communication establishing an environment strategy for the Mediterranean sketches out the detail of Horizon 2020, grouping planned activities under four headings:

- Projects to reduce the most significant sources of pollution. The initial focus will be on industrial emissions, municipal waste and urban waste water, which are responsible for up to 80% of Mediterranean Sea pollution.
- Capacity-building measures to help neighbouring countries create national environmental administrations that are able to develop and police environmental laws. Using the Commission's research budget to develop greater knowledge of environmental issues relevant to the Mediterranean and ensure this is shared. Developing indicators to monitor the success of Horizon 2020.



### **IWRM: Integrated Water Resources Management**

Integrated Water Resources Management is a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems.

### **MCSD: Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development**

The MCSD was established in 1995 within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP), as an advisory body with the following mandate:

- to identify, evaluate and examine major economic, ecological and social problems set out in Agenda MED 21, make appropriate proposals thereon to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of decisions taken by the Contracting Parties and facilitate the exchange of information among institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
- to enhance regional cooperation and rationalise the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.

### **MED EUWI: Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative**

The Mediterranean Component of the EUWI (MED EUWI) was announced during the WSSD (Johannesburg, 2002) and is an integral part of the EUWI, sharing its overall objectives. More specifically, MED EUWI aims to:

- assist the design of better, demand driven and output oriented water related programmes;
- facilitate better coordination of water programmes and projects, targeting more effective use of existing funds and mobilization of new financial resources; and,
- enhanced cooperation for project's proper implementation, based on peer review and strategic assessment.

### **MDGs: The Millennium Development Goals**

The MDGs represent a global partnership that has grown from the commitments and targets established at the world summits of the 1990s. Responding to the world's main development challenges and to the calls of civil society, the MDGs promote poverty reduction, education, maternal health, gender equality, and aim at combating child mortality, AIDS and other diseases. They form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions. Set for the year 2015, the MDGs can be achieved if all actors work together and do their part. Poor countries have pledged to govern better, and invest in their people through health care and education. Rich countries have pledged to support them, through aid, debt relief, and fairer trade.

### **MSSD: Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development**

The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development endorsed by the Parties of the Barcelona Convention at their 14th conference in Portoroz, Slovenia, 8-11 November 2005 calls for action to pursue towards sustainable development goals so as to strengthen peace, stability, and prosperity. It takes into account the weaknesses of the region and the threats it faces, but also its strengths and opportunities. It also considers the reality of the gaps between the developed and developing countries, and lays the stress on the necessity to help the transition of the Mediterranean countries of the East Adriatic, the South and the East. The challenge for all the Mediterranean countries is jointly to benefit from the Strategy in terms of human and economic development, environmental protection, and culture protection. The Strategy is structured around four objectives and seven interlinked priority fields action.



The four main objectives are: i) contribute to economic development by enhancing Mediterranean assets ii) reduce social disparities by implementing the UN Millennium Development Goals and improve cultural integration iii) change unsustainable production and consumption patterns and ensure the sustainable management of natural resources iv) improve governance at the local, national, and regional levels.

The seven priority fields of action are water resources; energy management and addressing impacts of climate change; transport; tourism; urban development; agriculture and management of the sea; coastal areas and marine resources.

### **Petersberg Phase II/Athens Declaration Process on Shared Water Resources Management**

The Petersberg Process was initiated in 1998 by Germany concerning the cooperation on the management of transboundary waters.

The Athens Declaration concerning “Shared Water, Shared Future and Shared Knowledge”, accepted during the Greek Presidency of the EU (2003), provides a framework for a long-term process to support cooperative activities for the management of shared water resources in the SEE and Mediterranean regions. The Athens Declaration Process is intended to assist the countries of the region, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to prepare Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and water efficiency plans for major river basins and lakes, including a range of complementary interventions, with a coordinated mechanism to allow for exchange of information and experience between activities.

The World Bank (WB) participates as a core partner in both processes.

The two processes are today linked in order to generate synergies and maximize the outcomes for the benefit primarily of the SEE region, rather than duplicate activities and consequently efforts. The joint Petersberg Process Phase II / Athens Declaration Process has become a reference for many other processes and activities in the region. The Process would complement European Union (EU) integration processes, the Stabilisation and Association process of the European Union and other ongoing initiatives in the region.

### **PSSA: Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas**

A Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) is an area that needs special protection through action by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) because of its significance for recognized ecological or socio-economic or scientific reasons and which may be vulnerable to damage by international maritime activities. The criteria for the identification of particularly sensitive sea areas and the criteria for the designation of special areas are not mutually exclusive. In many cases a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area may be identified within a Special Area and vice versa.

### **SIA EMFTA: Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area**

The Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Barcelona in November 1995 set the year 2010 as the target date for the gradual establishment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (EMFTA). This is to be achieved by means of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements negotiated between the European Union and its Mediterranean Partners, together with Free Trade Agreements between the Mediterranean Partners themselves.

The European Union has set itself the objective of achieving sustainable development internally and promoting such development worldwide. In this context, trade liberalisation is not perceived as an end in itself, but rather as an essential tool contributing to sustainable development. The impact of trade measures needs to be assessed, therefore, in terms of environment, social and economic effects.

The European Commission has, therefore, recently commissioned an independent sustainability impact assessment (SIA) study of EMFTA which will examine the potential impacts of agreed trade measures on sustainable development. The major objective of this SIA study is to provide a reliable and widely

accepted analysis and understanding of the impact of trade measures on sustainable development, in the context of ongoing and future trade negotiations for the EMFTA.

### **UNDP: United Nations Development Programme**

UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. The organization has country offices in 166 countries, where it works with local governments to meet development challenges and develop local capacity. Additionally, the UNDP works internationally to help countries achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

UNDP provides expert advice, training, and grant support to developing countries, with increasing emphasis on assistance to the least developed countries. To accomplish the MDGs and encourage global development, UNDP focuses on poverty reduction, HIV/AIDS, democratic governance, energy and environment, and crisis prevention and recovery. UNDP also encourages the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women in all of its programs.

Furthermore, UNDP publishes an annual Human Development Report to measure and analyze developmental progress. In addition to a global Report, UNDP publishes regional, national, and local Human Development Reports.

### **UNECE: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) was set up in 1947 by ECOSOC. It is one of five regional commissions of the United Nations. The others are the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). Its major aim is to promote pan-European economic integration. To do so, UNECE brings together 56 countries located in the European Union, non-EU Western and Eastern Europe, South-East Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and North America. All these countries dialogue and cooperate under the aegis of the UNECE on economic and sectoral issues. To this end, it provides analysis, policy advice and assistance to governments, it gives focus to the United Nations global mandates in the economic field, in cooperation with other global players and key stakeholders, notably the business community. The UNECE also sets out norms, standards and conventions to facilitate international cooperation within and outside the region. The area of expertise of the UNECE covers such sectors as: economic cooperation and integration, energy, environment, housing and land management, population, statistics, timber, trade, and transport. UNECE has 56 member States. However, all interested UN member States may participate in its work. Over 70 international professional organizations and other non-governmental organizations take part in UNECE activities.

### **UNEP/MAP: The United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan**

Adopted in 1976 in Barcelona, MAP was the first UNEP's regional Sea Convention. This Barcelona convention and its 6 Protocols constitute legally binding instruments.

The MAP was originally a framework for common actions (preparation of regional and national policies, capacity building and technical assistance) needed by the Mediterranean Countries to combat the pollution of the Mediterranean Sea itself (MAP Phase I).

In 1995, the Barcelona conventions were extensively amended to give a sustainable development focus and to deal with coastal area as well (MAP Phase II). Indeed activities carried out between 1976 and 1995 confirmed that socio-economic trends, combined with inadequate development planning and management are the root of most environmental problems. Estimates showed that up to 80 per cent of marine pollution was originated by land-based activities.

## 5

## Addresses, Interventions and Presentations

## I

**Mr. Athanassios Katsiyannis***Chairman, Hellenic Parliament's Environmental Committee**(merged address and intervention)*

I would like to begin my speech with an observation.

In the last thirty years – almost as long as the lifetime of the world's environmental movement – there has never been such an increased interest from the public and the media on the protection of the environment and sustainable development.

At the same time, however, while our interest for the environment is increasing and the international community is determined to take up action in order to eliminate the possibility of mass and irreversible disturbances of the world's ecosystem due to phenomena such as that of climate change - the Kyoto Protocol is already in force two years now - with bitterness we realize that we haven't managed to reach our goals.

The first lines of last year's International Institute for Sustainable Development (2006) review in regard to the course of "world environmental governance" are revealing. Despite the availability of a large number of institutional tools for the protection of nature and ecosystems, despite the agreements that have been achieved at international level, the situation of the world's environment does not appear to be showing significant improvement as a result.

Even more recently, the Stern review, the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of the United Nations on Climate Change, reminds us in a most dramatic way the necessity for direct and more effective actions, actions drawn in such a way that we can finally achieve the retrieval of lost environmental balances for which we have been speaking for years.

After decades of thoughtless exploitation and pushing of the environment's resistance to its limits, we realize that the way towards sustainability is everyone's responsibility and obligation towards the future generations that will live on this planet.

The depletion of natural resources, global warming and the continuing degradation of the natural environment, create the need for readjusting our traditional concept of what "development" is, calling us to follow more sustainable modes of development.

Sustainable development, the development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, or, speaking in environmental terms, the ability of earth to forever support the reproduction of all forms of life, is the "action" we should seek.

I hope that the European Union, with its continuous recent initiatives (promotion of an international agreement on the restriction of the increase in average temperature, so as not to exceed the pre-industrial levels by more from 2°C; adoption of a binding target by 2020 of a 20% share of renewable energy resources in terms of overall energy consumption in the EU) will succeed in showing the way.

The main question when speaking about sustainable development in the Mediterranean is the management of its coastal and marine environment.

The over-exploitation of coastal resources, the over-concentration of developmental activities along the coasts, uncontrollable urban growth, all exert immense pressures on the natural reserves of the Mediterranean coasts.

Fishing, maritime transportation and tourism compete for the vital space of the Mediterranean coastline.

This continuously increasing pressure on coastal resources ultimately leads to their degradation (deterioration of water quality and depleted water resources, accelerated coastal erosion, accumulated pollution, decreased marine diversity).

The Mediterranean is literally a source of life for the countries of North Africa and Southern Europe and therefore the sustainable use of the sea and its coasts and the reduction of the levels of pollution should be our priority.

The Mediterranean sea is the largest European sea and it serves the needs of 450 million residents that live in the 22 countries around it (expected to reach 570 million by 2030), while at the same time 135 million tourists visit this region annually (expected to increase to 300 million in 20 years).

The quality of these people's lives depends on the status of the environment.

Also, the environmental burden of the Mediterranean constitutes a threat for the long-term economic development of sectors that depend on the sea, such as fisheries and the tourism industry.

Today, according to the European Environment Agency, more than 131 points of pollution - pollution hot spots – have been identified along the Mediterranean coastline, which pose serious threats to biodiversity, ecosystems, human health but also financial viability.

The environmental degradation of the Mediterranean was the focus of a recent meeting of the Environmental Committee of the Greek Parliament. The conclusion of this meeting could be summarized as follows: Terrestrial activities constitute the main source of pollution for the marine environment of the Mediterranean sea and its coasts.

The most serious problem is untreated urban waste. From the 601 cities with a population of over 10.000 people, only 58% have biological waste treatment facilities and some of those do not function sufficiently.

Another important problem is the use of water for irrigation purposes in the agricultural

sector. Large quantities of water used for irrigation purposes are not treated and as a result a lot of agricultural chemicals end up polluting the sea.

Another issue that cannot be overlooked is that of urbanization in the coastal regions. The intense pressures in certain countries for a first or a second residence near the sea, the lack of spatial planning and the random location of hotel units, the urban sprawl of many coastal cities, are expected to lead to the Mediterranean coasts being 'built up' by the year 2025.

Also, forest cover has decreased dramatically. It is calculated that today less than 5% of the Mediterranean basin is covered by forests. It is known that forests protect the soil from erosion and drought. Unfortunately due to human interventions a big part of these forests has been destroyed.

Although the problems are known, the actions that have been taken till today for their solution have not been very effective.

Of course, it would be misleading to say that interest has not been expressed or that efforts have not been made by the international community or the countries of the Mediterranean in terms of protecting its unique ecosystem.

In line with this, I will address the two following initiatives:

1. The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) - a regional collective effort of 21 countries that surround the Mediterranean Sea, including the European Community, based in Athens.
2. The Barcelona Convention or the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, which was signed in 1976, and came into force in 1978.

Moreover, one year ago the European Commission proposed an environmental strategy for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea. The main goals of this strategy are:

1. Reduction of pollution levels in the region.
2. Promotion of the sustainable use of the sea and its coasts.

3. Encouraging cooperation between the neighboring countries in addressing environmental problems.

4. Facilitating countries'/partners' efforts in establishing effective institutional bodies and policies aiming at the protection of the environment.

5. The participation of NGOs and the wider public in environmental decision-making.

In my intervention I could not leave out the most important "environmental" problem of our days - that of climate change - focusing on its possible impacts in the Mediterranean region. Climate change does not have geographic restrictions, it does not discriminate. The developing countries of Africa and of other parts of the world are probably those that will be most affected.

Uncontrollable warming will have important repercussions in the Mediterranean region.

Especially Italy, Spain and Greece are expected to face serious problems of water shortage and drought.

Climate change is already happening.

Water shortage in the beginning of the 90s and the decrease of crop productivity due to periods of drought are the first of a series of problems as a result of climate change in our region.

According to certain scientific scenarios, by the year 2100 the temperature in the Mediterranean islands might increase by 4°C. Rainfall in the regions of North Africa and Spain is expected to decrease by 10-40%.

In contrast, Crete is expected to witness rainfall increase of 14.3 - 23.8 mm that will however be erratic and torrential, while summers will be drier with resulting severe water shortage.

Similar problems to those I have mentioned today concerning the Mediterranean region are occurring in almost all European coasts and seas.

In particular, regarding the coasts, integrated planning is required so as to ensure the balanced relation between the natural and marine environment with the needed developmental activities.

The following are therefore required:

- Sustainable development of coastal areas fully respecting the environment.

- Protection and integrated management of natural and cultural reserves.

- Management of human interventions in coastal areas through spatial planning and the inclusion of the territorial dimension within the various sectoral policies.

More specifically:

- Planned Touristic Development that respects the unique cultural and ecological characteristics of the coastal region.

- Industrial activity in coastal areas only if access to the sea is essential for their function, while ensuring their environmentally acceptable performance.

- Measures for the protection of marine reserves.

- Planning and resolving residential pressures in the coastal areas via rational spatial planning as well as qualitative upgrading of urban infrastructures (e.g. treatment facilities, sewage systems, etc.).

- Measures of prevention and handling of accidents at sea and anti-pollution measures.

Today the situation in the Mediterranean region is at a critical point.

Recognition of this critical point has led, as we have seen, to initiatives to confront environmental degradation.

Most countries of the Mediterranean have formulated capacity building programs for environmental issues and they have ratified the Barcelona Convention, an indicator of their commitment to confront this crisis.

What is required is co-ordination of actions and further mobilization.

Today, as Commissioner Dimas stressed, "we are called to act upon promoting economic development in the Mediterranean ..." in such a way however that in the long term "... the environment of the region and its natural resources will be safeguarded. If we fail, the situation in the Mediterranean can get worse to such a degree, that after a certain point it may be irreversible".



All of us want to avoid the threats and the uncertainty that will be brought upon us by climate change.

All of us want a clean and healthy environment for ourselves and for our children.

The protection of nature puts forth many challenges but also offers opportunities at the same time.

Through a more prudent management of natural resources, we can break the old bond between economic development and environmental burden.

We can prosper and have a more friendly behavior towards the environment, at the same time.

This should become a part of our conscience.

The protection of nature and biodiversity, the reduction of greenhouse gases, trying to

achieve sustainable development are not unnecessary luxuries, but rather our obligation towards the next generations that will live on this planet.

Exploiting the potentials offered by technology in regard to the formation of synergies between environmental protection and economic development – a position that was adopted by the European Council in October 2003 - taking measures for the compliance and enforcement of environmental legislation, investing in the emerging market of “environmental goods” we can really find ourselves on the path towards sustainable development.

Therefore, we have to coordinate our actions in an alliance toward sustainability and leave behind us, once and for all, the last remnants of that mentality which has linked us with the wrong kind of development.

## II

**Mr. Sotiris Vosdou**

*General Secretary of the Region of Ionian Islands*

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honor for me to greet the opening meeting of the 6th Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD).

The two subjects which are the focus of COMPSUD's action, the environment and sustainable development, are connected with each other, especially in the Mediterranean countries that you represent. In those regions for which tourism is the main financial sector, as in Corfu, the protection of the environment is of great importance for the quality of people's lives and for their economic development. It is very important for everyone, whether citizens or businessmen, to understand that the protection of the environment in which we live and work is not something distant that concerns only the state.

Rather, it directly concerns all of us. Keeping the seas clean and the water resources unpolluted from pesticides and fertilizers, we can ensure ourselves and our children some of the required conditions for the sustainable development of our regions.

In this field the EU and our country have made great efforts. Already in our country a program has been launched for the closure of dumps and the creation of modern sanitary landfills. This will contribute to protecting the aquifers from pollution caused by the uncontrollable waste disposal in streamlets and gorges.

Furthermore, in the framework of public awareness for young people, P.I.N. participates in the INTERREG III B CADSES, R.A.V.E SPACE program focusing on public awareness for land-planning values via the educational process.



I believe that initiatives such as yours contribute decisively to the communication and collaboration between citizens of the Mediterranean region for the development and enrichment of their quality of life. This is the

base for sustainable development of the entire region, a region that constituted the cradle of European and world culture.

I wish you success in your work!

### III

**Mr. Stefanos Poulimenos**

*Prefect of Corfu*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Deputies, Representatives of the Parliaments of the Mediterranean countries participating in the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development,

I am very happy to welcome you in Corfu.

