

# 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arab Water Council

March 16-17, 2019 - Cairo, Egypt



INTERCONTINENTAL CITY STARS HOTEL

## PROGRAM



# **5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arab Water Council**

## **Program**

March 16-17, 2019

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InterContinental City Stars Hotel

## Day 1 - Saturday, March 16

09:30 - 10:30	AWC Executive Committee Meeting <b>(By Invitation)</b> (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
11:30 - 12:30	15 <sup>th</sup> Board of Governors Meeting <b>(By Invitation)</b> (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
12:00 - 14:00	Registration
13:30 - 14:00	Signing partner agreements for the “SDG-Climate Facility – Regional Project” <b>(By Invitation)</b> (Sans Souci 1 Hall, Level -3)
14:00 - 15:00	Opening Ceremony of the 5 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
15:00 - 15:15	Coffee Break
15:15 - 16:00	General Assembly Procedures (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWC Achievements (2016-2018) &amp; AWC Work Plan (2019-2021) (Dr. Hussein El-Atfy, Secretary General - AWC)</li> <li>• Financial report (Dr. Raouf Darwish, AWC Treasurer)</li> <li>• 3rd Arab State of the Water Report (Prof. Khaled AbuZeid, Regional Director for Water Resources, CEDARE Director, Technical Programs, AWC)</li> </ul>
16:00 - 17:30	Panel Session on: Arab State of the Water & Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (Arab Water Council & Partners) (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4) Moderator: Prof. Khaled AbuZeid, Regional Director for Water Resources, CEDARE Director, Technical Programs, AWC
17:30 - 18:30	Board of Governors Election (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
18:30	Dinner

## Day 2 - Sunday, March 17

09:00 - 10:00	13 <sup>th</sup> Climate Risk Nexus Initiative (CRNI) Steering Committee Meeting <b>(By Invitation)</b> (Al-Manial Hall) (Level -3)
10:00 - 11:30	Technical Session on “The Use of Advanced Technology and Remote Sensing Techniques in Water Resources Management for Sustainable Agriculture” – (Arab Water Council & World Bank) (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
11:30 - 11:45	Coffee Break
11:45 - 12:15	Presentation of the Main Results of the IHP Program on Groundwater and Arid Zones and Program Activities to Achieve SDG 6 (Dr. Alice Aureli, UNESCO) (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
12:15 - 14:45	The Arab Water Council Program for Expanding the Use of Non-Conventional Water Resources (Arab Water Council & Partners) (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4) ( Moderator: Prof. Safwat Abdel –Dayem, AWC Advisor)
12:15 - 13:30	Part I: Regional Programs
13:30 - 14:45	Part II: National Case Studies
14:45 - 15:00	Wrap-Up and Closing (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)
15:00 - 16:00	Lunch
16:00 - 17:00	16 <sup>th</sup> Board of Governors Meeting <b>(By Invitation)</b> (Al-Saraya Hall, Level -4)

# 5<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Arab Water Council

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Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019

15:00 – 14:00 PM

(Al-Saraya Hall, Level 4-)

## OPENING CEREMONY

### OPENING REMARKS

(Master of Cermony: Dr. Hussein El-Atfy, Secretary-General, AWC)

**H. E. Prof. Mahmoud Abu Zeid**  
President

Arab Water Council

**H. E. Dr. Seif El Dien Hamad**  
Former Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation.

Ministry of Water Resources - Sudan

**H. E. Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid**  
Former Minister of Environment, Egypt and  
Executive Director of CEDARE

Centre for Environment and Development  
for the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE

**H. E. Dr. Mourad Wahba**  
UN Assistant Secretary-General and UNDP  
Regional Director for Arab States

United Nations Development Programme -  
UNDP

**H. E. H.E. Dr. Mohamed Abdel Aaty**  
Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation

Ministry of Water Resources and irrigation  
- MWRI, Egypt

**H.E. Dr. Ahmed Abu El Gheit**  
Secretary General

League of Arab States

## Scope & Objective:

This session aims at presenting an update on the State of the Water in the Arab Region. It will present the outcomes of the 2015 3rd Arab State of the Water Report, prepared by CEDARE, Arab Water Council (AWC), and the League of Arab States. The session will also discuss the Sustainable Development Goal 6 on "Clean Water and Sanitation" (SDG6) and its associated targets as well as the 2015 baseline for the indicators to measure the progress made in achieving these targets.

The session is intended to raise awareness on the efforts needed by countries in the region to work towards achieving the SDG6 targets and to monitor the State of the Water in Arab countries. The session will also provide an opportunity to have a common understanding between government officials in the Arab Region, UN Organizations and other development agencies working in the region on the required capacity, not only to develop plans for achieving National Goals and the SDG6 targets, but also the required capacity for monitoring and evaluation of progress made in achieving these goals and the SDG6 targets.

