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Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط

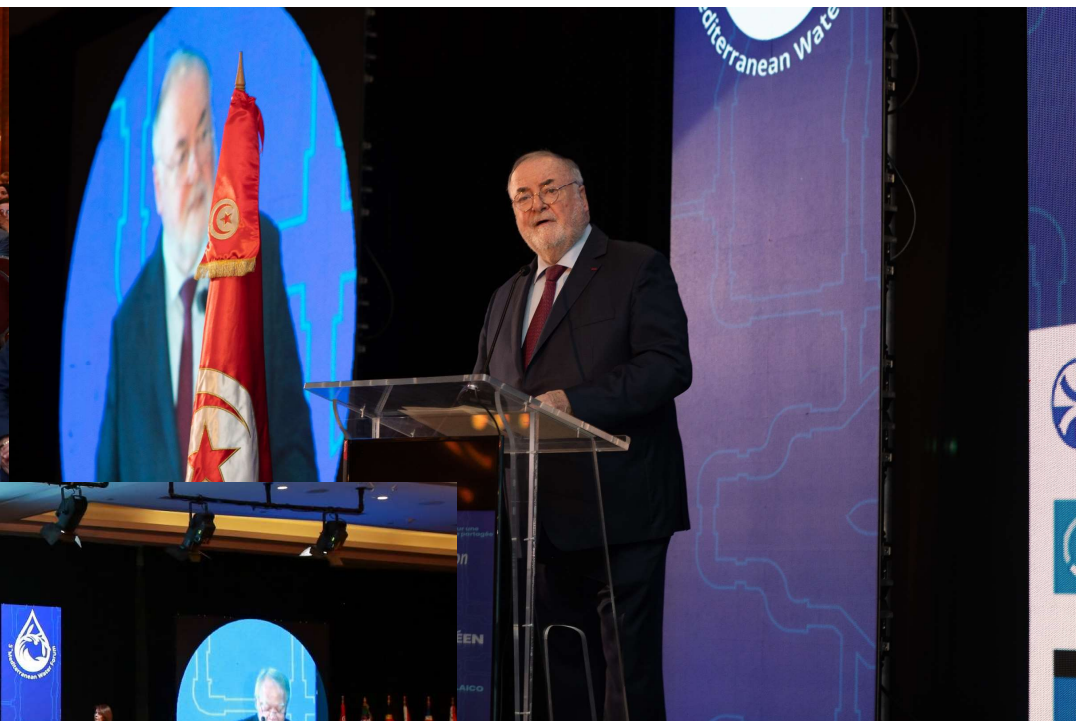


5th Mediterranean Water Forum, Tunis 5-7/02/24

« Together for shared water sobriety »

- **MORE THAN 2800 PARTICIPANTS OVER THE 3-DAYS FORUM**
- **35 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED FROM WHICH 22 MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD**
- **MINISTERIAL HIGH LEVEL PANEL : DECLARATION OF TUNIS**
- **21 SIDE EVENTS**
- **6 THEMATIC SESSIONS**



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PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS



SESSION 1 : NEXUS WEF (WATER/ENERGY/FOOD/ENVIRONMENT)

- The problems of the water sector in the Mediterranean region cannot be solved by applying the traditional "silo approach" methodology. **A multi-sectoral approach bringing together Water Energy Food & Eco-system should be adopted.**
- This approach does not consider one sector above another. **Ecosystems should not be considered as a subordinate element, but as a sector in its own right.**
- Pilot projects have proved their effectiveness, but there are still **many obstacles to be overcome before they can be rolled out on a large scale**: technological, regulatory, cultural, financial, etc.

SESSION 1 : NEXUS WEFEE (WATER/ENERGY/FOOD/ENVIRONMENT)

- **The integration of NCWR and renewable energies is a challenge facing the Mediterranean region**, where not only the water and energy sectors are involved, but also food and ecosystems.
- **Integrating the WEFEE into sectoral planning and policies opens up the possibility of an inclusive and participatory process** with broad social involvement to create an integrated vision that takes into account the expectations of women and men.
- **The mission of wastewater services needs to be redefined as a "multi-resource" service, as the WEFEE framework offers us the opportunity to do so** → become producers of water, energy, fertilizers and other components, as well as playing a public health role in the detection and monitoring of pandemics and micro pollutants.