The Mediterranean region - a region of incomparable natural beauty - constitutes undoubtedly the cradle and the crossroad of ancient civilizations.

Along the coasts of our common sea, through the centuries, people with different cultural backgrounds, different religions and different mentalities have come together. Not always in peaceful terms. Unfortunately, from the depths of the past until our days, conflicts have succeeded the peaceful periods quite frequently.

Nevertheless, the Mediterranean region has acted more as a large melting pot, as a unifying factor, instead of an element of segregation between the East and the West, the North and the South. And this is mainly a result of the catalytic effect of its natural environment.

The unique Mediterranean light, the extensive olive groves, the sinuous coasts, the sound of cicadas in the heat of summertime, the aroma of thyme and oregano, the breeze blowing in the pines that seem to touch the blue sea, the song of the common Scops owl, the moon shining on the dark sea, all these and so much more, mark without a doubt the deeper being of each person that was lucky to be born in some corner of the Mediterranean region.

Because of the above and despite all the problems, the difficulties and their differences, the people of the region know deep down inside that the things that unite us are way more than those that separate us.

Dear guests, this Circle is precisely another testimony of the common interest shared by the people you represent, for the present and the future of our common womb, the Mediterranean.

Sustainable Development in the wider region is today but a one way road, the only option and a bet that should be won.

In the previous century, reckless development without any respect for the natural and anthropogenic environment, led to the accumulation of complex problems. Sea pollution, extreme reduction of aquatic reserves, desertification of huge areas, anarchic urban structure and unlimited urbanization, overfishing and overexploitation of natural resources are only some of the most important problems that our people are requested to face.

In relation to what I already mentioned, there are issues that perhaps exceed the narrow competence of this initiative. Issues that are related to the continuing military conflicts in the M. East, migration, the pressing need for improvement of the quality of life in the countries of the Southern Mediterranean, the improvement of infrastructures related to health and social welfare, the eradication of illiteracy, the promotion of women's involvement in the social and economic life of our countries, the obliteration of child labour and many other issues.

Since these issues inhibit the promotion of the Sustainable Development that we seek, we are compelled to take them seriously into account, and I am convinced that this is your intention here in this meeting as well as in the framework of your role as Deputies of your countries' Parliaments.

This effort to confront such problems is an essential prerequisite for the promotion of Sustainable Development.

With these thoughts and with the certainty that our hospitable island constitutes the ideal place to conduct important discussions, once again I welcome you and wish you success in your work.

## IV

**Mr. Sotiris Mikalef**

*Mayor of Corfu*

As mayor of Corfu, I welcome the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development to our island.

In particular, I would like to thank the Hellenic Minister of Foreign Affairs Dora Bakoyannis and the Chairman of COMPSUD and Deputy of Corfu Nikos Georgiadis, who proposed Corfu as the place for the meeting to take place.

Without any exaggeration or trace of regionalism, I consider the choice wise, in order to highlight the very serious problems faced by the Mediterranean community, through the representatives of Parliament and the contribution of international organizations that try to improve the state of the environment.

Dear participants, in Corfu, you will not only see historical monuments, natural beauty and places of destination for millions of people from all over the world. In this strategic location, that has over the years been the focus of the great economic powers of the past, one finds today a gifted island, that awaits for your conclusions and outcomes, in order to take the lead in their application. The Mediterranean region is in danger, Corfu is in danger.

The measures and the precautions that have been and will be proposed, will find here the most willing recipients.

We want a green island. We want the proper management for our water resources.

We want to preserve the extensive olive groves of Corfu and the island's inhabitants and visitors to benefit from it.

Our cultural values, which are common along the Mediterranean coastline, do not tolerate regional military fronts, hubs of agitation and distress, nor regulations that do not have wider social acceptance.

I am happy because I address representatives of Parliaments and officers of organizations engaged in the common good.

Allow me to remind you, that democracy is a unique political system that supports the sustainable development of political thought.

Therefore, it is time for political thought and pragmatic solutions to correct each rift and point of deterioration within the Mediterranean region, with deep faith that only in this way democracy will develop.

We, habitants of Corfu and Greeks, expect a lot from your admirable effort.

I wish you every success, and I hope Corfu will be a source of inspiration for an effective and visionary "Declaration of Corfu".

Thank you!

## V

**Prof. Michael Scoullas**

*Secretary General of COMPSUD, Chairman of GWP-Med and MIO-ECSDE*

Your Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear Friends,

Let me first welcome you and also thank you for your presence here in Corfu on the occasion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of COMPSUD, at a very important moment of the evolution of this ancient region.

We have repeatedly stated, also in previous COMPSUD meetings, that a lot has been obtained in the region as it concerns the protection of the environment and a development with less harm to nature and the future of our children.

However, we are still very far from approaching the sustainable development of the countries and peoples of the region and our environment continues to deteriorate in many parts of it. To a certain extent this is inevitable since the root causes of destruction, pollution and social unrest are still with us including armed conflicts, rapid increase of population, limited investment and rather low productivity, as we can see from the relevant reports of the European Environment Agency (EEA), the Plan Bleu and various statistics.

The role of the various stakeholders in the region is better recognized, at least in the various declarations, plans and strategies. Nevertheless, also in this field we still observe a delay and difficulties of Governments in involving them in meaningful dialogues and in sharing responsibilities with them.

There is still lack of awareness and lack of appropriate education for sustainable development. In all these areas the role of Parliaments and of individual MPs who have a good knowledge, information and understanding on sustainability issues is of cardinal importance.

Our meeting will examine in more detail the currently ongoing activities in the various political Mediterranean fora which deal with the relevant issues.

COMPSUD needs to build better bridges with other Parliamentary Bodies such as the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, the Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and of course with the Environment committees and/or committees on Sustainable Development of the National Parliaments in order to assist in spreading up at least some of the needed changes.

Such changes are expected in order to achieve the MDGs; provide for a more green future for the Mediterranean, promote renewable energy sources, promote IWRM and the sustainable use of water and reduce through mitigation and adaptation the impact of climate change in the region. COMPSUD could also support morally and politically, important initiatives in the region such as those undertaken under the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, namely: Horizon 2020, the Mediterranean Component of EU Water Initiative and all those undertaken by UNEP/MAP and GEF.

It is of great importance for COMPSUD that the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece Mrs. Bakogianni will formally address our meeting. It is also very important that the Secretary General of the Arab League, Mr. Omar Adman and the President of the Environmental Commission of the Greek Parliament Mr. A. Katziyannis and others actively participate in this meeting.

I hope that our deliberations will allow you to conclude with a Declaration which could help in addressing all relevant fora of the region with concrete views and recommendations.

## VI

Dr. Adnan Omran

*Secretary General of the Arab Parliament*

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

First of all I would like to express my great appreciation for the excellent work done by COMPSUD.

Allow me also to congratulate all of you who contributed to the objectives of COMPSUD on behalf of the Arab parliament.

I would like to give you an idea about the newly established Arab Parliament. The parliament was established on March 2005, with the total approval of the summit of Arab leaders, held in Algeria. It started its activities in mid 2006. The parliament consists of 88 members, four members for each country. The duties are the Arab interest in all fields. The obligations are to provide its opinion on all matters related to Arab interest.

The Arab Parliament has succeeded in forming official relations with the European parliament, and all international organizations and institutions.

The Arab Parliament joins COMPSUD in its endeavors and commitments to the objectives,

set, in the fields of sustainable development, water resources, and the role of women and in all related fields.

The Arab parliament believes strongly in the great importance of these activities, for human life, and especially to the collective benefit of the countries of the Mediterranean. We call for urgent efforts to establish just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region, peace being one of the main objectives of the Barcelona Declaration.

The Arab countries have called for dialogue and honest negotiations to implement the Security Council's resolutions.

The work done, and the objectives ahead, give us strong reasons for optimism. We warmly thank the Greek government for its assistance and especially the Foreign Minister, whose participation gave the meeting special importance.

Also, special thanks to the authorities of the beautiful island of Corfu.

## VII

Mrs. Mirey Atallah

*UNDP/GEF*

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

First allow me to extend my thanks for the Hellenic hospitality and for providing me with an opportunity to address you in this forum.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

Every year, UNDP produces an independent report on a specific topic in relation to Human Development. The 2006 UNDP Human Development Report, dedicated to water, has served to catalyze global attention to what it describes as the global water crisis. This crisis means **deprivation in access to water**: the

poor are systematically excluded from access by their poverty, by their limited legal rights or by public policies that limit access to water for life and for livelihoods. While illustrating that chronic water stress does pose a significant threat to human development in many parts of the world, the HDR underscores that, first and foremost, the global water crisis is rooted in power, poverty and inequality, particularly for women. As the HDR title and contents suggest, the water crisis is not so much one of absolute scarcity but one of **governance**.

2007 is past the mid-point for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the world still faces serious challenges in achieving the water supply and sanitation MDGs: Over 900 million additional people need to gain access to an improved water source by 2015, and over 1,320 million need access to improved sanitation, if the water and sanitation MDGs are to be achieved.

Water is a fundamental input into most productive sectors (80% to agriculture alone) and increasing competition over use and allocation threatens to leave out the poor even further. The development and management of water resources remain at the heart of the struggle for sustainable human development, economic growth and poverty reduction. The impacts of climate change will make this challenge even greater. In 2007, the HDR will be dedicated to CC.

The HDR and analyses carried out by UNDP's Water Governance Programme provide ample evidence that access to water and sanitation is *the* core driver for development:

- Sanitation, water resources management and supply services are all inextricably linked to the other MDGs, many of which *cannot* be achieved if water fails
- The interdependence of people on water is also transboundary – 90% of the world population lives in countries with shared water bodies
- Competing demands for water means the poor will lose out on all fronts unless we change and improve water governance
- Each dollar invested in water resources development and management, including sanitation, would generate 8 dollars in economic returns
- Successfully addressing the water and sanitation crisis could trigger the next major leap forward in human development (as the 'green revolution' did in the 60-70's)

The publication of the 2006 Human Development Report has re-focused international attention on the MDG water and sanitation targets and related water resources management and development issues. From UNDP's perspective, the HDR can serve as a great catalyst to generate concerted action to

address the water-poverty nexus and MDG targets.

In the context of 'Water for Life', the HDR makes the following four principal recommendations:

- Make water a human right – legislatively: how many countries have done so, is it advisable and would we recommend to make "sound environment" a human right?
- Put in place national strategies for water and sanitation that will not be shelved
- Increase international aid by \$3-4 billion/year (Official Development Assistance x2)
- Develop a Global Action Plan to ensure cost-effectiveness and avoid duplication, replication and overlaps.

Key recommendations under 'Water for Livelihoods' include:

- Develop integrated water resources management strategies linked to economic development and poverty reduction strategies
- Put gender rights to water at center of development and give women a voice in water management decisions – not only by increasing their participation in parliament, in government and in public consultations, but also by reflecting their priorities, needs and concerns in water policies, legislation and strategies
- Strengthen water and land rights - legal empowerment of the poor
- Greater emphasis on strategies for climate change adaptation, integrated into national development frameworks: because climate change can undermine development investments and activities (e.g. sea level rise and investment in coastal tourism; water scarcity and hydro-power development)
- Strengthen institutional capacity and adequately finance all levels – local, national, transboundary

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

The countries represented here came together around a shared water body, the Mediterranean; and we are gathered here today as shareholders of a joint resource.



Mediterranean countries are endowed with a peculiar richness: they are engaged in Euro-mediterranean processes and the WFD is a model which could be adapted; they are also engaged in Arab processes such as the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) whose mission is to combat desertification and reverse vegetation loss; and those that are located on the African continent are engaged with AMCOW and NEPAD's peer review processes. These are wonderful opportunities for cross-fertilization and for Mediterranean countries to act, once more, as catalysts for exchanges and change.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

When we speak of water management, issues such as investments, budgetary allocations, ministerial level coordination, legal frameworks, subsidies and incentives, efficient water use and environmental flows come to mind as key areas which need to be strengthened in our region.

When we speak of water governance, issues such as corruption, transparent processes, public participation, private public partnerships, collaboration and transboundary agreements, sound public policies and gender empowerment emerge as areas which can and need to be drastically improved.

When we speak of threats, climate change, droughts and floods, health and diseases, food security and potentially conflicts are recognized as priorities in the Mediterranean.

But water, whether it has trickled down and has settled in aquifers, whether it runs through national or transnational rivers, whether it reaches at your coasts driven by currents, waves and tides, or whether it evaporates from a lake in the west to precipitate as snow or rainfall in the east, it is a shared and precious resource which requires concerted action.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

In light of the above, I urge you, as legislators, to link and learn from each other when given

the opportunity through such events. To ensure that intersectoral coordination does occur and that the work of one administration does not undermine that of another. To raise IWRM as a priority in your discussions with development partners so that we can support you improve water governance and management. To allocate the proper budgets at the national levels as evidence of a strong political will. To ensure that implementation follows suit to the legislation you issue. To create the proper space for civil society to act as an independent and powerful watch-dog reminding us of our responsibilities, commitments and integrity. And lastly, to ensure that individual citizens are engaged in these processes, as the bearers of rights and responsibilities towards the sound management and conservation of this rare, precious and shared resource.

Your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

In light of the above, UNDP stands ready to support processes, to provide expertise, to coordinate country teams and facilitate access to funds and investments, as recommended by the high level panel on UN reform. Above all, UNDP stands ready to support you in advocating for improved water governance.

In this context, I would like to invite COMPSUD to join us in an emerging initiative: Following the Petersberg process, your counterparts in sub-saharan Africa have requested our support for inter-parliamentary dialogues, capacity building and training for legal and policy reform in relation to water management. This is shaping up in a 3-year project focused on groundwater, lakes and the strengthening of legislation and policies. It would be highly appreciated if COMPSUD agreed to join this process to exchange, share your experience and learn from your colleagues in parliaments of the African continent.

Thank you for your attention.



## I

## The “Horizon 2020” Initiative for de-polluting the Mediterranean Sea by 2020

*Mr. Andrew Murphy, European Commission*

## HORIZON 2020

*Mediterranean Neighbours  
working together*

May 2007

1

## Euro-Mediterranean Process (“Barcelona Process”)

- Framework of political, economic and social relations between EU and partner countries.
- Association Agreements with each country
  - Environment covered under ‘Economic Cooperation’
- Regional emphasis
- Five year work plan refocused activities to 2010

2

## European Neighbourhood Policy

### •Special status for “neighbourhood” countries (all Euro-Med included)

Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, West Bank/Gaza, Syria, Tunisia

### •Action Plans

- Jointly defined agenda
- Short and Medium Term Priorities

### •European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI).

- Policy support instrument
- More focussed targeting in support of action plans

3

## Environmental framework

- EU environmental policies and measures
  - Application of acquis in EU member states and alignment in candidates and pre-candidates
  - Cooperation with third countries under the acquis (Water Framework Directive, proposed Marine Strategy Directive)
- Environmental Cooperation with third countries under Association Agreements
- EU Water Initiative (Mediterranean Component)
- Convention for Protection of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention)
- Global conventions (biodiversity, climate change etc.)
- Regional actions
  - Short and Medium Term Action Programme with focus on Integrated Coastal Zone Management

4

## Origins of Horizon 2020

- **10th Anniversary Euro-Med Summit endorsed 5 year work programme to re-focus the process**
  - Provided high level support in partner countries for the actions
  - Actions included: ‘endorse a feasible timetable to de-pollute the Mediterranean Sea by 2020’ (became HORIZON 2020)
- **Sept. 06 “Establishing an environment strategy for the Mediterranean” COM(2006) 475**
  - Outlined rationale of Commission cooperation – why we cooperate!
  - Identified Commission cooperation tools – not just money!
  - Released draft timetable for « de-pollution » for discussion with partners
- **Cairo Euro-Med Environment Ministerial – Nov 06**
  - Endorsed the H2020 timetable and committed to work towards its implementation
  - Supported Steering Group to oversee the initiative

5

## Aims of Horizon 2020

- Re-focus attention on key challenge of reducing pollution
  - Priority sectors of urban waste water, municipal waste and industrial emissions
- Enhance coordination between organisations and institutions to better target resources
- Link ongoing efforts to protect the Med to EU political framework and financial tools
- Requires political will and concentration of financial resources

6

### Horizon 2020: Approach

- A Euro-Med initiative (not just the Commission) – endorsed by all of the partners
- Coordinate with existing institutions, don't create new ones!
- Not just about what the EU will do – all partners must contribute
- Open to all who are ready to cooperate
- Act where EU has added value
  - Raise wider political profile (beyond environment ministries)
    - Use structure for EU/Partner dialogue at relatively high levels of government
    - Refocus attention on long-standing issue
  - Use experience in EU and other regions (i.e. Danube-Black Sea DABLAS)

7

### Horizon 2020 : Components

- **Pollution Reduction Projects**
  - Identify and prioritise the most significant pollution reduction projects and work to secure funding (European Investment Bank, World Bank, MAP etc.)
- **Capacity building measures**
  - Development of legislation, institutions and civil society
- **Research**
  - Strategic focus of research framework programme to support environmental policy
- **Monitoring, steering and review**
  - Develop 'scorecard' and indicators to measure progress

8

### Pollution Reduction Component

- Inspired by DABLAS experience
  - Connecting financial and environmental concerns
  - Identification, prioritisation, preparation and implementation
  - Develop a pipeline of national projects of regional significance
- Mediterranean Action Programme has analysed the environmental problems but slow progress on their solution.

9

### Next Steps

- **For 2007 - implementation measures**
  - EIB working to identify the most « bankable » projects from National Action Plans developed under the Barcelona convention.
  - Commission to set up steering group
  - Initial ENPI assistance being programmed in discussion with partner countries (in line with strategy papers)
  - EEA/MAP/Eurostat to develop indicator and scorecard process.