## Chair:

**Prof. Walid Abderrahman,**  
Vice President, AWC.

## Moderator:

**Prof. Khaled M. AbuZeid,**  
Regional Director for Water Resources, CEDARE.

## Arab State of the Water & Sustainable Development Goals Indicators

**Saturday, March 16, 2019 - 16:00 - 17:30 hrs.**

**Saraya 4 (Level -4)**

## Schedule & Speakers

### • 80 minutes

- Overview on "3rd Arab State of the Water Report 2015".  
**Prof. Khaled M. AbuZeid**, Regional Director for Water Resources, CEDARE.
- Presentation from Morocco.  
**Eng. Belkasssem Dhimi**, Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Board of Governors of the Arab Water Council.
- Presentation from UAE.  
**Dr. Mohammed Elmulla**, Director Water Resources Management Department and Representative of United Arab of Emirates to the Board of Governors of the Arab Water Council.
- Presentation from Jordan.  
**H.E. Eng. Ali Subah**, Secretary-General, Ministry of Water & Irrigation and Representative of Kingdom of Jordan to the Board of Governors of the Arab Water Council.
- Presentation from Palestine.  
**Ms. Rana Abu AlSoud**, Acting Director General for Organizational Affairs & Head of Gender Unit and Representative of Palestine to the Board of Governors of the Arab Water Council.

### • 10 minutes

Questions & Discussion - Moderated by **Prof. Khaled M. AbuZeid**.



# Use of Advanced Technology and Remote Sensing Techniques in Water Resources Management for Sustainable Agriculture

Sunday, March 17, 2019 - 10:00 - 11:30 hrs.

Saraya 4 (Level -4)

## Schedule & Speakers

### • 15 minutes

Welcoming Remarks:

- **Dr. Abdel Salam Ould Ahmed**, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative, FAO.
- **Ms. Qun Li**, Senior Water Resources Management Expert, World Bank (WB).

### • 15 minutes (each)

- Presentation on "China's Experience on ET Management".  
**Mr. Liping Jiang**, Sr. Water Resources Specialist, WB.
- Presentation on "Research Priorities and Activities of the National Center for Remote Sensing-CNRS in Agriculture".  
**Dr. Talal Darwish**, National Council for Scientific Research, National Center for Remote Sensing (CNRS), Lebanon.
- Presentation on "Geo-Big Data and Digital Augmentation for Sustainable Agroecosystems".  
**Dr. Chandrashekhar Biradar**, International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA).
- Presentation on Egypt Case Study "NARSS Use of Remote Sensing in Integrated Water Resources Management".  
**Dr. Bassam Abdellatif**, National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences (NARSS).

### • 10 minutes

Questions & Discussion - Moderated by **Eng. Heba Al Hariry**, Deputy Technical Director, AWC.

### • 5 minutes

Wrap-up and Conclusion.

## Scope & Objective:

The use of modern advances in geospatial technology and space-based remote sensing (RS) techniques in supporting water resources management has recently made a transformational change in Agricultural Water Management and finally reached a level of maturity that allows operational applications for climate-smart agriculture.

Such techniques can provide better estimates and more reliable predictions of temporal and spatial distribution as well as severity and frequency of natural phenomena that can allow decision-makers in MENA region to make better, more informed decisions in water and agriculture management and planning.

In this context, the main objective of the session is to bring together new science and policy knowledge to support decision-makers as they further develop their strategic plans by highlighting recent research advances in conceptual thinking and regional modeling and by sharing experiences and success stories on the use of latest RS technologies in water and agriculture management.

## Chair:

**Dr. Hussein Al-Atfy**,  
Secretary-General, AWC

## Co-Chair:

**Dr. Abdel Salam Ould Ahmed**,  
Assistant Director-General and  
Regional Representative, FAO.

## Moderator:

**Eng. Heba Al Hariry**,  
Deputy Technical Director, AWC.

## Rapporteur:

**Ms. Yara El Nagdi**, Project Officer,  
Climate Change and Water  
Economics, AWC.



# Presentation of the Main Results of the IHP Program on Groundwater and Arid Zones and Program Activities to Achieve SDG 6

Sunday, March 17, 2019 - 11:45 - 12:15 hrs.

Saraya 4 (Level -4)

## Scope & Objective:

The presentation aims at sharing the main results of IHP Program on groundwater and arid zones in achieving SDG6. It will also discuss the preparation of the new phase of IHP (IHP-IX).

The UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO-IHP) is the only UN programme with a dedicated focus on aquifers and groundwater resources.

UNESCO-IHP was pioneer in consideration of these topics and in addressing the complexity of aquifer systems. Today, IHP helps countries improve their scientific knowledge and better manage the resources thanks to mapping activities, preparation of tools for multidisciplinary assessments and elaboration of guidelines to improve groundwater governance.