SESSION 2 : WATER MIX AND NEW VISION OF DEMAND FOR 2050

- **IWRM, which includes consultation between the different types of users** and the different territories around the objectives of protecting aquatic environments on the scale of river basins or aquifers, **is the governance that needs to be put in place to meet the new challenge posed by climate change.**
- **The mobilization of non-conventional water** (desalination and REUT) is a concrete response to the new adequacy of resources and needs, **provided that all efforts to control water demand (performance of facilities) - and even to review water uses - have been made beforehand.** But these projects can only be economically sustainable if the positive externalities they generate are taken into account.
- This requires a **change in governance with new regulations (REUT standards) or new decision-making tools**, such as the sharing of experience on non-conventional water and associated renewable energies (Observatory) or water and carbon footprint assessments.
- **International cooperation is a major source of progress** in cross-border basins, but also between countries or regions.

SESSION 3 : NEW SOURCES OF FINANCING FOR WATER, PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND MIXED FINANCING

- **The water risk** generated by water stress, whether due to demographics, rising living standards, development and/or climate change, **is prompting major groups with a large water footprint to invest in the sector.**
- **These new entrants** to the water market should provide **leverage to develop mixed financing** with regional, national or multinational donors.
- **The “Water Finance Coalition”, launched 4 years ago** by a group of donors, now brings together more than 450 donors worldwide. It is high time **to set up regional funds dedicated to water, financed by all the donors**, in particular by harmonizing their procedures.
- **Stop working in silos, improve the readability of public policy agendas linked to spatial planning**, by including the management and planning of water resources / uses / land to trigger concrete action on the ground.

SESSION 3 : NEW SOURCES OF FINANCING FOR WATER, PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND MIXED FINANCING

- **Make more local grants available, with tenfold increases in funding** and covering the creation and completion of projects, in order to make "blended finance" a reality (too little in operation to date).
- **Develop more blended finance solutions** between Donors, National finance agencies and private initiatives.
- **Encourage the development of PPPs** in all their forms according to local needs and priorities by adapting regulations.
- **Consider tariff engineering solutions** adapted to the effects of climate change.



SESSION 4 : DIGITALIZATION AND NEW SOLUTIONS FOR RATIONAL RESOURCE USE, RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

- The solutions exist, but political decision-makers need to grasp them. Think tanks like IME are important for making this link.
- Solutions need to be taught so that end users can grasp them.
- Implement training, awareness-raising and education initiatives for all.
- Support operators in their day-to-day work. They are the ones who implement the solutions.
- Make greater use of local know-how and traditional practices, to create a mix of solutions based on nature and new technologies.
- Develop joint research projects as part of international cooperation.



SESSION 5 : DROUGHT AND FLOOD PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

Common observation: the **Mediterranean is being hit hard by the development of extreme weather phenomena**, with droughts and floods having catastrophic consequences for the people living around the Mediterranean, and climate forecasts predict that these events will get worse.

- **Improve knowledge of these risks** and create shared information systems
- **Implement crisis management** preparedness operations
- **Implementing early warning systems** for both floods and droughts
- **Adopting disruptive approaches** to development and management to adapt to new phenomena
- **Emphasize the need to strengthen and simplify funding**, both in terms of investment and the operation of the systems that are essential to people's resilience.
- **The importance of intersectoral and inter-state cooperation**, which remains essential even in a complex diplomatic context.

SESSION 6 : REGULATION, RIGHT TO WATER, CONFLICT PREVENTION / RESOLUTION

WASHREG : A practical tool to strengthen regulation in the WASH sector

- ❑ Recognize that regulation is an indispensable pillar of WASH sector governance and should be given special attention by policy-makers and other stakeholders.
- ❑ Encourage decision-makers and other relevant stakeholders in the WASH sector to take advantage of the capacity development and technical assistance tools made available by international organizations and their partners to strengthen their regulatory skills.



SESSION 6 : REGULATION, RIGHT TO WATER, CONFLICT PREVENTION / RESOLUTION

Concerted management of a cross-border resource: the example of the North Sahara Aquifer System

- ☐ Encourage the establishment of similar mechanisms in other regions facing transboundary water-related issues: ITTAS, IGAD, SASM, etc.
- ☐ Promote integrated and inclusive management based on adaptability to global change.
- ☐ Encourage and promote the participation of local communities and stakeholders in decision-making related to water resource management.
- ☐ Promote sustainable water-efficient agricultural practices to prevent the risks associated with overexploitation ;
- ☐ To develop alternative resources to ensure that needs are met and to relieve the pressure on scarce groundwater resources.