10

### More information

- **Horizon 2020**
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enlarg/med/horizon\\_2020\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/enlarg/med/horizon_2020_en.htm)
- **Communication establishing an environmental strategy for the Mediterranean**
  - [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2006/com2006\\_0475en01.pdf](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2006/com2006_0475en01.pdf)
- **European Neighbourhood Policy**
  - Includes, actions plans + ENPI Strategies and indicative programmes
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index_en.htm)
- **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership**
  - Includes ENPI Regional Strategy Paper
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/euomed/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/euomed/index.htm)

11

## II

## The regional pollution reduction process as part of the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

*Mr. Saverio Civili, MED POL Coordinator, Mediterranean Action Plan - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP)*

### The Mediterranean marine pollution reduction process as a contribution to the implementation of the MSSD

*The implementation of National Action Plans to address land-based pollution in the framework of the Barcelona Convention*

**Francesco Saverio Civili**  
MED POL Programme Coordinator  
Barcelona Convention Secretariat

1

### The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

• In 2001 the 21 Mediterranean Countries and the EC decided to prepare a specific Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development in line with the Johannesburg WSSD process

• The Strategy (MSSD) started being prepared in the framework of the Barcelona Convention

• The initiative was endorsed in 2002 by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference

• The MSSD was prepared and endorsed in 2005 by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention including the EC

2

### The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

#### Four major objectives

- Contribute to economic development by enhancing Mediterranean assets
- Reduce social disparities by implementing the Millennium Development Goals
- Change unsustainable production and consumption and ensure sustainable management of natural resources
- Improve governance at the local, national and regional levels

3

### The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

#### Seven priority fields of action and synergy

- Better management of water resources and demand
- Improved rational use of energy
- Sustainable mobility (transport management)
- Sustainable tourism
- Sustainable agriculture
- Sustainable urban development
- Sustainable management of the sea, coastal areas and marine resources

4

### The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

#### Sustainable management of the sea, coastal areas and marine resources

- Strengthening regional cooperation
- Integrated management of coastal zones
- Preventing and reducing pollution from ships
- Preventing and reducing land-based pollution
- Protecting marine and coastal biodiversity

5

### Preventing and reducing land-based pollution: The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

1997: Preparation of a regional assessment of the state of pollution and a Report on pollution hot spots; adoption of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) with pollution reduction objectives, targets and deadlines

2001: Adoption of Operational Document for the implementation of SAP and launch of GEF Project

2001-2005: Capacity building programmes in countries (institutional, legal, technical)

6

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

2003-2005: Preparation of National Diagnostic Analyses and Baseline Budgets for emissions and releases in all countries

2004-2005: Capacity building and preparation of National Action Plans (NAPs)

2005: Finalization of NAPs and their endorsement by Contracting Parties

7

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### The National Action Plans (NAPs)

*The NAPs describe what actions the countries intend to implement to reduce municipal and industrial pollution by the year 2010 and 2015 in line with the pollution reduction targets and deadlines of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)*

8

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### *The preparation of NAPs*

- Several meetings held in all countries
- Technical assistance provided to countries
- Creation of inter-ministries committees
- Concrete participatory process (national and local authorities, experts, private sector, NGOs) for the preparation of the Plans
- plans indicating actions for 2010 and 2015
- plans containing investment portfolio

9

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### *Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

- Maintain the participatory approach
- Assist countries throughout the process
- Ensure financial sustainability
- Seek partnerships
- Make the process dynamic, doable and flexible

10

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### *Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

- **Make the process dynamic, doable and flexible**
  - keep reviewing priorities and capabilities and set doable targets and deadlines
  - investigate other more realistic options for the pollution reduction process to substitute the flat rate approach (differentiated approach)
- **Seek partnerships**
  - enhance cooperation with private sector
  - establish partnerships through transfer of technology
  - strengthen cooperation with GPA, GEF, Investment and Development Banks, the EC, national cooperation structures

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### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### *Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

- **Seek partnerships**
  - enhance cooperation with private sector
  - establish partnerships through transfer of technology
  - strengthen cooperation with GPA, GEF, Investment and Development Banks, the EC, national cooperation structures

12

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### *Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

- **Ensure financial sustainability**
  - make use of the results of the GEF Project on national financial mechanisms
  - create a regional sustainable financing mechanism
- **Assist countries throughout the process**
  - keep close contacts with authorities, identify gaps and problems and offer capacity building
  - launch transfer of technology process

12

### The pollution reduction process coordinated by MED POL:

#### *Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

- **Maintain the participatory approach**
  - Keep all stakeholders informed of progress, and facilitate and support contacts between them
  - Create clearing-house and keep up-to-date and diffuse information
- **Main opportunities:**
  - The new GEF Strategic Partnership
  - The EC Horizon 2020 Initiative

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**The pollution reduction process  
coordinated by MED POL:**  
*Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

**The new GEF Strategic Partnership**

To support the implementation of SAP MED and SAP BIO and their National Action Plans

Issues are tackled in an integrated way (industrial and municipal pollution, freshwater management, biodiversity conservation, fisheries, integrated coastal zone management)

PDF-B to terminate this year and full-scale Project to start in 2008

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**The pollution reduction process  
coordinated by MED POL:**

*Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

**The new GEF Strategic Partnership**

✓ **Many Partners:**

MAP with MED POL and its Regional Activity Centres, UNEP/GPA, UNEP/RS, UNESCO, UNIDO, FAO/GFCM, WWF, MIO/ECSDE, GWP, METAP, WORLD BANK

✓ **Two major components:**

- A regional component for capacity building (UNEP)
- An Investment Fund (World Bank)

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*Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

**The new GEF Strategic Partnership**

*-The regional component*

- Facilitation of policy and legislative reforms for the implementation of SAP MED and SAP BIO
- Replication Strategies
- Technical assistance (marine litter, transfer of technology, sustainable financing mechanisms, biodiversity protection strategies, endangered fish and invertebrates and sustainable fisheries, coastal aquifers management, integrated water resources management, integrated coastal management, small grants programme)

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*Ensuring sustainable implementation of NAPs*

**The new GEF Strategic Partnership**

*The Investment Fund*

- A fund managed by the World Bank to support the implementation of specific national priority projects included in the NAPs to address land-based pollution and biodiversity conservation

**The EC Horizon 2020 Initiative**

- Specifically addressing municipal and industrial pollution in the Mediterranean region as the SAP
- Similar objectives and targets with SAP
- Takes into account progress already made in the pollution reduction process of the SAP
- Proposes a coordinating mechanism including MAP
- Is expected to mobilize national and EC funds

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## III

## Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (SIA EMFTA)

Mr. Clive George, University of Manchester

### SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN FREE TRADE AREA

#### Update on Phase 3 of the SIA-EMFTA Project

Clive George  
SIA-EMFTA consortium and University of Manchester

Project funded by the European Commission, DG RELEX/EUROPEAID



Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (COMPSUD), Corfu, 3 May 2007



Delegation



1

### Phase 2 impact assessment

Assessment of sustainability impacts at regional level

- baseline scenario – without EMFTA
- EMFTA scenario
  - industrial products
  - agriculture
  - services
  - south-south integration

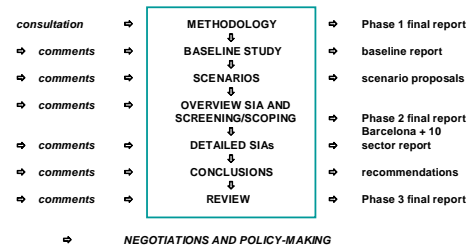
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### SIA Phase 3

- Report 1
  - focus on four key issues identified in Phase 2
  - means of avoiding significant adverse impacts and enhancing beneficial ones in Mediterranean Partner Countries
  - potential for EU assistance through MEDA and other support
- Report 2 (in progress)
  - proposed monitoring mechanism
  - case study results
- Report 3 - final SIA report
  - review of SIA findings
  - final recommendations

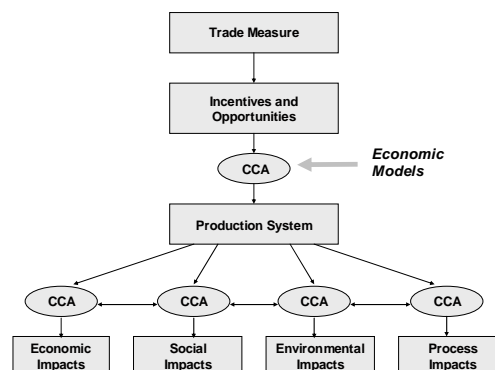
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### The SIA Process (EMFTA)



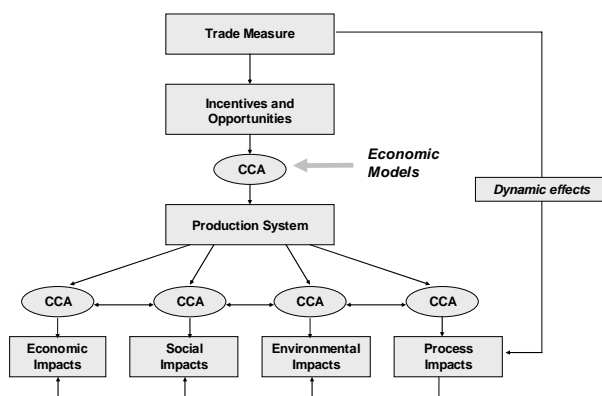
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### Impact causal chain analysis (CCA)



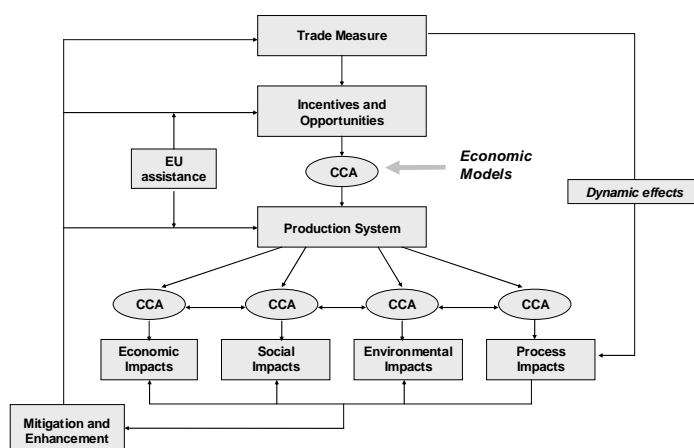
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## Impact causal chain analysis (CCA)



6

## Impact causal chain analysis (CCA)



7

### Phase 2 findings – economic and social impacts in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries

- overall static economic welfare gain (small)
- potential large long term economic gain, strongly dependent on parallel domestic and regional policy measures
- significant adverse impact on unemployment, with associated pressures on wage rates (industrial short term \*, agricultural long term \*)
- significant adverse impact on government revenues (and hence on social, educational, health and environmental expenditure) \*
- greater vulnerability of poor households to fluctuations in world market prices for basic foods
- adverse effects on the status, living standards and health of rural women \*

\* selected for study in Phase 3

8

### Phase 2 findings – environmental impacts in southern and eastern Mediterranean countries

- significant local impacts on water resources, soil fertility and biodiversity in areas of high existing stress \*
- higher environmental stress in cities, resulting from declining rural employment and accelerated rural-urban migration
- higher air pollution and coastal water pollution from greater international transport
- higher waste generation from greater use of packaging materials
- potential for improved water resource management through environmental services liberalisation \*

\* selected for study in Phase 3

9

## Phase 2 findings – impacts in EU

- overall economic benefit (small static welfare gain, potentially large dynamic effects)
- no significant adverse impacts from industrial, services and south-south liberalisation
- agricultural liberalisation has significant local adverse social impacts in southern EU countries
- associated environmental impacts both positive and negative
- further research is needed to evaluate optimal mitigation

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## Phase 2 findings – impacts on Millennium Development Goals

In the absence of appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures:

- small but significant adverse effect on Goals 1 (poverty), 2 (education) and 4 and 5 (health).
- both positive and negative effects for Goal 7 (environment)
- positive impact on Goal 8 (global partnership)

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## Phase 2 recommendations – trade-related measures

- **adjust phasing of industrial liberalisation**
  - take account of actual level of unemployment and implementation of tax reforms
- **flexibility in phasing for agriculture, services and south-south liberalisation**
  - link to monitoring of actual conditions for key economic, social and environmental indicators
- **special arrangements for sensitive agricultural products in EU or MPCs**
  - optimise by evaluation of alternative options, e.g. collaborative research into the interacting impacts in both the EU and MPCs
- **special arrangements for services needing strong regulation and/or government subsidies to avoid adverse impacts**
  - e.g. distribution services, environmental services, financial services.
  - link timing of liberalisation to monitoring implementation of the necessary reforms
- **incorporate similar arrangements into south-south agreements**

12

## Phase 2 recommendations – EU development assistance

- **promote collaborative research on industrial competitiveness among all MPCs**
  - cost-effectiveness of past measures and potential future ones to enhance the competitiveness of MPC industrial companies
- **detailed EU-MPC research into impacts of agricultural liberalisation**
  - social and environmental
  - MPCs and southern EU countries.
- **assistance with schemes to disseminate market information**
  - EU product standards and other market access constraints and opportunities.
- **targeted support for stronger environmental management**
  - institutional capacity for integrated economic, social and environmental planning
  - integrated urban-rural and industrial-agricultural planning
- **assistance with strengthening institutional capacity for the use of environmental economics techniques in development planning.**
- **coordination of EU support within the Barcelona process**
  - inter-agency screening of programme proposals against MSSD priority actions
- **further development of the MSSD**
  - take account of continuing research into the economic, social and environmental impacts of greater regional integration.

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## Phase 3 Study areas

1. Environment-related aspects
  - Impact on water resources.
  - Environmental services.
2. Agriculture
  - Small scale agriculture and rural livelihoods
  - Environmental and product standards and opportunities in EU markets
3. Tax reform
4. Urban employment and industrial diversification

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## Phase 3 findings: environment-related aspects (water resources)

- extensive support on water resource issues is already being provided in EC initiatives
- support may be tailored and extended to ensure that it addresses the problems in those specific locations where agricultural production is expected to rise through the EMFTA, and where the resource is already under stress
- detailed research is needed in each country, undertaken by the country's own institutions, with assistance where appropriate from relevant EC programmes

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## Phase 3 findings: environment-related aspects (environmental services)

- minimal impact (positive or negative) when private sector involvement is low
- private sector involvement in the region is increasing and may be accelerated by the EMFTA
- liberalisation may add significant further efficiencies to service delivery
- liberalisation will not reduce the need for imaginative and effective public sector initiatives and administrative frameworks, nor the level of public finance needed for delivering services to poorer sections of the community
- sophisticated regulatory frameworks will be needed for schemes which go beyond subcontracting to private sector management of the service
- EMFTA will give low benefits and low risks if private sector is restricted to subcontracting
- EMFTA gives potential for high benefits with high risks for higher degrees of privatisation
- assistance with developing appropriate regulatory frameworks may be a valuable component of EU support

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## Phase 3 findings: agriculture (small-scale farming and rural livelihoods)

- institutional infrastructure needed to accelerate rural diversification is weak, particularly for women and young people
- greater research is needed into the social and economic capabilities of individual local communities
- national development strategies need to capitalise on those capabilities, to make rural development a central component of national development
- EU experience of integrating rural development into national development is of limited relevance to MPCs
- closer parallels are to be found in SE Asia experience, which minimised rural problems while maximising overall economic development
- EU support for either urban or rural development may be targeted to promote similar measures to those used in SE Asia, within a strategically coherent framework for integrated urban and rural development

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### Phase 3 findings: agriculture (environmental and product standards and market opportunities)

- for both conventional agricultural produce and new initiatives such as organic and hydroponic products, viable market opportunities are highly dependent on iterative ongoing programmes of market research and agricultural research
- need for government initiatives is restricted mainly to in-depth iterative research of this nature, to identify areas where coordinated support might contribute to demonstrably profitable private sector initiatives
- there is little scope for additional interventions or EU support related specifically to the EMFTA that would enhance its potential benefits beyond those that are expected to emerge through market incentives

18

### Phase 3 findings: tax reform

- most MPCs have introduced VAT systems which would in principle be appropriate for replacing lost tariff revenues without adverse effects on income distribution
- all countries' tax systems have scope for significant improvements in efficiency, as well as the need for higher rates in response to EMFTA
- tax reform is not currently covered in the Barcelona+10 work programme, and may be considered an important area for inclusion in order to avoid significant adverse EMFTA impacts
- assistance may be targeted in particular at tapping the experience of EU countries in developing efficient tax systems
- in the light of the recommendations of the UK government Stern report on climate change, provision of some of the finance needed to incorporate carbon taxes into the tax reforms is a second potential area for EU support

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### Phase 3 findings: urban employment and industrial diversification

- since the mid-1990s the EC has supported Mise à Niveau programmes to help enable MPC industries respond to increased EU competition and avoid rising unemployment
- Mise à Niveau has been relatively successful in some countries, particularly Tunisia, and less so in others
- the main success factor has been strong direction and ongoing funding by national government
- detailed success factors may be identified through comparison with similar SE Asian programmes
- each MPC needs to tailor its own programme to address specific local issues
- when used to support local initiatives, EU assistance can make an important contribution to mitigating the potentially adverse employment impacts of the EMFTA and enhancing the potential economic gains

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### Proposed monitoring mechanism

Proposals for:

1. data to be monitored
2. responsibilities for monitoring
3. consultation and participation
4. data analysis
5. integration with policy-making
6. indicators and sources of data

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### Data to be monitored

- negotiated agreements (compared with SIA scenarios)
- implementation of agreements (tariffs, NTBs etc.)
- parallel actions (compared with SIA recommendations)
- changes in trade flows and production
- sustainability impacts (economic, social, environmental)

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### Indicators: EMFTA implementation

- 1) Negotiated agreements – SIA scenarios
- 2) Implementation of agreements (tariffs, peaks, escalation, NTBs)
- 3) Parallel actions – SIA recommendations
- 4) Imports/exports EU-MPC (non-agricultural, agricultural, services)
- 5) Imports/exports MPC-MPC (non-agricultural, agricultural, services)
- 6) Production (non-agricultural, agricultural, services)

23

### Indicators: Economic impacts

- 7) GDP per capita
- 8) GDP growth rate (total, per capita)
- 9) Average input prices, services
- 10) Consumer price index
- 11) Tariff revenue, total government revenue
- 12) Total agricultural exports/imports
- 13) Total industrial exports/imports
- 14) Total service exports/imports
- 15) Fixed capital formation
- 16) Unemployment (urban, rural, total)