IHP is also a leader in promoting the benefits of water cooperation, and several countries of the Arab region are involved in the execution of UNESCO-IHP projects related to coastal aquifers, transboundary aquifers and shared groundwater resources.

30-minute Presentation on “The Main Results of the IHP Program on Groundwater and Arid Zones and Program Activities to Achieve SDG6” by **Dr. Alice Aureli**, Chief of Section, Groundwater Systems and Settlements Section, Division of Water Sciences, IHP.



# The Arab Water Council Program for Expanding the Use of Non-Conventional Water Resources

Sunday, March 17, 2019 - 12:15 - 14:45 hrs.

Saraya 4 (Level -4)

## Schedule & Speakers

### PART I: Regional Projects and Programs

- **5 minutes**

Opening Remarks:

- *H. E. Prof. Mahmoud Abu-Zeid*, President, AWC

- **15 minutes**

- Presentation on "AWC Program for Expanding the Use of Non-Conventional Water Resources". *Dr. Safwat Abdel Dayem*, AWC.

- **15 minutes (each)**

- Presentation on "Non-Conventional Water Resources within the Regional Water Scarcity Initiative".

*Mr. Mohamed Al-Hamdi*, FAO.

- Presentation on "Climate Resilient Water Resources: Wastewater Reuse for Sustainable Agriculture in MENA Region".

*Dr. Amgad El Mahdi and Dr. Gihan Bayoumi*, IWMI.

- Presentation on "Use of Brackish Water in Agriculture".

*Dr. Atef Swelam*, ICARDA.

- **10 minutes**

Questions & Discussion - Moderated by

*Dr. Safwat Abdel-Dayem*, AWC.

### PART II: National Case Studies

- **15 minutes (each)**

- Presentation on "Non-Conventional Water Resources in Egypt". *Dr. Eman El-Sayed*, MWRI, Egypt.

- Presentation on Saudi Arabia Case Study "Advanced Governance Frameworks for Successful PPP and Large-Scale Reuse of Treated Industrial Effluents". *Prof. Walid Abderrahman*, KSA.

- Presentation on "UAE experience in Scaling-up Development and Use of Non-Conventional Water Resources".

*Prof. Mohamed Dawoud and Dr. Osama Sallam*, UAE.

- Presentation on "A 2030 Strategic Vision for Wastewater Reuse in Egypt". *Prof. Khaled M. AbuZeid*, CEDARE.

- **10 minutes**

Questions & Discussion - Moderated by

*Dr. Safwat Abdel Dayem*, AWC.

- **5 minutes**

Wrap-up and Conclusion.



## Scope & Objective:

Conventional surface and groundwater resources are heavily exploited in most countries of the Arab region. With rapid population growth, environmental degradation and climate change impacts, it is no longer possible to satisfy water demand by simply attempting to augment conventional water supply. Therefore, non-conventional water resources are recently considered as adequate solutions in bridging the gap between supply and demand. The use of non-conventional waters is already applied in many countries of the region, primarily through reuse of treated and untreated wastewater including recycling of agricultural drainage water, rainwater harvesting and desalination. However, most countries of the region are far from reaching the potential of using non-conventional water resources.

The Arab Water Council's program on non-conventional water resources focuses on activities aiming at expanding the potential through enhancing knowledge and building capacities at all levels of water resources management as well as raising awareness of citizens in the Arab countries.

This session is intended to inform the participants about the latest in the use of non-conventional water resources both at the regional and country levels.

## Chair:

*H. E. Dr. Mahmoud Abu-Zeid*, President, AWC.

## Moderator:

*Prof. Safwat Abdel-Dayem*, AWC.

## Rapporteur:

*Dr. Gihan Bayoumi*, IWMI.

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## Signing Ceremony of the SDG-Climate Facility

### Scope & Objective:

Agreements for a new joint Programme “SDG Climate Facility”, Funded by Sida and implemented by UNDP, will be signed between UNDP and LAS, AWC and UN Partners to support climate action at regional and country levels and to build resilience of climate-vulnerable communities across the region. Under this agreement, partners will work towards enhancing the capacity of regional and national institutions to effectively align with SDGs and integrate climate change considerations into implementation of programs and policies.

The Agreement signage ceremony will be witnessed by **H.E. Mr. Abu El-Gheit**, Secretary General of the League of Arab States, **H.E. Dr. Mohamed Abdel Aty**, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, **H.E. Dr. Mourad Wahba**, UN Assistant Secretary-General and UNDP Regional Director for the Arab States, **H.E. Prof. Mahmoud Abu-Zeid**, President, AWC, and several Arab Ministers and Representatives of UN Organizations.