SESSION 6 : REGULATION, RIGHT TO WATER, CONFLICT PREVENTION / RESOLUTION

Assessment of water cooperation in the region: current status and the way forward within the framework of the Water Convention

- ☐ The countries of the region should accede to both the 1992 Water Convention and the 1997 Watercourses Convention to benefit fully from their solid legal frameworks.

Citizen participation, communication and access to information for water management

- ☐ Participatory management and success stories: the example of concerted groundwater management in Tunisia (involving the State and users in decision-making on groundwater management). Importance of the role of women in improving local governance of water services in a context of climate change (sustainability of water systems, hygiene and health, water saving, rainwater harvesting, etc.).

SESSION 6 : REGULATION, RIGHT TO WATER, CONFLICT PREVENTION / RESOLUTION

Rethinking regulation

- ❑ For each context and each particular issue, we need to design a specific model adapted to the national players, which can then be evaluated and developed over time. We must not lock ourselves into a single model, and it would be useful to experiment, evaluate and readjust. There can be no effective regulation without :Transparent, relevant and timely information, accountability of the various players and Independence of the regulator.

Blue Peace in the Middle East by strengthening regional cooperation: the example of “Blue Peace Middle East”

SIDE EVENTS



1. Filling capacity gaps in the Mediterranean water sector
2. New technologies, research and sustainable innovation in the water sector in Tunisia and Italy
3. A basin plan to adapt to climate change
4. Vulnerability and adaptation of the Tunisian coastline to marine submersion
5. Actions for water and climate
6. Cross-border water management: towards shared stability, security and prosperity
7. National adaptation plan to climate change in the agriculture and food security sector
8. Transporting drinking water using prestressed concrete pressure pipes
9. Transformative management of water resources in the Mediterranean region
10. The national adaptation plan to climate change in the agriculture and food security sector
11. How can nature contribute to the water crisis?



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SIDE EVENTS



11. Using systems thinking to improve water quality, sustainability and climate resilience in the Mediterranean source-sea continuum - The Med Programme“
12. Funding opportunities for water management in Mediterranean cooperation: The Interreg MEXT MED programme
13. Opportunités et solutions pour renforcer la gouvernance du bassin de la Medjerda
14. Strategic tools for water management
15. Water and community resilience: the experience of the International Labour Organisation in the governorates of Jendouba and Kébili
16. Strategy for the reuse of treated wastewater 2050
17. Agritech and remote sensing for sustainable irrigation
18. 2nd Nexus WEFE round table in the Mediterranean
19. SONEDE strategy for drinking water supply in a difficult context of climate change
20. Links between gender and the WEFE Nexus in the Mediterranean



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PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 5MWF TUNIS 2024 DRAWN UP BY 10 YOUNG MEDITERRANEAN STUDENTS





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KEYS MESSAGES TO BALI – 10WWF MAY 2024

Water Security and Prosperity / WEF Nexus

Creation of a Worldwide Observatory of Non-Conventional Water Resources and Renewable Energies.

Water for Humans and Nature / Water Mix and New vision of Demand to 2050

Analyze uses (real needs) according to the available water mix capacity with a 30-year protection and regeneration plan. And

Sewage public services becomes resources services

Resource of water

Resource of Energy

Resource of Fertilizer

Resource of health control

Disaster Risk Reduction and Management / Drought and Flow, Prevention and Management

Implement in each region modern tools for knowledge and forecasting of the impacts of climate change on water management (floods and droughts) allowing adaptation and risk management.

KEY MESSAGES TO BALI 10 WWF MAY 2024

- **Governance, Cooperation and Hydro-diplomacy / Regulation, Right to Water, Conflict prevention and resolution**
 - ➔ Develop cross-border hydro-diplomacy actions and apply the method to inter-basin solidarity in the same country as well as to conflicts of use between sectors of activity in the same sub-basin.
- **Sustainable Water Finance / New sources of financing for Water, performance monitoring and blended finance**
 - ➔ Creation of a "Global Water Fund" in each Region of the World and boost Blended Finance to face the SDG6 thanks to the awareness of the "Water Risk" by large water consumers (water footprint).
- **Knowledge and Innovation / Digitalization and new solutions for rational resource uses**
 - ➔ Prioritize innovations, technological and regulatory solutions, adapted to produce more and consume less. Resources-protection, Mix-hydric, Sobriety and Performance.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

More information on the official website:

www.5forummw.com

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