24

### Indicators: Social impacts

- 17) Poverty level (\$US/day 1, 2)
- 18) Average wage rates (skilled, unskilled, industrial, agricultural)
- 19) Food imports as percent consumption
- 20) Social expenditure
- 21) Health expenditure, education expenditure
- 22) Gini index
- 23) GDI
- 24) GEM
- 25) Cultural diversity

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### Indicators: Environmental impacts

- 26) Loss of arable land by desertification etc.
- 27) Surface of protected coastal and marine areas
- 28) Proportion of the population with access to safe drinking-water (total, urban, rural)
- 29) Proportion of the population with access to sanitation (total, urban, rural)
- 30) Household waste generation per capita
- 31) Number of uncontrolled dumping sites
- 32) Air quality index
- 33) Greenhouse gas emissions (total, total transport, shipping, air)
- 34) Water efficiency index (total and per sector)
- 35) Exploitation index of renewable water resources
- 36) Energy intensity, total and per sector

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### Indicators: Dynamic effects

- 37) Energy intensity, total and per sector
- 38) Public and private expenses for research and development
- 39) Transport infrastructure investment
- 40) Rural-urban migration rate

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### Responsibilities for monitoring

- supervisory role for MCSD (similar to CEC for NAFTA)
- wider government representation on the MCSD
- greater representation of the private sector in MCSD
- stronger role for MCSD as an advisory body to high level and other Ministerial meetings of the Barcelona process

28

### Consultation and participation in monitoring mechanism

- dedicated website
- annual monitoring report, distributed/presented to:
  - government and civil society stakeholders in the EU and MPCs;
  - key stakeholder fora;
  - Ministerial meetings of the Barcelona process;
  - Parliamentarians (trade, environment, social and regional committees, EMPA, COMPSUD)

29

### Analysis of monitoring data

- causal analysis and attribution of effects
- external trade influences (regional, global)
- ex-post impact assessment and research

30

### Integration of monitoring with policy-making

- EC steering committee
- MPC steering committees
- position papers
- annual monitoring reports

31

### Indicators and sources of data

- 40 proposed indicators
- environmental indicators same as MSSD
- additional indicators for economic impacts, social impacts and EMFTA implementation
- reinforces recognised needs for stronger data collection (MSSD, MEDSTAT, MEDPOL, EMWIS, national statistics bureaux)

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### Ongoing consultation

- written comments, suggestions for next steps, copies of reports etc. are always very welcome.
- contributions to developing the monitoring proposals will be particularly welcome

Website: <http://www.sia-trade.org/emfta>

Email: [sia-emfta@man.ac.uk](mailto:sia-emfta@man.ac.uk)

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## IV

## The Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI)

*Mr. Vangelis Constantianos, MED EUWI Secretariat (GWP-Med)*

### Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative



Lead Country: Greece

Vangelis Constantianos  
MED EUWI Secretariat  
(GWP-Med)



1

#### The Mediterranean

A region with great water challenges, established national water agendas, North-South regional initiatives and a diversity of water partners and interests

7% (28 m) people below 500 m<sup>3</sup>/capita/year

29% (115 m) people below 1000 m<sup>3</sup>/capita/year

Water Supply Unequally Distributed in Space and Time

90% of region's GNP coming from 5 countries in the North

The population has doubled in 40 years (440 m today)

Exploitation indexes in several areas over 100%

Agriculture main water user with 70-80 % of consumption

Surface and Groundwater seriously polluted

2

#### EU Water Initiative (EUWI)

- Platform for strategic and political dialogue on water issues, endorsed at the highest political level
- Open forum for consultation with concerned stakeholders within the EU and in the region
- Time-bound process with specific objectives
- Mechanism for improved coordination within the EU and the partner country
- Mechanism to promote ownership and demand from partners
- Means to catalyze funding for water resources development and service delivery

What EUWI is not ?  
Not a new organisation  
not a financial institution, not a source of finance

3

#### EUWI Structure

##### Steering Group (SG)

##### 4 Regional Components

- Africa
- Latin America
- EECCA (Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia)
- Mediterranean (MED)

##### 3 Cross-cutting Components

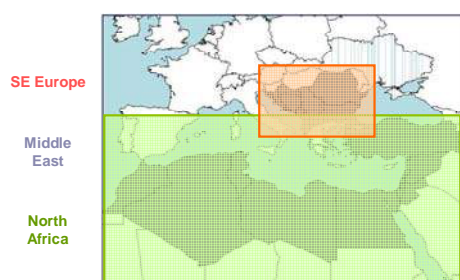
- Monitoring
- Finance
- Research

Working group (WG) for each component

Multi-stakeholder Forum (MSF)

4

#### Mediterranean Component of the EUWI (MED EUWI)



5

#### Objectives – Aims

- Assist the design of better, demand-driven and result-oriented programmes,
- Facilitate better coordination of water programmes and projects, targeting to a more effective use of existing funds and mobilizing new financial resources,
- Foster cooperation for projects' proper implementation, based on enhancing synergies and strategic assessment

6

#### Focus Themes of MED EUWI

- Integrated water resources management (IWRM), with emphasis on national agendas & shared water bodies;
  - Water supply & sanitation, with emphasis on the poorest part of the societies;
  - Water, food, environment interaction, with emphasis on fragile ecosystems;
  - Non-conventional water resources;
- and horizontal focus themes:
- Transfer of technology & know-how & training;
  - Education

7

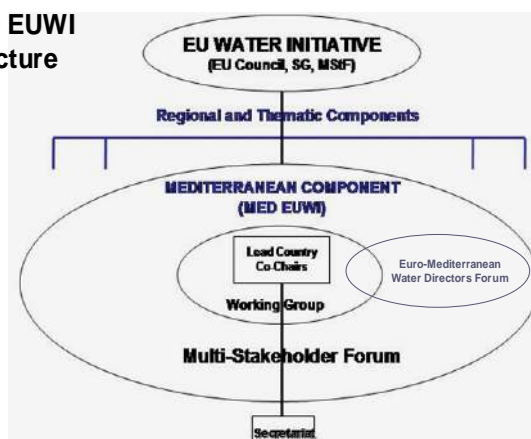
#### Synergies

Strong synergies & linkages between related, regional Initiatives and Programmes: important elements to ensure effectiveness and avoid overlaps

- Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (Horizon 2020)
- Barcelona Convention (MSSD, MCSD)
- EU financial Instruments (ENPI 2007-2013)
- Bilateral and Multilateral donors, IFIs, Int'l Orgs, GEF, etc
- EU acquis on water (EU WFD)

8

## MED EUWI Structure



9

## MED EUWI work programme – Regional

|   | Activities  | Targets / Purpose per Activity   |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Status assessments of the institutional context on IWRM & WSS in 10 MEDA countries                                    | Overview & mapping of water policies & major water programmes on WSS and IWRM  |
| 2 | Seminar on status of IWRM national planning in 5 North African countries & Mauritania                                 | Organise Seminars to assess status of national IWRM planning, facilitate dialogue among key involved agencies & identify priority actions to follow up (25-26 January 2006, Rabat) |
| 3 | Joint Process EU WFD / MED EUWI   | Identification of pilot river basins & implementation of pilot activities, facilitation of Working Groups & leading of the Working Group on Shared Waters                          |
| 4 | Capacity building activities for decision makers and experts on transboundary water resources management in SE Europe | Facilitate multi-stakeholder e-dialogue & organise Workshops to exchange knowledge & present best practises on integrated management of shared lakes & rivers in SE Europe         |

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## MED EUWI work programme – National

### MED EUWI Country Dialogues (Lebanon 2005, Egypt 2006)

#### Main Purpose:

- Create a platform for multistakeholder consultation on country's needs and priorities, identifying gaps & deficiencies in achieving targets at country level, with emphasis on WSS,
- Discuss and elaborate on roadmap & timetable for achieving targets,
- Strengthen coordination between key national involved partners,
- Further support donor coordination & possibly catalyse additional funding for the sector.

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# **MED EUWI work programme – National** (continued..)

## Example: **Policy Dialogue on Water in Egypt**

- Launched in November 2006, Cairo
- Demand-driven process
- Increased ownership & active involvement of national stakeholders

Expected to complement the 'National Water Resources Plan 2017', the 'National Master Plan for Water and Wastewater' & the 'Rural Sanitation Strategy' of Egypt,

It is implemented in close collaboration with OECD/EAP Task Force that will carry out financial assessments and strategies,

ToRs for the Dialogue & its Organizational modalities are developed,

Discussions with Egyptian partners are underway to finalize documents and commence data collection.

13



**THANK YOU**

visit  
[www.minenv.gr/medeuwi/](http://www.minenv.gr/medeuwi/)  
and  
[www.euwi.net](http://www.euwi.net)

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## V

## Transboundary Cooperation for the Integrated Management of Shared Water Bodies in Middle East

*Dr. Fadi Comair, Director General, Ministry of Energy and Water*

### MEDITERRANEAN EUWI/WFD JOINT PROCESS

Working Group on  
Shared Water Resources Management"

### TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION FOR THE INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF SHARED WATER BODIES IN MIDDLE EAST

Presented By  
**Dr. Fadi Comair**  
General Director of Hydraulic  
and Electric Resources & Professor of Hydraulics  
at Notre Dame University  
Lebanon

1

### Acknowledgement

- The objective of this paper is to contribute in improving the ability of transboundary watercourse negotiators in identifying the advantages that are associated with realistic and operational transboundary agreements.
- The negotiators will acquire improved ability and skills for transboundary waters management to enhance their own capacity and positively impact on their national institutions and lay the ground for a communication process oriented towards the implementation of "A Water Culture Network" in the Middle East which could help the peace process sustainability.

2

### I-Introduction

- The UN Report entitled "Water for Life Water for People" 2003, has listed 263 international trans-boundary basins. Beyond their significance in terms of area and conflict potential, these basins:
  - Cover 45 % of the land surface of the earth
  - Effect 40 % of the world's population
  - Account for approximately 80 % of the global river flow
  - Cross political boundaries of 145 nations

3

### Continents versus number of basins

| Continents    | Number of basins |
|---------------|------------------|
| Africa        | 59               |
| Asia          | 52               |
| Europe        | 73               |
| Latin America | 61               |
| North America | 17               |
| Oceania       | 1                |

4

- A closer look to the UN Report "Water for Life Water for People" 2003 shows that 3 trans-boundary watercourses implicate the Lebanese territory.
- A look at the number of countries that share the Jordan River basin highlights the precarious setting of any simple and non equitable mechanisms for sharing water within the involved countries.

5

### Trans-boundary basins the case of Lebanon

| BASINS             | AREA<br>Km <sup>2</sup> | COUNTRY  |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Jordan river basin | 42, 800                 | Lebanon, Syria (Golan heights), Palestine, Jordan and Israel |
| Nahr el Kabir      | 1, 300                  | Lebanon and Syria  |
| Orontus            | 37, 900                 | Lebanon, Syria and Turkey                                    |

6

## II- INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC LAW RELATED TO THE USAGE OF TRANS-BOUNDARY BASINS

### II-1- International conventions:

- a- The United Nations convention on non-navigational uses of International Watercourses – 1997 but adopted by the UN General Assembly is not yet in force, represents the opinion of leading experts and has an authoritative function it was used as a legally binding document for the Lebanese Syrian negotiation on Nahr el Kabir river.

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## UN Convention on Non-Navigational Uses (1997)

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Article 5             | Equitable and reasonable utilization and participation.                            |
| Article 6             | Relevant factors for an equitable and reasonable use of international watercourse. |
| Article 7             | Obligation not to cause significant harm.  |
| Article 8             | General obligation to cooperate.   |
| Article 9             | Regular exchange of data and information.  |
| Article 10:           | Relationship between different uses.   |
| Article 20:           | Protection and preservation of ecosystems.   |
| Article 21            | Prevention, control and reduction of pollution.                                    |
| Articles 24, 25 et 26 | Management and regulations of installations.                                       |
| Article 33            | Settlement of disputes and arbitrations.   |

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### III- The Orontus River:

The Orontus River rises in an area north of the city of Baalbeck and flows through Syria before Entering Iskenderun and emptying into the Mediterranean Sea. Its annual flow is more than 400 MCM.

Negotiations on the Orontus began in the late 1940's and on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1994 a project of agreement was signed for the water distribution of the Orontus River.

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- Its context specifies the average yearly measurement flow based on a total water share for Lebanon of 80 MCM / year when the water resource of the river within the Lebanese territory reaches 400 MCM and above.
- It is considered that the amounts of water withdrawn from all the resources listed in Article 2 of the agreement shall form a part of the original share allocated to the Lebanese side and is distributed over 4 periods according to the following table:

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### Lebanese allocation: Quantities needed

|   | Period                           | Lebanese Portion Quantity Needed<br>MCM |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | September<br>October<br>November | 10                                      |
| 2 | December<br>January<br>February  | 10                                      |
| 3 | March<br>April<br>May            | 10                                      |
| 4 | June<br>July<br>August           | 50                                      |
|   | Total                            | 80                                      |

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Wells in the river's watercourse:

- already existing will remain operational
- no new wells are permitted.

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1997: An addendum to the above mentioned agreement was signed stating that:

- The watercourses of Yammounneh, Marjhine, Joubab el Homer and Ouyoun Orghouch are considered as closed watercourses to be utilized within the limits of the yearly renewable water resources in each basin.
- The water resources of Laboueh can be used during the irrigation period that lasts from end of April to mid October, in addition to the potable water needs of some villages such as Laboueh, Amhaz, Tawfiqieh, Al-Ain, Nabi Othman, Sabbougha, El Khouraybeh, Halbatah and el Jabbouleh.

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- A year is considered as a dry one when the flow of the river is lower than 400 MCM at the Hermel Bridge including the flow of wells and pumping stations. In such situation, the Lebanese water share shall be decreased in proportion to the decrease in the mean river flow. It will be considered equal to be 20% of the water flow running in the river in addition to:

- The water pumped from wells located around the springs and river tributaries that influence their flow. These wells are the ones located within a circle of 1,500 m radius which center point coincides with the spring;

- The pumping stations located along the river course, together with the wells that are located within a strip of 500 m width from each side of the river.

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On January 11<sup>th</sup>, 1997 the minutes of meeting was approved in which the following was considered:

- **Concerning watersheds:** (Yammounneh, Marjhine, Joubab el Homer, Orghouch)  
These watersheds are considered closed. Their exploitation would be equivalent to the volume of yearly renewable water resource within each watershed. The quantity of renewable water resource will be defined in coordination between the Lebanese and Syrian members of the Joint Technical Committee.

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- **Laboueh springs:** Accounting for the social conditions of the population in the region of Baalbeck – Hermel:

- The Lebanese side will benefit from all the water resources of Laboueh springs during the irrigation period that lasts from end April to mid October.

- During the remaining months of the year, all the rain water and the water running from the springs of Laboueh will be conveyed into the Orontus River to the Hermel Bridge.

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#### On March 3rd, 2002:

Approval by the Syrian Lebanese Higher Council for the construction of a dam on the Orontus River. A project suggested by the Lebanese side.

An average share of 80 MCM was allocated to Lebanon that includes the exploited water quantities of the wells and springs that was estimated to 16 MCM.

However, during the dry years, these quantities will decrease to 40MCM.

Based on soil ability and agronomic studies, the water quantity of 64MCM will allow for the irrigation of approximately 6,600 ha of additional areas falling on both sides of the river (shown in tables 5, 6&7).

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The exploitation of the waters from the Orontus River should be done in 2 locations:

Directly after the springs of Ain Zarka and Daffash the construction of a diversion dam and the pumping of water on both sides of the river;

Through a storage dam that will be constructed before the Hermel Bridge.

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The choice for the location of a storage dam abides to several conditions:

**1- Socially:** The construction of a storage dam upstream of the Hermel Bridge will preserve the environmental and tourist constructions falling on both sides of the river.

**2- Technically:** the stored water will be used for irrigation and potable needs and for the production of energy (30 Mega Watt daily for 6 hours) during the dry years. This project will generate financial income that could be used in the future to implement development projects that will improve the social and economic conditions of the region.

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**3- Economically:** The cost of this dam with the irrigation and energy projects together with the cost of lands to be expropriated was included in the 10 year plan and the funds required were allocated in the law program (2001 – 2011) of the national budget that was approved by the Lebanese Parliament and Government

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This project will be executed in two stages:

#### **First stage: June 2003.**

- a diversion dam, pumping stations, lift lines and storage reservoirs.
- irrigation networks and related structures in addition to the cost of land reclamation.

#### **Second stage: June 2004.**

- Storage dam and pumping stations, pumping stations, lift lines and storage reservoirs.
- Irrigation networks and related structures, control equipment for irrigation.

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## IV- THE NAHR EL KABIR RIVER BASIN

### IV- 1 The Hydro geographical description:

- The Nahr el Kabir River takes its rise partly from the Lebanese territory and constitutes the “tracé” of the Lebanese Northern border with the Syrian Arab Republic. It is fed by a number of springs located in southern parts of the Syrian coastal fills and northern Lebanon. Its mean yearly incoming flow is evaluated to be around 150 Mm3.
- These springs are Khalifa, Al- Farash, Assafa and Nabeh Al Nassiria.

|   | Name of the Spring | Average Flow for the last four years (m³/s) |
|---|--------------------|---|
| 1 | Khalifa            | 0.438                                       |
| 2 | Al Farash          | 1.514                                       |
| 3 | Assafa             | 1.575                                       |
| 4 | Al Nassiria        | 1.368                                       |

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## IV- 2 The Agreement on Nahr El Kabir

- The Agreement was set according to International Laws, particularly the 1997 UN's “Law Agreement on Using International Water Courses for Non Navigational Purposes”.

- The Agreement included:

**In Article 1:** The mean yearly incoming flow: 150 MCM

**In Article 3:** The two countries agreed on sharing the Nahr el Kabir waters giving a share of 60% to Syria of its total annual water resources and 40% to Lebanon of its total annual water resources.

**In Article 4:** The shares as decided in Article 3 of this Agreement are applicable on the distribution of the Nahr el Kabir waters in all conditions, whether in a wet or normal or dry year.

**In Article 6:** The two countries have decided the construction of a joint dam in the location of Idlin – Noura el Tahta, with a storage capacity of 70 MCM, according to technical and economic feasibility studies.

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- The clauses of this Agreement and especially Article 1-3-4-6 have strengthened the understanding of the **Law Agreement on Using International Water Courses for Non Navigational Purposes** that backed the principle of cooperation between Lebanon and Syria in this field.
- The Agreement also included:  
**Annex 1:** The methodology in the study and execution of the common dam on Nahr el Kabir in the location of Idlin – Noura el Tahta.  
**Annex 2:** The methodology of watercourse management and sharing of the Nahr el Kabir River (UN convention 1997).
- The Ministry of Energy and Water has established 10 years work plan aiming at insuring additional water resources by increasing the amount of stored water coming from precipitation and surface runoff by the means of constructing 27 dams and Hill lakes.
- In the context of developing and managing water resources for Lebanon and Syria, the two countries decided to join efforts for the construction and management of a dam on Nahr El Kabir.

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#### IV-3 The Idlin-Noura el Tahta Dam

- The construction of Idlin-Noura el Tahta dam provides a yearly storage of 70 MCM approximately and insures agricultural development for both countries.
- The Idlin-Noura el Tahta dam is located near the northern order of Lebanon with Syria, north-east of Tripoli on the Nahr el Kabir at an altitude of 82m, 800m north of the village of Noura el Tahta.
- The construction of this dam will be of a great benefit to the agricultural lands located in the Akkar plain and some of the lands in the vicinity of Noura el Tahta village.

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#### Distribution of Irrigated Areas in Akkar Caza



25

#### Distribution of Irrigated Areas in Akkar Caza



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- The preliminary cost estimate for building this dam is US\$49 million approximately.
- The Idlin-Noura el Tahta dam project shall contribute in strengthening the economy of the region and shall provide Lebanon a storage volume of more than 35MCM approximately. This water shall be used for irrigating around 4,959 hectares, for potable and industrial purposes.
- The preliminary cost estimate has indicated :  
the project's cost of one cubic meter of water produced for irrigation is \$0.19 for a real interest rate of 6% and 25years study period. The social net present value of the project is 67.8 million dollars if each irrigate and newly reclaimed hectare is assured to generate 4000\$ of net resources.

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**Water resources on the Lebanese watercourse, with due effects on environmental characteristics of the shared water.**

|                             |               |                                      |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--|
|                             |               |                                      | Al-Kabir River surroundings watershed area 300 km <sup>2</sup> (about 40% in Lebanon)  |
| Climatic Evapotranspiration | Precipitation | Snow (mm eq.) Rain (mm)<br>Rain (mm) | 500 – 1200 (coastal) (mountains)<br>200 - 500 (contributes to above)<br>38 – 45  |
| Natural Flow (Mm3)          | Surface       | Subsurface                           | River itself 150Mm <sup>3</sup><br>Major springs 30<br>Runoff % 20-30<br>Infiltration % 10-20<br>Karstic % 5-8<br>Aquifers: moderate |
| Artificial                  | Dams          | Wells                                | "Noura Al- Tahta"<br>70mcm(both countries)<br>loosely controlled<br>yield m <sup>3</sup> /d 500-5000                                 |

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**The General social characteristics of water use and availability on Lebanese watercourse, with due effects on environmental characteristics of the shared water.**

|               |            |  |   |
|---------------|------------|--|---|
|               |            |  | Al-Kabir River area   |
| Human related |            | Population (approximate)<br>Settlements (size)<br>Social character<br>Climate<br>Major economic activity | 170000<br>200 – 35000<br>Mixed urban and rural<br>Sub – humid<br>agricultural |
| Water         | Use        | Domestic l/d<br>Irrigation m3h/yr<br>Stock l/d<br>Industry l/d<br>Municipal l/d<br>per capita l/d        | 70 – 90<br>5000 – 6000<br>8-10<br>16 – 18<br>35 – 40<br>130 - 180             |
| Aspects       | Potentials | Availability<br>Risk (source stability)<br>quality<br>conflicts<br>monitoring                            | Easily<br>Slightly Endangered<br>Moderate - poor<br>High potential<br>Poor    |

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**The General distribution of land cover and land use on Lebanese side, with due effects on environmental character of the shared water.**

|            |                            | Al-Kabir River Surroundings |                |                |                |
|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Land cover | Major Types                | Forest                      | Agriculture    | Urban          | Bare lands     |
|            | Water demand               | high                        | Very high      | high           | low            |
|            | Surface Holding Capacity   | Very high                   | high           | Very low       | low            |
|            | Degradation capacity       | Extremely low               | Very low       | Extremely high | high           |
| Land use   | Major types                | Urban                       | Irrigated      | Rain-fed       | Excavated      |
|            | Impact on Water quantity   | Very high                   | Extremely high | Very low       | Very low       |
|            | Impact on Water pollution  | Extremely high              | high           | Very low       | Extremely high |
|            | Development Priority level | extreme                     | extreme        | high           | Very high      |
|            | Impact on land             | Extremely high              | low            | Very low       | Extremely high |

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## V- A Comparative Study Of United Nations Convention Versus Nahr El Kabir Agreements

- A comparison with the UN Convention of 1997 demonstrates that shared water is more often a catalyst for cooperation than a source of conflict. The shared vision experience between Lebanon and Syria based on the UN principles has consolidated the spirit of compromise leading to a Best Alternative to a Negotiated Agreement (BATNA).

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| United Nations Convention   | Nahr El Kabir Agreement  |
|---|--|
| <b>Articles 5 &amp; 6 :</b><br>Factors relevant to the equitable and reasonable use of water  | Allocated share for Lebanon 40% of the total debit.<br>Allocated share for Syria 60% of the total debit.<br><b>Projects:</b><br><u>Common storage dam</u> :<br>capacity 70 Mm3<br>10,000 hectares perimeter for irrigation.  |
| <b>Article 7 :</b><br>Obligation not to cause significant harm.   | <b>Article 1:</b><br>The exploitation of water basins should not cause significant harm to watercourse States.   |
| <b>Articles 8 &amp; 9 :</b><br>Obligation to cooperate and regularly exchange data and information.                                   | <b>Annex 2 - Articles 1, 4, d, e, g :</b><br>Installation, maintenance of instruments, measurement of meteorological data, volume and incoming and outgoing water flow.  |
| <b>Article 20, 21 &amp; 23 :</b><br>Protection and preservation of ecosystems and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution. | <b>Article 5 :</b><br>Watercourse States shall protect and preserve the ecosystems.  |
| <b>Articles 24, 25 &amp; 26 :</b><br>Management, Regulations and Installations.   | <b>Annex 1:</b> Present the methodology in the study and construction of the common dam and related structures.<br><b>Annex 2:</b> Methodology for the management of the watercourse and instructions for exploitation and maintenance (dam and other related structures). |
| <b>Article 33 :</b><br>Settlement of disputes.  | <b>Articles 7 &amp; 8 :</b><br>Joint water commission and/or Ministers of both countries.  |

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## VI- CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HASSANI WATERCOURSE AREA

### VI-1 Geographic characteristics

- The Hasbani River flows from the Hasbani Spring, located in the lower half of the watercourse area about 21 Km north of the southern international borders.
- It then flows south and receives the water of the Wazzani springs some 4 kilometers before Lebanon's southern international border.
- The Wazzani springs are located in the southern extremity of the Hasbani Watercourse. The area of the watercourse is approximately 600 km2. The Hasbani watercourse has a number of seasonal tributaries:
  - Wadi al Fater which drains the northern part of the watercourse area, above Hasbani Spring;
  - Wadi Al Fardis - Wadi Chebaa;
  - Wadi Sreid.

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## VI-2 Hydrology

- The total volume of water within the Hasbani watercourse results from the combination of rainfall and melting snow. The percentage of the volume flowing between December and April is approximately between 70 to 80% of the total annual volume. In the period from mid November to mid May, the percentage of volume flowing is approximately 75% to 90%.
- A- The average run-off water downstream of Wazzani Springs in the Hasbani watercourse has a calculated average of approximately:
  - 143 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y, based on a 30-year average, which includes dry and wet periods;
  - 164 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y, based on a markedly wet 10-year period.
- B- The total annual underground water flowing through the Lebanese territory to the Houle' depression and the occupied territories is estimated at 200 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y, to 210 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y.

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## SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS WITHIN THE HASSANI WATERCOURSE AREA

- The present population is estimated at 170,000 inhabitants with a growth rate of between 2.2 to 2.5 %.
- The UNDP-Ministry of Social Affairs report of October 2000 considered South Lebanon a priority in the field of regional development actions. The study reported that deprivation in the previously occupied areas reached 60%.
- One quarter of monthly household incomes within the region are less than US\$ 300 for a family of 4.8 persons, which is the average size of households in the region.
- One third of household incomes come from government grants aimed at alleviating the deleterious effects of the occupation.

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- The region displays the scars of the long Israeli occupation. Vast areas are planted with land mines by the Israelis; while most areas of Jabal Amel display severe deforestation. In addition, the evidence of badly damaged agricultural land can be found in all regions formerly under the occupation.
- It must be noted that the region was much less developed than the rest of Lebanon before the occupation in 1978, particularly in terms of public infrastructure such as drinking water networks, sewerage collection and disposal networks and irrigation systems.
- The challenges facing the region of the Hasbani watercourse service area are numerous, and include particularly the construction of infrastructure facilities to improve the living conditions.

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## VI-3 Socio-economic indicators

- This region has for 22 years lived apart from the rest of the country due to the Israeli occupation. Every aspect of life has been affected by the occupation and associated conflicts. The local economy, health services, educational facilities, basic infrastructure, such as drinking water and sanitation services, have all been devastated.
- the villages previously under Israeli occupation are characterized by high illiteracy, high rate of unemployment and gender inequality in illiteracy rates.

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- The socio-economic indicators of the three administrative cazas in which the watercourse area falls are lower than the national average. The percentage of illiteracy in the Caza of Marjayoun for instance is 23.6%, nearly double the average national value. Approximately, 19.3% of former detainees are illiterate while only 36.8% have completed elementary education.
- Approximately, 20% of the detainees are unskilled, while 80% are semi-skilled. The unemployment rate is 39.3% amongst the former detainees.

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## VII- ESTIMATION OF WATER DEMANDS IN THE HASBANI WATERCOURSE AREA

### VII-1 Population

- The Hasbani (Wazzani) watercourse has around 70 villages and towns within its watershed area. The corresponding registered population in 2002 is approximately 172,000 people, with an estimated population growth rate of 1.5 to 2.5 percent in this watershed.

|   | 2002    | 2010    | 2015    | 2025    | 2050    |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Population in Hasbani (Wazzani) watershed | 172,000 | 210,000 | 232,000 | 269,000 | 390,000 |

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## VII-2 Present and future demand for domestic water

### a-Domestic water use

- For the water domestic supply needs as shown with respect to the data as the demand for potable water within the Hasbani (Wazzani) catchment basin is as follows:

|  | 2002       | 2010       | 2015       | 2025       | 2050       |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Population                             | 172,000    | 210,000    | 232,000    | 269,000    | 390,000    |
| Demand per capita per day              | 150        | 150        | 150        | 175        | 200        |
| % Non-domestic demand                  | 10         | 15         | 20         | 20         | 20         |
| % Unaccounted for water                | 30         | 25         | 25         | 20         | 20         |
| Rate of water supply Litres/capita/day | 216        | 216        | 225        | 252        | 288        |
| Domestic water supply cm/year          | 13,500,000 | 16,500,000 | 19,000,000 | 25,000,000 | 41,000,000 |

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### b- Irrigation

- According to FAO Land Cover Map which was developed for Lebanon and published in (1991), 15,636 hectares were classified as green-covered within the Hasbani (Wazzani) catchment area, among which 11,916 hectares were classified as agriculturally cultivable lands, and 11,785 hectares are actually under agricultural use.
- The FAO Map indicates the presence of 7,700 hectares of agricultural lands under partial irrigation, among which the 5,980 hectares are of a good soil nature, and are at present irrigated intermittently.

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- From the FAO Land Cover Map analysis of irrigable land within the Hasbani (Wazzani) catchment basin, the potential irrigable area offering favourable as well as feasible agricultural schemes if water and adequate networks are available, varies between 4,500 and 6,000 hectares.
- In terms of the demand for irrigation of irrigable lands within the Hasbani (Wazzani) catchment basin, it is approximately between 45 and 60 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y, if classical irrigation methods are used. In the case of modern irrigation methods being used, the demand for water will decrease to between 30 and 48 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y.

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|  | 2002   | 2010       | 2015       | 2025       | 2050       |
|--|--------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Cultivable and Irrigable lands in Ha                   | -      | 2,500      | 3,500      | 4,500      | 6,000      |
| Rate of water for irrigation/Ha/year in m <sup>3</sup> | 15,000 | 12,000     | 10,000     | 8,000      | 8,000      |
| Total demand for Irrigation /year in m <sup>3</sup>    | -      | 30,000,000 | 35,000,000 | 36,000,000 | 48,000,000 |

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### VII-3 Water Balance in the Hasbani–Wazzani Watercourse

- Agriculture being the main activity in the basin, the total water demand is highly influenced by the water demand for irrigation. The water balance is therefore a major issue for the 5 months of June, July, August, September, and October. With the actual prevailing conditions along the Hasbani-Wazzani watercourse, the positive water balance in April and May cannot be mobilized to overcome the negative water balance of the dry season.

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|   | 2002      | 2010       | 2015       | 2025       | 2050       |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Domestic water supply m<sup>3</sup></b>                            | 9,000,000 | 11,000,000 | 12,000,000 | 18,000,000 | 28,000,000 |
| <b>Total demand for irrigation m<sup>3</sup></b>                      | -         | 30,000,000 | 35,000,000 | 36,000,000 | 48,000,000 |
| <b>Total Water demand for Agro -alimentary /year in m<sup>3</sup></b> | 500,000   | 3,000,000  | 3,000,000  | 4,000,000  | 5,000,000  |
| <b>Total demand for Water per year in m<sup>3</sup></b>               |           | 44,000,000 | 50,000,000 | 58,000,000 | 81,000,000 |

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### VII-4 Current Water Use

- The volume of water that Lebanon presently withdraws from the Hasbani watercourse is less than 7 million cubic meters per year

| <b>Use</b>   | <b>Amount withdrawn (Mm<sup>3</sup>/y)</b> |
|--------------|--|
| Domestic use | 2.70                                       |
| Irrigation   | 4.18                                       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>6.88</b>                                |

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**VII-5 Israel Installations on the Wazzani Springs**

- During the occupation of South Lebanon, the Israeli forces installed two pumps, operating 24/24 hours, on the Wazzani Springs, within Lebanon's territory, to supply villages in the occupied territories. These pumps installed on Lebanese territories are still operating. They are supplied with power from Israel.
- The two submersible type pumps are immersed in the Wazzani springs to supply a reservoir in the occupied territories through two 4 inch polyethylene pipes across Lebanon's eastern border. Two other vertical axial pumps are installed near the reservoir to pump the Wazzani spring water deep into the occupied villages.
- The estimated volume of water extracted from the Wazzani Springs through these Two Israeli pumps is estimated to be approximately 2,600 m<sup>3</sup>/day or 1 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y. The remaining surface and underground flow of the Hasbani-Wazzani watercourse is naturally diverted to the South and is being used by Israel. This situation is preventing Lebanon from developing its rural and urban sectors.

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**VIII- WATER SCHEMES WITHIN THE HASBANI WATERCOURSE AREA**

- The Government of Lebanon has made a firm commitment to develop the Hasbani Watercourse area which has witnessed hostile military activities since 1948. Lebanon's primary aim is to rebuild the area and insure the reintegration of its population by creating employment opportunities in agriculture and associated food industries. The Government has sought the assistance of the international donor community in its effort to develop the region

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**VIII-1 The Wazzani Water Supply Project - 2002**

| Name of Village | Population 2002 | Drinking Water Needs 2002 (m <sup>3</sup> /day) | Drinking Water supplied in 2002 (m <sup>3</sup> /day) |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|---|
| Adeisseh        | 5,347           | 1,150   | 160   |
| Kfar Kila       | 7,683           | 1,652   | 120   |
| Deir Mimas      | 3,562           | 766   | 75  |
| Khyam           | 20,311          | 4,367   | 875   |
| Ain Arab        | 817             | 176   | 20  |
| Majidieh        | 50              | 11  | 0   |
| Ibl Saqi        | 3,348           | 720   | 175   |
| Blat            | 2,985           | 642   | 175   |
| Debbine         | 2,670           | 574   | 120   |
| Marjayoun       | 9,187           | 1,975   | 750   |
| Bwayda          | 391             | 84  | 0   |
| Qlaia           | 4,882           | 1,050   | 600   |
| Bourj Mlouk     | 1,502           | 323   | 120   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>62,735</b>   | <b>13,490</b>                                   | <b>3,190</b>  |

**VIII-2 The Hasbaya-Habbarjeh Water Project**

- The Hasbaya-Habbarieh Water Project will involve both drinking and irrigation water and is part of the Government's plans to meet medium and longer-term needs.
- The project serves 13 villages with a population of approximately 70,000 people

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**VIII-3 Ibl Al Saqi Dam Project**

- The Government plans to increase the irrigated area within the Hasbani Watercourse Basin from the current 500 hectares to meet the FAO future forecast.
- To improve the productivity of the agricultural sector, irrigation networks and techniques would have to be modernized. To reach this end, the Government is working closely with concerned international agencies for the selection of suitable crops and irrigation methods. The Government efforts will allow a reduction of actual losses and an increase of cultivated lands.
- To provide the necessary water, in light of the existing yearly deficit in water supply within the Hasbani watercourse area, particularly during the 5 dry months from May to October, the Government plans to construct a water storage dam on the Hasbani watercourse, at Ibl al Saqi.

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- This dam will create renewable sources, by maximizing the storage capacity of run-off and surface waters and will therefore offset part of the water deficit in the region.
- The Ibl al Saqi project is at the project identification stage. The different options of the dam axis locations and capacities are as follows:
 

|          |                       |
|----------|-----------------------|
| Option 1 | 30 Mm <sup>3</sup> /y |
| Option 2 | 50 Mm <sup>3</sup> /y |
| Option 3 | 80 Mm <sup>3</sup> /y |
- The final option will be chosen after the geological and hydrological investigations which are actually performed by the Ministry of Energy and Water.
- This dam could either regulate the upstream flow of the Hasbani River – Jordan River system, through option 3 with its maximum capacity if the investigation meets the technical requirements or it could be used only by Lebanon to develop an Integrated Water Management system for the Hasbani watercourse.

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#### VIII-4 Hasbaya Wastewater Project

- For the protection of local water sources quality and the preservation of the environment, the Government is planning to implement the Hasbaya Wastewater Project.
- The project involves the construction of sewage collection networks and a wastewater treatment plant located in Hasbaya by secondary treatment. The project will serve the towns of Hasbaya and Ain Qenya with a population of approximately 20,000 people.

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#### IX-HYDRO-DIPLOMACY FOR HASBANI WAZZANI WATERCOURSE

- For 22 years, beginning in 1978, South Lebanon was under Israeli occupation. During the Israeli occupation, the majority of the inhabitants of the region were forced to leave their homes, while those who remained in their homes were not allowed to utilize available water sources. On the other hand, during the same period, the Israeli territories near the border became over developed compared to the devastation that can be readily seen in the parts of Lebanon formerly under Israeli occupation. The Lebanese Government was unable during the Israeli occupation to rehabilitate the existing drinking water and irrigation systems, or to construct any new water systems.
- In May 2000, most of the Lebanese territories under Israeli occupation were liberated with the exception of the Chebaa farms and three locations on the "Blue Line" adopted by the United Nations as the withdrawal line. Lebanon made clear reservations concerning these points. Entire communities have returned to their devastated villages and towns, and to their heavily mined agricultural lands. Consequently, the need for water has increased very substantially. Lebanon has sought to partly meet this demand for water from the Hasbani watercourse.

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- As early as the 1950's, the Point 4 mission from the US Bureau of Reclamation emphasized that socio-economic conditions would only improve in South Lebanon if the Government could implement rural development programme. This was confirmed by the Regional Socio-Economic Development Programme for South Lebanon Report prepared by the High Relief Committee in collaboration with the UNDP in July 1999. The economy in the south is agriculturally based. Its development is dependent upon Lebanon being allowed to meet its legitimate needs for water from the Hasbani watercourse.
- Israel has been preventing Lebanon from meeting its needs for water from the Hasbani Watercourse since at least the middle 1960's and has exploited the Hasbani Watercourse almost exclusively. In fact, an Israeli pumping installation can still be found on the Wazzani springs pumping more than 2,000 cubic meters per day (m<sup>3</sup>/d) to territory occupied by Israël. Moreover, the Israelis continue to exploit Lebanese water from the Chebaa Farms, estimated at 25 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y and the remaining flow of the Hasbani watercourse is estimated to be 140 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y surface and 240 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y underground

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- On the 31st of August 2002, the Government of Lebanon started the construction works of the Wazzani Water Supply Project, in order to supply 12,000 cubic meters per day (4.4 million cubic meters per year, mcm/y) of drinking water, from the Wazzani springs to villages and towns located within the service area of Hasbani watercourse. This project is in response to vital, basic, humanitarian, socio-economic needs within the service area. At present, the volume of water received by the inhabitants in the project area is 50 Liters per person per day, which amounts to 3,190 cubic meters per day for the entire area with a population of approximately 65,000 whereas the per capita demand in Israel is estimated at 350 Liters per capita per day.
- The present developments regarding the Hasbani water supply project pose the plight of a thirsty people in south Lebanon trying to rehabilitate its land and recover from the scourge of Israeli occupation.
- Since the start of the construction, Israel has been making bellicose statements against Lebanon in a blatant and blunt defiance of international law thereby aiming at depriving the Lebanese of their inalienable rights to their water and at continuing its illegal appropriation of Lebanon's water. It has alleged that Lebanon is diverting the Hasbani watercourse. The Israeli allegations are completely false, untrue and unfounded.

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- Many observers such as Mr. Stephan De Mistura from the United Nations, first hydrologist Charles Lawsen from the United States of America, and from the European Union visited the site and could clearly see that Lebanon is not diverting the Hasbani watercourse, particularly since there are no relevant construction works being undertaken on the watercourse.
- Therefore, Israel is not in a position to claim any violation of the relevant international regulations. Representatives of the United Nations Organizations are welcome to visit the area and corroborate that Lebanon, in fact, is not diverting the Hasbani watercourse.
- Furthermore, the on-going water supply project within the Hasbani watercourse area falls completely within the legal framework of the norms and principles of International Law, particularly that Lebanon's utilization of its waters is without any excess, bearing in mind that Lebanon has not yet addressed the totality of development needs of the watercourse area, and is keen on achieving this goal within the scope of its rights under International Law.

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- Indeed, in planning to pump the Wazzani water, Lebanon does not divert the watercourse nor does the Wazzani water supply project affect Israel in any way.
- Lebanon's aim is to supply Lebanese villages with water to satisfy their vital, basic, humanitarian, social and domestic needs. In pursuing this goal, Lebanon is exercising, as a sovereign State, an unequivocal right well established under International Law.
- Furthermore and notwithstanding its pressing needs, it is relevant to emphasize that Lebanon is fully entitled to utilize the water that rises in and flows through its territories in accordance with its legitimate rights and International Law, be it for drinking, irrigation and development needs.

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| ARTICLE               | DESCRIPTION  | APPLIED BY LEBANON                  | APPLIED BY ISRAEL      |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Article 5             | Equitable and reasonable utilization and participation.                            | Yes                                 | No                     |
| Article 6             | Relevant factors for an equitable and reasonable use of international watercourse. | Yes                                 | No                     |
| Article 7             | Obligation not to cause significant harm.  | Yes                                 | No                     |
| Article 8             | General obligation to cooperate.   | No                                  | No                     |
| Article 9             | Regular exchange of data and information.  | No                                  | No                     |
| Article 10:           | Relationship between different uses.   | No                                  | No                     |
| Article 20:           | Protection and preservation of ecosystems.   | Yes project of wastewater treatment | No                     |
| Article 21            | Prevention, control and reduction of pollution.                                    | Yes project of wastewater treatment | No                     |
| Articles 24, 25 et 26 | Management and regulations of installations.                                       | No                                  | No                     |
| Article 33            | Settlement of disputes and arbitrations.   | Through UN, EU and USA              | Through UN, EU and USA |

We can state that the cooperation on the Hasbani-Wazzani spring based on the UN Convention on non-navigational watercourses was partially applied by Lebanon due to the prevailing war crisis with Israel especially articles 8-9-10-24-25 and 26. Lebanon was able to apply the remaining articles (5-6-7-20-21 and 33) through the UN, EU and USA for the:

- Equitable and reasonable utilization and participation.
- Relevant factors for an equitable and reasonable use of international watercourse.
- Obligation not to cause significant harm
- Protection and preservation of ecosystems.
- Prevention, control and reduction of pollution.
- Settlement of disputes and arbitrations
- However, Israel did not respect these articles and never applied them.

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#### X- LESSONS IN HYDRO-DIPLOMACY FOR MIDDLE EASTERN COMMUNITIES LEARNED THROUGH THE NEGOTIATION

- Water crossing international boundaries can cause tension between the nations that share the basin. While the tension is not likely to lead to warfare, early cooperation between riparian States can help prevent potential conflicts.
- Once international institutions are in place, they are tremendously resilient over time even between otherwise hostile riparian nations and even when conflict is waged over other issues.
- More likely than the occurrence of violent conflict, is the gradual decreasing of water quantity – quality, which over time can affect the international stability of a nation or region. The resulting instability may have effects in the international area.
- The greatest threat of the global water crises to human security comes from the fact that millions of people lack access to sufficient quantities of water at sufficient quality for their well being. This issue is receiving global attention that goes beyond individual basins.
- Adaptable management structure incorporating a certain level of flexibility allowing for public input, changing basin priorities and new information and monitoring technologies.

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- Clear and flexible criteria for water allocations and quality: allocations, which are at the heart of most water disputes, are a function of water quantity and quality as well as political fiat.
- Effective institutions must at least identify clear mechanisms for water allocation and water quality standards that simultaneously provide for extreme hydrological events, new understanding of basin dynamics and changing societal values.
- Riparian states may consider priority usages throughout the basin. Defining hydro-geographical catchments based on the agreed technical principles may not only help to avert inter-riparian conflicts over water use, but also protect the environmental eco system of the basin as a whole.
- Equitable distribution of benefits is at the root of some of the world's most successful institutions. The idea concerns the distribution of benefits from the water use - - whether from hydropower, agriculture, economic development, preservation of aquatic ecosystems - not the distribution of water itself. This forms the basis for the concept of 'virtual' water and distributing water use benefits allows for agreements where both parties benefit.
- Detailed conflict resolution mechanisms: Incorporating clear mechanisms for resolving conflicts is a prerequisite for effective, long-term basin management.

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## XI-1 Diplomacy for sustainable development

### A- Elements for a successful negotiation

- Several elements has been applied from the Lebanese side in the negotiation strategic procedure with the Syrian party.
- These elements are known as the Best Alternative To a Negotiated Agreement (BATNA).
- The seven “BATNA” elements used in the strategic negotiation preparation with the Syrian party are the following:

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- 1- Alternatives:** The walk away possibilities that each party has if an agreement is not reached:
  - Your alternatives
  - Ways to improve
  - Their alternatives
  - Ways to test or, if appropriate, worsen
- 2- Interests:** The better an agreement satisfies the parties in interests, the better the deal:
  - Use leadership and take the lead by talking about some of your own interests, so they will accept to talk about theirs.
- 3- Options:** Full range of possibilities in which the parties might conceivably reach agreement. Options are, or might be, put “on the table”.
  - Agreement is better if it is the best of many options, especially if it exploits all potential mutual gain in the given situation:
    - Issue #1
    - Issue #2
    - Issue #3

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**4- Legitimacy:** An agreement will leave both parties feeling fairly treated to the extent that it is based on external benchmarks, criteria or principles beyond the will of either party. Search for a range of standards that might be applied, especially those which may persuade the other side:

- Issue #1
- Issue #2
- Issue #3

**5- Commitments:** Oral or within statements about what a party will or will not do. They may be made during the course of a negotiation or may be included in an agreement reached at the end of the negotiations. They should be practical, durable and easily understood by those who are to carry them out:

- Five elements of a framework agreement at the end of a negotiation.
- What authority do you have?
- What authority does the other party have?

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**6- Communication:** Depends on the level of mutual understanding and the efficiency of the process.

#### a- Plan the meeting

- meeting purpose
- products or outputs
- people
- process
- opening
- agenda
- roles of team members
- ground rules

#### b- Plan the dialog

- listen for/questions to ask
- talk about/information to disclose
- possible communication problems/possible steps to avoid problems or improve Communication
- assumptions to test

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**7- Relationship:** A strong working relationship empowers the parties to deal well with their difference. My transaction should improve rather than damage the parties ability to work together again.

- Currently, Preferred
- If gap exists, diagnose possible causes.
- In light of these causes, what specific steps might you take to change the current relationship to the preferred one?

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## B-Negotiation team profile

- Building a negotiation team related to water issues is a very hard task. The team should be composed of several experts who should be prominent in their fields with an experienced background in the following subjects:
- *1-Technical profile:*
  - water basin management expert
  - water and hydrology monitoring expert
  - Water quality expert
  - Environmental expert
  - Water infrastructure expert

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### ➤ 2- Judicial profile:

- Legal consultant with high skills in understanding all judicial water related documents and water treaties.
- All UN and EU environmental and Water Directives actually under enforcements

### ➤ 3- Diplomacy profile:

- *Experienced diplomat with background in conflict resolution and management of crisis.*

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## C- Chief negotiation profile

The profile of the chief negotiator on water issues ought to be:

- An experienced engineer with a solid background in water management and environmental science.
- Having the opportunity of being appointed in several key positions at the top of the hierarchy with excellent management skills and a sense of leadership.
- Being involved in international water and environmental initiatives.
- Having notoriety and a well-known figure in his field.
- Integrity with broad vision relevant to major world wide political, social and economical issues.

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➤ These elements should be directly related to qualities that the chief negotiator, head of delegation should fulfill.

1- Active listening with courtesy:

- Repeat main points
- “I” not “you”
- Future not history

2- Reliability with constructive thinking, clear objectives and realism.

3- Optimism, patience and spirit of compromise.

4- Long term vision and imagination.

5- Intuition in identifying positions and alliances.

6- Good organization (Institutional and logistics, break for discussions) and preparation.

7- Not to rely on history and old problems.

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## XII- Benefits of International Waters Cooperation: Nahr El Kebir Agreement, Beyond the River Negotiation and in the future Hasbani Wazzani

- Upon the Lebanese negotiation experience and outline, we draw a framework which has proved relevant and useful in considering cooperation on Transboundary Rivers.
  - In setting the mechanism of this framework, we need to consider the nature of a river and its roles in the environment and the economic endeavors and political relationships of human society.
  - Experience shows that cooperation on international rivers can bring many direct benefits such as:
    - **Environmental sustainability.**
    - **Human health, safety and productivity.**
    - **Economic productivity (agriculture, power, transport, etc...)**
- which could
- extend beyond the river.
  - **Cooperation vs. dispute (even peace vs. conflict).**
  - **Regional fragmentation vs. integration.**

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### ➤ The implementation of a framework to understand better:

- What the benefits of cooperation may be
- Why and when the benefits of cooperation may occur.
- How the benefit of cooperation may be fostered (and shared?)

And identifying “levels” of benefits of cooperation between two parties. This helps to:

- Classify the range of potential benefits
- Explore the dynamics of cooperation on each level of benefits
- Explore the dynamics between levels of benefits
- Understand, and therefore facilitate more effective cooperation

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This table presents the levels of cooperation on international Transboundary Rivers:

| Benefits                               | The Challenges  | The Opportunities  |
|--|---|--|
| Level 1:<br>Benefits to the river      | Limited water resources management degraded watersheds, wetlands, biodiversity, and water quality | Improved water quality, river flow characteristics, soil conservation, biodiversity  |
| Level 2:<br>Benefits to the river      | Sub-optimal water resources management  | Improved hydropower & agricultural production, flood-drought management, environmental conservation & water quality  |
| Level 3:<br>Costs because of the river | Tense (+/-) regional relations & political economy impacts  | Policy shift to cooperation & development, from dispute; from food & energy self-sufficiency to security; reduced conflict risk & military expenditure (+/-) |
| Level 4:<br>Benefits beyond the river  | Regional fragmentation  | Integration of regional infrastructure, markets and trade  |

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**The cooperation on transboundary watercourse beyond the river benefits derive on several interrelated levels:**

- Environmental
- Direct economic
- Political
- Indirect economic

In all basins there are benefits to be gained on all 4 levels, to a greater or a lesser extent the rivers can be:

- Obstacles both directly & beyond the river
- Entry points – both directly, & beyond the river

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The levels challenges and opportunities of such cooperation are given below:

| Level  | The Challenges   | The Opportunities  |
|--|--|--|
| Level 1<br>Increasing benefits<br>To the river     | Degraded water quality, watersheds, wetlands & biodiversity                        | Improved water quality, river flow characteristics, soil conservation, biodiversity & overall sustainability   |
| Level 2<br>Increasing benefits<br>From the river   | Increasing demands for water, sub-optimal water resources management & development | Improved water resources management for hydropower & agricultural production, flood-drought management, navigation, environmental conservation & water quality |
| Level 3<br>Reducing costs<br>Because of the river  | Tense regional relations & political economy impacts                               | Policy shift to cooperation & development, away from dispute/conflict; from food (& energy) security; reduced dispute/conflict risk military expenditure       |
| Level 4<br>Increasing benefits<br>Beyond the river | Regional fragmentation   | Integration of regional infrastructure, markets & trade  |

Dynamic situation of Cooperation on International Rivers are splitted also in several priority levels with incentives, catalysts and inter-levels linkages. These informations are given below:

| Level  | Incentives  | Catalysts  | Inter-level Linkages  |
|--|---|--|---|
| Level 1:<br>Environmental<br>Increasing benefits<br>To the river     | Concerns over river flows (including flood & drought) & pollution<br>Ecosystem sustainability   | Public awareness<br>Joint environmental diagnostic analysis  | Level 1 actions underpin sustainable level 2 & 4 development<br>Level 1 action builds level 3 trust (inaction fuels level 3 tensions)   |
| Level 2:<br>Direct Economic<br>Increasing benefits<br>From the river | Recognized economic growth & business opportunities<br>High variability of river flows, giving unreliable supplies & flood & drought risk<br>Growing water scarcity | Joint analysis of optimized river development<br>Fora for engagement of key actors (e.g. water & power industries, farmers, agribusiness)<br>Identification of win-win investments | Level 2 actions motivate level 1 joint stewardship of resources<br>Level 2 actions ease level 3 tensions (unilateral actions fuel level 3 tensions)<br>Level 2 actions may generate production surpluses (agriculture, power) for level 4 integration |



|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Level 3:<br>Political<br>Reducing costs<br>Because of the<br>river       | Concern for improved international relations & peace given increasing water demands<br><br>Need to insure long-term river flows & benefits from flows<br><br>Recognition of opportunities lost by policy focus on non-cooperation | Improved communications (infrastructure, telecoms, media etc...)<br><br>Specific political dialogue (possibly mediated)<br>Broader<br><br>regional/global political initiatives & agreements | Level 3 gains facilitated by level 1 actions that build Trust<br><br>Level 3 dialogue & engagement promoted by level 2 actions & shared benefits (unilateral actions to capture benefits will increase tensions)<br><br>Level 3 gains enable further level 1 & 2 actions & level 4 opportunities |
| Level 4:<br>Indirect economic<br>Increasing benefits<br>Beyond the river | Recognized gains from economic cooperation (particularly from small &/or landlocked economies)  | Broad analysis of economic cooperation barriers & Opportunities<br><br>Civil society & private sector exchange<br>Broader<br><br>regional/global economic initiatives & agreements           | Level 4 gains sustained by level 1 actions<br><br>Level 4 opportunities arise from tradable surpluses generated by level 2 actions<br><br>Level 4 integration enabled by level 3 gains in policy shift to regional cooperation, lowering barriers to trade & communication                       |

### XIII- CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The negotiations undertaken between Lebanon and Syria on the subject of shared water resources in the case of Nahr el Kabir were based mainly on the application of international conventions:
  - The RIO convention of 1992
  - The UN convention on non-navigational uses of international watercourses in 1997
- It is a chance for the Middle Eastern countries that the UNESCO Cairo office is influencing regional water cooperation in the direction of laying a foundation for social and political stability, economic prosperity and poverty alleviation.
- The design of a training program based on case study such as the Nahr EL Kebir River and oriented towards riparian countries involved in transboundary water negotiation will aim at strengthening the capacities of the experts and organizations involved in such issues.

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The program structure could be built on five modules:

- Module 1: Preparation module which include a workshop at the experts home institution. A consultant for the UNESCO-Cairo office will facilitate these workshops. This phase will result in an initial situation analysis, an individual learning plan and where possible, an informal working group. Each participant will also prepare a short and visual presentation of the transboundary process they are involved in.
- Module 2: This module will consist of three parts:
  - Situation Analysis
  - Process Analysis
  - Presentation of participants cases
- Module 3: It will consist of the development of each participant situation analysis in collaboration with established informal group.
- Module 4: It will focuses on large scale transboundary process and their connection to the regional political scene including the role of transboundary water management for peace and conflict in the region.
- Module 5: Wrap up module. The experts will finalize the situation analysis. An institution wide seminar to share knowledge will be held and will reflect opportunities for institutional change in relation to be on going process.

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## VI

## Transboundary Water Resources Management in South Eastern Europe

*Mr. Dimitris Falloutsos, Programme Officer, GWP-Med*

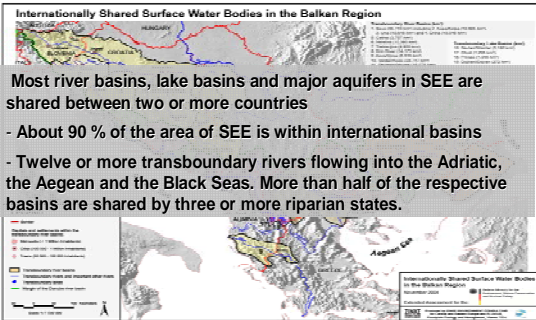


**6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the  
Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians  
for Sustainable Development  
(COMPSUD)**

3-4 May 2007  
Corfu Island - Greece

**Transboundary Water Resources Management  
in Southeastern Europe**

*Dimitris Falloutsos*  
Programme Officer





**Internationally Shared Surface Water Bodies in the Balkan Region**

Most river basins, lake basins and major aquifers in SEE are shared between two or more countries

- About 90 % of the area of SEE is within international basins
- Twelve or more transboundary rivers flowing into the Adriatic, the Aegean and the Black Seas. More than half of the respective basins are shared by three or more riparian states.

1/19




**Challenges for transboundary water resources in SEE - Examples**

- Water quantity and quality management
- Transboundary aquifers management (quantity, quality)
- Navigation
- Balancing conflicting interests to ensure ecosystem and biodiversity conservation
- Management of emergencies

**Issues even more complex for shared waters because of socio-economic conditions, differences in managing institutions, legal framework, etc**

2/19



**Institutional and legal framework in most of the countries**


Revised or under an on-going revision process

EU accession prospect: A major driving force

Transposition of the EU Water Framework Directive: in the legal framework of the countries

- Voluntarily by some countries
- Expected to have a positive effect on the cooperation for the management of transboundary water resources
- Harmonized legal framework

3/19



**Management of the shared water bodies in the SEE:**

- rather unilateral


Transboundary cooperation for the management of each of the : shared water bodies

Influenced by the developments at political and socio-economic scene at national and regional level and the bilateral relations of the littoral countries

Agreements and protocols and other types of treaties : for TWRM

- In the majority of cases political obstacles and lack of resources have not allowed yet for proper implementation and significant results
- Nevertheless progress in several cases, indicating also political will, has been achieved

4/19



**Success stories**

- Agreement between Albania and FYR Macedonia
- Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee

Ohrid lake basin → most advanced cases in terms of official cooperation for the management of the shared Basins

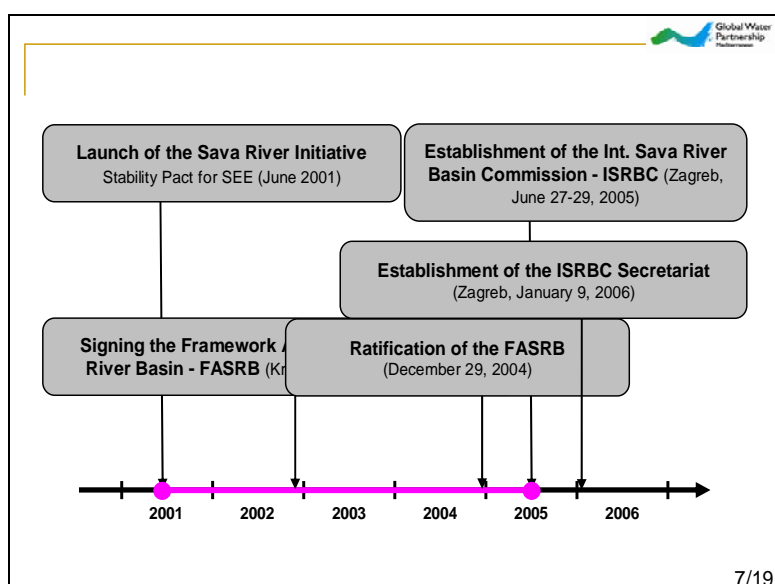
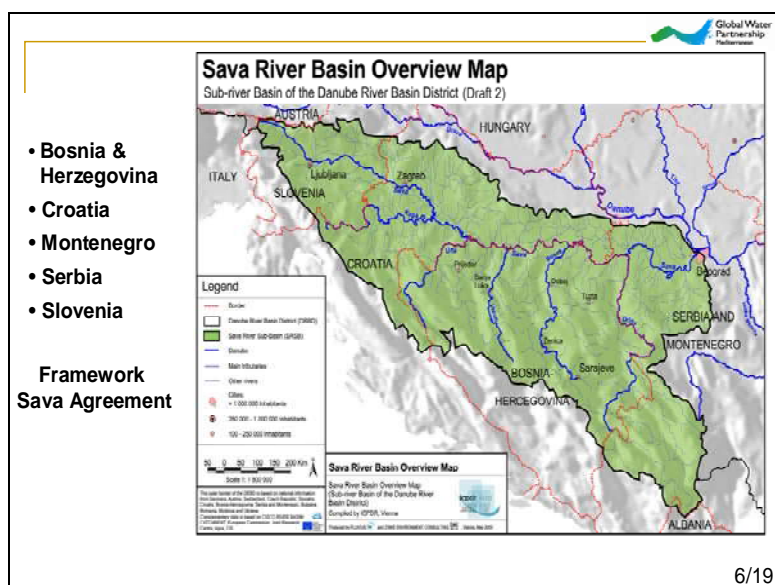
Sava river basin

Prespa lake basin

Another advanced case of cooperation.

- Almost 30 years of work of national and international NGOs
- Work through the Prespa Park Coordination Committee, established by the three ministers of Environment of the riparian countries, as a non legal entity with a multi-stakeholder synthesis have resulted in transboundary cooperation in the Basin.

5/19



The involvement of the international donor community has been important.

- European Commission
- GEF
- UNEP
- UNDP
- The World Bank
- other international organizations and NGOs
- Donor countries

• Supporting Projects and Initiatives

8/19

### **Petersberg Phase II Process**

Jointly supported by the Government of Germany and the World Bank "Petersberg Round Tables on Transboundary Waters," was launched in 1998 and highlighted water as an opportunity for close regional cooperation from a global perspective through a series of Round Tables.

Phase II focuses on specific challenges, such as furthering transboundary development and conservation programmes in smaller catchment basins of Southeastern Europe.

### **Athens Declaration Process**

Jointly supported by the Government of Greece and the World Bank

Jointly supported by World Bank GEF IW:LEARN is supporting synergy

GWP-Med provides technical and administrative support

- International Conference on "Sustainable Development for Lasting Peace: Shared Water, Shared Future, Shared Knowledge", organized in May 2003, at Vouliagmeni / Athens, Greece
- "Athens Declaration" concerning Shared Water, Shared Future and Shared Knowledge: a long-term process to support cooperative activities for IWRM of shared water resources in the SEE and Mediterranean regions

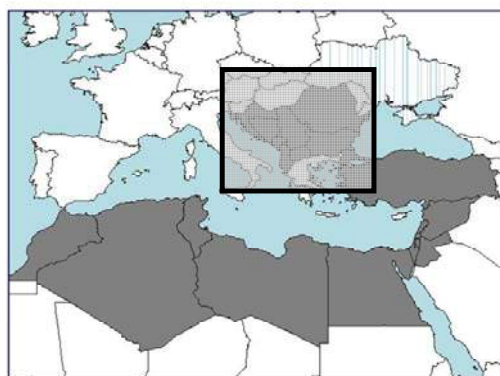
9/19

### **Countries of focus (WHERE – FOR WHO)**

- Albania
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- FYROM
- Montenegro
- Romania
- Serbia

### **May be included where relevant**

- Greece
- Hungary
- Moldova
- Slovenia
- Turkey



10/19

- UNECE
- UNDP - Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS (RBEC), Bratislava
- UNESCO-IHP, ISARM, INWEB

### **Support to the Process**


### **Complement**

- European Union (EU) integration processes and Stabilisation and Association process of the European Union
- Other ongoing initiatives in the region

### **Contributes** to the scope and objectives of the

- Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI)
- GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean


11/19



**Final objective:**

**IWRM plans for all Transboundary river basins in SEE**


12/19



**Work-program 2006 - 2007**


Towards the realization of the objectives

13/19



|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process</b></p> <p><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b></p> <p><b>2006 - 2007</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Roundtables / Workshops</li> <li>• Targeted Small and Medium Workshops, Study Tours and Site Visits</li> <li>• Studies</li> <li>• Activities in support of Education for Sustainable Development</li> <li>• Activities in support of the Petersberg- Phase II / Athens Declaration Process implementation</li> </ul> | <p><b>International Roundtables / Workshops</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Protection and Sustainable Use of Transboundary Waters in South-Eastern Europe", Berlin, Germany 5-7 December 2005</li> <li>• Integrated Shared Lake Basin Management in Southeastern Europe, Ohrid, FYR Macedonia, 12-14 October 2006</li> <li>• Principles for Multipurpose Management in the Sava River Basin, Zagreb, 15 - 17 November 2006</li> <li>• Integrated Management of Shared Groundwater in SEE, Slovenia 12 - 14 2007</li> <li>• More to follow in 2008</li> </ul> |
|---|---|


14/19



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• assess the status of cooperation between Countries on shared waters</li> <li>• provide a dialogue Forum for identification of new and discussion of all relevant ideas and challenges regarding shared waters management in SEE</li> <li>• increase the visibility of success stories and good practices that may inspire similar initiatives</li> <li>• contribute to the building of capacity for shared water management through sharing of experience</li> <li>• provide the ground for the coordination of initiatives at regional and national level</li> </ul> | <p><b>International Roundtables / Workshops</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Protection and Sustainable Use of Transboundary Waters in South-Eastern Europe", Berlin, Germany 5-7 December 2005</li> <li>• Integrated Shared Lake Basin Management in Southeastern Europe, Ohrid, FYR Macedonia, 12-14 October 2006</li> <li>• Principles for Multipurpose Management in the Sava River Basin, Zagreb, 15 - 17 November 2006</li> <li>• Integrated Management of Shared Groundwater in SEE, Slovenia 12 - 14 2007</li> <li>• More to follow in 2008</li> </ul> |
|--|---|


15/19






|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process</b></p> <p><b>WORK PROGRAMME 2006 - 2007</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Roundtables / Workshops</li> <li>• Targeted Small and Medium Workshops, Study Tours and Site Visits</li> <li>• Studies</li> <li>• Activities in support of Education for Sustainable Development</li> <li>• Activities in support of the Petersberg- Phase II / Athens Declaration Process implementation</li> </ul> | <p><b>Targeted Workshops</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• follow up the activities undertaken so far within the joint Process and sustain and strengthen its outcomes</li> <li>• would be focused on specific aspects of transboundary water resources management</li> <li>• aiming to provide practical and applicable knowledge to the participants</li> <li>• a first set of targeted workshops will focus on the hydrographical network of the Southwestern Balkan Peninsula that comprise of the Shared Lakes <b>Prespa, Ohrid and Shkoder</b> and <b>Drin</b> River Basin and <b>Sava</b> River Basin</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

16/19



**Challenges for transboundary water resources management in SEE include:**


17/19



**Proceed with the reform process at national level: provide the basis for integrated and sustainable management of water resources.**

- More effective approach of legal frameworks for the management of nat. resources. Adoption of the needed regulations that will make the framework laws applicable. Ultimately, Legal frameworks: harmonized with the EU standards.
- Design and adoption of a combined nexus of CAC and economic instruments, integrated with the developmental and economic policies, coupled with efficient monitoring and enforcement mechanisms.
- Establishment of clear and applicable procedures that will ensure public awareness and balanced participation in the decision making.
- Establishment of rational and operational decentralization that will allow the efficiency involvement of local communities, but also enhance the possibility for cross-border cooperation at local level.
- Establishment of appropriately-scaled management institutions with clear – not overlapping competences over natural resources management and continuous improvement of their capacities and coordination.
- Development of mechanisms that will facilitate the sustainable financing of the nat. resources management in accordance with the “user” and “polluter pays” principle, in consistency with the socio-economic realities also at local level.

18/19



**Create the conditions for and enhance cooperation for the integrated management of shared lake basins at transboundary level.**

*Harmonization of rules and regulations for the management of shared basins*


*Joint assessment and monitoring*

*Involvement of local stakeholders*

*Establish sustainable institutions for the joint management of the shared basins*

*Benefit from the catalytic involvement of the international community for the enhancement of cooperation on the management of the shared basins, both at national and transboundary level*

19/19



**Dimitris Faloutsos**  
e-mail: [dimitris@gwpmed.org](mailto:dimitris@gwpmed.org)

**Visit**

[www.watersee.net](http://www.watersee.net)

[www.gwpmed.org](http://www.gwpmed.org)

## VII

**COMPSUD's involvement in important projects and issues of greater concern for Mediterranean stakeholders (NANOCAP, GEWAMED, MEdIES, Marrakech Process)  
/Eventual creation of COMPSUD thematic Committees**

*Ms Barabara Tomassini, Programme Officer, MIO-ECSDE*

### The GEWAMED project

"Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions  
into Water Resources Development  
and  
Management in the Mediterranean Region"

1

### Background

- The GEWAMED project has started on 15 February 2006 with a duration of 4 years
- The project is a Coordinated Action (CA) of the INCO programme (6<sup>th</sup> Framework Research Programme)

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### Project participants

- A total of 18 institutions from 14 Mediterranean Countries of which:
  - 9 Governmental institutions
  - 2 International organizations
  - 7 NGOs
- 9 Countries of the SEMR\* and 5 EU countries
- Some institutions have good experience in water and others in gender but few in both.

\* South East Mediterranean Region (SEMR) countries are: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey

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### List of participating institutions

| Partic. No. | Participant name  | Participant short name | Country   |
|-------------|---|------------------------|-----------|
| 1           | Mediterranean Agronomic Institute- Bari                         | CIHEAM- MAIB           | Italy     |
| 2           | Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée pour le Développement | CREAD                  | Algeria   |
| 3           | National Water Research Center- Strategic Research Unit         | NWRC- MWRI/SRU         | Egypt     |
| 4           | Faculty of Agriculture University of Jordan-                    | UJ-FA                  | Jordan    |
| 5           | Association Marocaine de Solidarité et de Développement         | AMSED                  | Morocco   |
| 6           | Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee                       | PARC                   | Palestine |
| 7           | Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency                           | EEAA                   | Egypt     |
| 8           | The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research              | CAWTAR                 | Tunisia   |
| 9           | Cukurova University- Faculty of Agriculture                     | CUKUR                  | Turkey    |

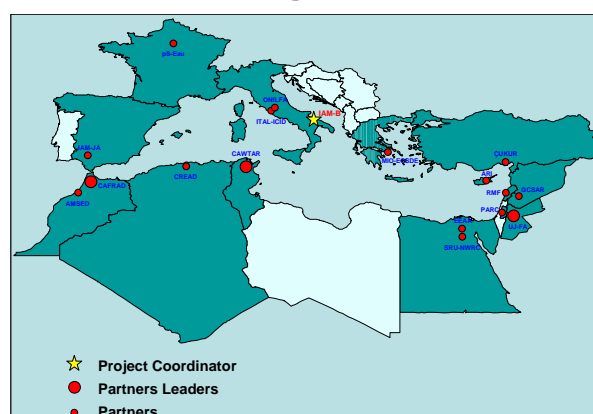
4

## List of participating institutions

|    |   |           |         |
|----|---|-----------|---------|
| 10 | Agriculture Research Institute  | ARI       | Cyprus  |
| 11 | Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development               | MIO-ECSDE | Greece  |
| 12 | Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Imprenditoria ed il Lavoro Femminile in Agricoltura                    | ONILFA    | Italy   |
| 13 | General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform | GCSAR     | Syria   |
| 14 | International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage. Italian Committee                              | ITAL-ICID | Italy   |
| 15 | Instituto Andaluz de la Mujer- Junta de Andalucía   | IAM -JA   | Spain   |
| 16 | African Training and Research Centre in Administration for Development                              | CAFRAD    | Morocco |
| 17 | René Moawad Foundation  | RMF       | Lebanon |
| 18 | Programme Solidarité Eau  | pS- Eau   | France  |

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## Geographical location of participating institutions



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As a Coordinated Action the project intends to generate new knowledge through communication and coordination of the participating institutions

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## The participation of women in the IWRM

- Women represent more than 50% of the users in the domestic supply sector and 20 to 40% in the irrigation one.
- The participation of women in IWRM processes and participatory institutions is minimal.
- Absent role of women in decision making.

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## The main problems in the interaction of water and gender

1. Limited access to land and water resources
2. Restricted use of Gender Analysis tools
3. Scarce women participation in water governance
4. Insufficient understanding of local gender problems
5. Unequal distribution of the benefits arising from water development projects

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6. Women are called to new roles for which they are not prepared
7. Lack of institutional coordination among water programmes focusing on gender
8. Limited access to information and technology
9. Limited gender-disaggregated statistical information

## GEWAMED objectives

- Building a national and regional shared knowledge base on gender issues, policies, actions and measures to support gender mainstreaming in all processes related to IWRM.
- Enhance the cooperation and dialogue among Mediterranean countries but also within each country.
- Contribute to the adoption of national policies and other related instruments for mainstreaming gender dimensions in IWRM.

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## Main activities

### 1- Building a national and regional shared knowledge base

- Assess the situation of women in IWRM in a number of participating countries.
- Establishment of a Regional Internet web site containing a structured Data Base with gender-water related information.

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- Establishment of national web sites in at least 6 South-East Mediterranean Region (SEMR)\* countries and dedicating sections in existing ones.
- Preparation of a set of gender indicators for monitoring gender mainstreaming into water resources management.
- Organize and undertake an Inter-Regional Conference to disseminate project results

*\*SEMR countries are: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey*

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### 2- Enhance the cooperation and dialogue at regional and national level

- Organization and undertaking of 3 regional workshops on specific gender and water issues
- Establishment of National Networks in all the SEMR countries for coordinating actions and information on gender and water issues
- Promote the exchange of experiences among participating institutions

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### 3- Contribute to the adoption of gender national policies and other related instruments

- Undertake and organize national seminars in the SEMR countries to sensitise politicians and decision-makers on gender issues.
- Preparation of plans for using and disseminating the knowledge generated by the project.

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## The Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment & Sustainability - MEDIES

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### The Mediterranean Education Initiative for Environment & Sustainability - MEDIES

- A Mediterranean Network for ESD with an initial thematic focus on water, waste & biological and cultural diversity. It was launched as a Type II Initiative on ESD during the WSSD (Johannesburg, 2002) by Greece, UNESCO, UNEP/MAP and MIO-ECSDE.
- MEDIES STRUCTURE:
- Core Group: Hellenic and Italian Ministries for Environment, Hellenic Ministry of Education, UNESCO, UNEP/MAP, GWP-Med, MIO-ECSDE. MEDIES water issues are implemented in close collaboration with MED EUWI
- Task Group: NGOs, IGOs, Ministries/Agencies, Educational Institutions from all Mediterranean countries
- e-Network of Educators: [www.medies.net](http://www.medies.net) (1200 members)
- Coordinator & Secretariat: MIO-ECSDE

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### MEDIES Activities :

Educational publications materials, handbooks, workshop proceedings, etc. Editing, production and dissemination to the Mediterranean educational community publications for EE /ESD.

"Water in the Mediterranean" (Arabic, English, Greek, Italian, French, Turkish, Croatian), "Wastes in our lives" (Greek, English, Slovenian); "The Mediterranean Food" (to be published in 2007 in Arabic, English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese); "Handbook for methods used in EE/ESD" (Arabic, English, French, Greek)

Conferences, Training Seminars & Workshops, organised by the MEDIES Secretariat for educators and interested stakeholders in the Mediterranean countries.

Interactive Webpage: [www.medies.net](http://www.medies.net) providing: library with all MedIES publications, basic documents for EE and ESD, updated information & announcements about EE and ESD, links, reports of EE and ESD meetings taking place at regional and international level, etc.

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### Marrakech Process Sustainable Production & Consumption

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### The Marrakech Process

Launched in 2003 in Morocco at the 1<sup>st</sup> International Meeting of experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), it is a response to the recommendations of the Johannesburg Summit to "encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production" (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, chapter 3)

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- The Marrakech process is coordinated by UNEP and UNDESA (UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs)
- International meetings of experts on SCP take place every 2 years, while regional and national roundtables on SCP are organised on a voluntary basis
- The process is also supported by the work of thematic task forces (TFs) launched by national governments (up to now there are 7 TFs) as operative tools that focus on specific thematic areas identified in chapter 3 of JPOI.

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### The Italian Task Force

- The Italian TF is dedicated to Education for sustainable consumption with the objective to achieve progress in introducing sustainable consumption and production issues in particular into formal curricula, without omitting to make the link to non formal and informal education activities interrelated with formal education.
- The geographical focus is on the Mediterranean region

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- The TF will work identifying and creating useful synergies among international and regional initiatives in order to ensure mutual supportiveness, a strong cooperation among different task forces.
- The role of the TF is to foster, facilitate and support the participation of relevant stakeholders in the Marrakech process to work on the selected area bringing together good practices, criticalities, proposals and results on the on-going work at national, regional and international level.
- The TF will aim at enhancing the development of initiatives and activities representing a step forward towards sustainable consumption and production.

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- The TF will study, among others, the following initial areas of action to share experiences, build capacities, promote cooperation and partnership and identify future practices:
  - Policy, regulatory and operational frameworks: support the introduction of education for sustainable consumption into formal curricula and thematic policy interventions (e.g energy, transport, biodiversity etc.)
  - Education for All: create competences and skills on sustainable consumption at all levels within the sector of decision making, education and training processes and capacity building on planning educational actions on the specific thematic issues

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## Nanotechnology: preliminary identification of issues

In the framework of the  
NANOCAP PROJECT  
Slides based on presentations by :  
L. Reijnders, University of Amsterdam  
Prof. Ian Colbeck University of Essex

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## Nanoparticles: Particles < 100nm

- 2 categories:
- Non-manufactured nanoparticles  
Have always been present in the environment  
(e.g. Combustion of fuels metal smelting processes – heating of polymers, frying foods)
  - Manufactured nanoparticles  
e.g. carbon-black – an “old” product  
many new developments
  - fixed nanoparticles – not inherently dispersive in electronics, textiles, building materials, protheses, coatings, catalysts
  - free nanoparticles – inherently dispersive (drugs, personal care products etc.)

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## It is argued that Nanotechnology:

- Holds the potential to eliminate WASTE and POLLUTION
- To drastically cut down RESOURCE CONSUMPTION and POLLUTION
- REDUCE PRICES for sustainable convertors of energy solar cells
- Improve RECYCLING and DETOXIFICATION technology
- Allow greater selectivity in chemical reaction
- Contribute to ENERGY EFFICIENCY and TOXICS REDUCTION

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- BUT ALSO SPARKED DEBATE FOR HAZARDS OF ULTRAFINE PARTICLES
- will they affect humans & other organisms ?
- will they affect the environment?
- ethical questions are also raised (e.g. privacy)

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## Current applications of nanotechnology

- See: [www.wilsoncenter.org](http://www.wilsoncenter.org)
- ‘Fixed’ applications: in electronics, textiles, building materials, protheses, coatings, catalysts
- How fixed is fixed? (e.g. nanosilver textiles, platinum catalysts)
- Dispersive applications: personal care products, food, washing machines, pharmaceuticals, drug delivery systems, aid in imaging.

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## Near future

- Many applications of nanotechnology in the pipeline
- Worldwide yearly cost r&d regarding new applications >> \$ 10<sup>9</sup>
- Comparatively speaking, little research into unintended effects

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## Safety: current situation

- No general testing requirements when safety of larger particles has been tested
- Production efficiency often poor; end of pipe control difficult
- Already substantial knowledge about hazards, partly derived from studies on non-manufactured nanoparticles

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## What is known?

- Persistent nanoparticles hazardous after inhalation; hazard dependent on surface, shape, (crystal) structure, chemical composition
- Persistent nanoparticles potentially hazardous after ingestion
- Some (fotocatalytically active) nanoparticles hazardous on skin.
- Toxic metabolites of some medical nanoproducts
- Ecotoxicity of some nanoparticles, dependent on surface, aggregation

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### What is different?

- Effect surface-based rather than mass- based
- Shape, crystal structure, aggregation and surface structure important determinants of hazard
- These findings not reflected in regulation & hardly ever in measurement of exposure

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### Several leads for improving safety

- "Clean" nanotechnology
- Cradle-to-grave approach, e.g. preventing release of nanoparticles/ soluble toxics from products in which nanoparticles are fixed
- Drugs: optimum persistence & prevention toxic metabolites
- Surface modification: e.g. coating of photocatalytically active nanoparticles in cosmetics

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### The Role of COMPSUD

1. Information to be disseminated through the Secretariat and the MPs to all Parliamentary Bodies where they participate;
2. Setting-up thematic Committees on each one of the above presented issues to follow it closer in cooperation with the Secretariat;
3. MPs to link with concerned stakeholders in their respective countries;
4. Identification / proposal of other relevant issues

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## The Agenda of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of COMPSUD

**Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of May**

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 17:00 - 17:30 | Registration   |
| 17:30 – 19:00 | <b>Opening Session</b>   |
| 17:30 – 18:10 | <b>Welcome addresses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Mr. Nikos Georgiadis, MP, Chairman of COMPSUD</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Athanassios Katsiyannis, Chairman, Environmental Committee of the Hellenic Parliament</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Sotiris Vosdou, General Secretary of the Region of Ionian Islands</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Stefanos Poulimenos, Prefect of Corfu</i></li> <li>– <i>Mr. Sotiris Mikalef, Mayor of Corfu</i></li> <li>– <i>Prof. Michael Scoullas, Chairman of GWP-Med and MIO-ECSD</i></li> </ul>   |
| 18:10 – 19:00 | <b>Interventions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Mr. Athanassios Katsiyannis, Chairman, Environmental Committee of the Hellenic Parliament</i></li> <li>– <i>Dr. Adnan Omran, Secretary General of the Arab Parliament</i></li> <li>– <i>Mrs. Mirey Atallah, UNDP/GEF</i></li> </ul>   |
| 19:00 – 20:30 | <b><i>1<sup>st</sup> Session: Euro-Mediterranean policies and processes related to Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean</i></b>  |
|               | Presentations from invited speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The “Horizon 2020” Initiative for de-polluting the Mediterranean Sea by 2020, <i>Mr. Andrew Murphy, European Commission</i></li> <li>– The regional pollution reduction process as part of the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), <i>Mr. Saverio Civili, MED POL Coordinator, Mediterranean Action Plan - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP)</i></li> <li>– Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (SIA EMFTA) - <i>Mr. Clive George, University of Manchester</i></li> </ul> |
|               | The role of Parliamentarians - Discussion  |
| 21:00         | Dinner at the Achilleon Palace   |

| Friday 4 May  |  |
|---------------|--|
| 09:30 – 11:00 | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Session: The challenges of Water Resources Management in the Mediterranean</b>   |
|               | <p>Presentation from invited speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), <i>Mr. Vangelis Constantianos, MED EUWI Secretariat (GWP-Med)</i></li> <li>– Transboundary Cooperation for the Integrated Management of Shared Water Bodies in Middle East, <i>Dr. Fadi Comair, Director General, Ministry of Energy and Water</i></li> <li>– Transboundary Water Resources Management in South Eastern Europe, <i>Mr. Dimitris Falloutsos, Programme Officer, GWP-Med</i></li> </ul> <p>Questions – Discussion</p> |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break   |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Session: Cooperation of COMPSUD with other Parliamentary Bodies</b>  |
|               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>Mr. Nikos Georgiadis, Chairman, COMPSUD</i></li> <li>– <i>Dr. Adnan Omran, Secretary General of the Arab Parliament</i></li> <li>– Round Table and comments by COMPSUD's Members, <i>Mr. Moh'd Arslan (Jordan), Mr. Slahedine Bougeh (Tunisia)</i></li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>  |
| 12:30 – 16:00 | <p>Official Lunch at the Palace of St. Michael and St. George</p> <p>Central speaker: <i>H.E Ms. Dora Bakoyannis, Hellenic Minister of Foreign Affairs</i></p>   |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Session: a. Corfu Declaration: Presentation and discussion<br/>b. Organizational issues of COMPSUD</b>   |
| 17:00 – 18:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– COMPSUD's involvement in important projects and issues of greater concern for Mediterranean stakeholders (NANOCAP, GEWAMED, MEDIES, Marrakech Process) /Eventual creation of COMPSUD thematic Committees</li> <li>– Strategy for the involvement/enrolment of new Members in the COMPSUD</li> <li>– Economic Sustainability of COMPSUD / Funding of its activities</li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>   |
| 18:30 – 19:30 | <b>Closing Session – Adoption of the Corfu Declaration / Rapping-up and closure of the meeting</b>   |
| 21:00         | Traditional Dinner in a typical Corfiote Restaurant  |



## List of Participants

| SURNAME       | NAME        | TITLE  | COUNTRY  |
|---------------|-------------|--|----------|
| ABDELLI       | Moufida     | MP   | TUNISIA  |
| ABELA         | Joseph      | MP   | MALTA    |
| ALAWNEH       | Ziyad       | NGO  | JORDAN   |
| ALTHWABIA     | Abd         | MP   | JORDAN   |
| ALVES         | Mario       | NGO  | PORTUGAL |
| ARSLAN        | Mohd        | MP   | JORDAN   |
| BAKOYANNIS    | Dora        | Minister, Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs | GREECE   |
| BANOVIC       | Donka       | MP   | SERBIA   |
| BENDAOU       | Nacer Riad  | NGO  | ALGERIA  |
| BNOUNI        | Ameur       | MP   | TUNISIA  |
| BONE MORON    | Eduardo     | NGO  | SPAIN    |
| BONELLI       | Patrizia    | NGO  | ITALY    |
| BOUJAH        | Slahedine   | MP   | TUNISIA  |
| CIVILI        | Saverio     | UNEP/MAP, MedPol Coordinator                   | GREECE   |
| COMAIR        | Fadi        | Director General, Ministry of Energy and Water | LEBANON  |
| CONSTANTIANOS | Vangelis    | Executive Secretary GWP-Med                    | GREECE   |
| CVIKL         | Milan       | MP   | SLOVENIA |
| EL SADAT      | Anwar Esmat | MP   | EGYPT    |
| ERMIS         | Murat       | NGO  | TURKEY   |
| FAKHREDDINE   | Fatmeh      | UNDP-LPP                                       | LEBANON  |
| FALOUTSOS     | Dimitris    | Programme Manager GWP-Med                      | GREECE   |
| FTOUHI        | Mohammad    | NGO  | MOROCCO  |
| GEORGE        | Clive       | SIA EMFTA Consortium                           | UK       |
| GEORGIADIS    | Nikos       | MP   | GREECE   |
| GERONIMI      | Jean Valere | NGO  | FRANCE   |
| GHANDOUR      | Malek       | NGO  | LEBANON  |
| JUAREZ        | Angel       | NGO  | SPAIN    |
| KABBANI       | Mouhamad    | MP, Chairman of the Energy and Water Committee | LEBANON  |

|                   |           |  |          |
|-------------------|-----------|--|----------|
| KALOGIROU         | Christina | MP   | GREECE   |
| KATSIYANNIS       | Thanassis | MP, Chairman of the Environmental Committee    | GREECE   |
| KLAUSCHEN         | Angela    | Project Officer GWP-Med                        | GREECE   |
| KNANI             | Hamda     | MP   | TUNISIA  |
| LAMAY             | Nira      | Commission for Future Generations (Parliament) | ISRAEL   |
| LASKRI            | Ali       | Elected at the Assemblée Populaire des Wilaya  | ALGERIA  |
| MAMMERI           | Djoudi    | Senator  | ALGERIA  |
| MANTZARA          | Bessie    | MIO-ECSDE Finance and Administration           | GREECE   |
| MASALHA           | Mohammed  | Politician                                     | JORDAN   |
| MIJATOVIC         | Borovoje  | Prof.  | SERBIA   |
| MILOVANOVIC       | Radoslav  | MP   | SERBIA   |
| MURPHY            | Andy      | DG Environment                                 | EC       |
| NOURI             | Youssef   | NGO  | TUNISIA  |
| OMRAN             | Adnan     | General Secretary of the Arab Parliament       | SYRIA    |
| PAPADAKIS         | Yannis    | COMPSUD Secretarial Support                    | GREECE   |
| PAPATHANASOPOULOU | Olga      | MIO-ECSDE Secretarial Support                  | GREECE   |
| PIRSIC            | Vjeran    | Adriatic NGO Network                           | CROATIA  |
| RAMOS PRETO       | Antonio   | MP, Chairman of the Environmental Committee    | PORTUGAL |
| RAYES             | Suheir    | MP   | SYRIA    |
| RONIOTES          | Anastasia | MIO-ECSDE Senior Programme Officer             | GREECE   |
| SCOULLOS          | Michael   | MIO-ECSDE, Chairman                            | GREECE   |
| SOLTANI           | Larbi     | Elected at the Assemblée Populaire des Wilaya  | ALGERIA  |
| TADIC             | Tonci     | MP   | CROATIA  |
| TOMASSINI         | Barbara   | MIO-ESCDE Programme Officer                    | GREECE   |
| VOGRIN            | Milan     | NGO  | SLOVENIA |
| VUKOVIC           | Miodrag   | MP   | MONT/GRO |
| XHOMARA           | Idriz     | MP   | ALBANIA  |
| ZAIDI             | Ahmed     | MP   | MOROCCO  |

