Enhancing Transboundary Water Cooperation in the North Africa Region

Development of the Union for the Mediterranean Water Agenda

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21 December 2017, Tunis, Tunisia
MISSION

To enhance regional cooperation, dialogue and the implementation of concrete projects and initiatives with tangible impact on our citizens, mainly our youth, in order to address three strategic objectives for the region: human development, stability and integration.
UfM Co-presidency

Co-ownership: The Co-presidency ensures coherence of activities and equal footing and representation of North and South

UfM Senior Officials’ Meeting (SOM)

Governing Body: Meetings of the Ambassadors of the 43 countries

UfM Secretariat

1 Secretary General from the South
6 Deputy Secretary Generals (3 North and 3 South)
60 Diplomats, financial experts and project managers from more than 20 countries and institutions
The 3 P’s: Policies in Action – Strategic Objectives

- Human Development
- Regional Stability
- Regional Integration
The Ministers of Foreign Affairs meet once a year at the UfM Regional Forum to define strategic areas and priorities.

**Give political impetus**
**Set regional priorities**
**Consolidate action-oriented approach**

**UfM I Political Forum to enhance regional dialogue**

**Ministerial Meetings include:**
- **Energy** (December 2016, Italy)
- **Employment and Labour** (September 2016, Jordan)
- **Regional Cooperation and Planning** (June 2016, Jordan)

**2017 Ministerial Meetings include:**
- **Water** (April 2017, Malta)
- **Sustainable Urban Development** (May 2017, Egypt)
- **Strengthening the role of Women in Society** (November 2017, Egypt)

**II UfM Regional Forum**
- Ministers of Foreign Affairs adopt the UfM Roadmap for the future (January 2017, Spain)
The UfM Ministerial declaration on Water of April 27, 2017 called for “a Union for the Mediterranean Water Agenda to enhance regional cooperation towards sustainable and integrated water management in the UfM region”.

The declaration linked the UfM Water agenda to broader, global policy agendas, ensuring at the same time that it remained rooted in regional priorities defined by the UfM MS.

Regional, sub-regional and national water-related stakeholders and other partnerships (the Western Mediterranean of the 5+5 Dialogue, and the Arab Ministerial Council on Water)
Mandate regarding the development of the UfM Water agenda

- Ministers referred to the premise “that regional cooperation adds distinctive value and complements the national efforts, by, whenever appropriate, facilitating and supporting experience sharing; promotion of common approaches after adaptation to local needs; joint pilot projects; valorisation of existing, including traditional, knowledge; innovative practices including through knowledge and technology transfer; and enhances the investment opportunities and access to sustainable financing”.

- They mandated to work, on a list of potential areas and a methodology and governance scheme for the preparation and implementation of the UfM Water agenda.
Methodology and Governance

- The Declaration provides a mandate to “the Water Expert Group (WEG), in consultation with regional institutions, donors and nongovernmental actors of the UfM region to elaborate and implement the UfM Water Agenda”, emphasizing that it will work “under the guidance of the UfM SOM”.

Financial Strategy

- the UfM Water Agenda is accompanied by a financial strategy designed to support its implementation and prepared by UfM members, in consultation with financial actors and the private sector as well as relevant regional stakeholders.”
Meeting of the Water expert group (WEG)

A WEG meeting was convened on July 20-21, 2017 to reach an agreement on:

- the priority work areas for the UfM Water agenda;
- the methodology of work;
- the expected content of the work programme to be prepared for the priority work areas;
- the terms of reference for the content of the associated Financial strategy.
The 7th WEG Conclusions (1)

Priority work areas to develop as part of the Work Programme of the UfM Water Agenda:

- Water, energy, food, ecosystems nexus.
- Water supply and sanitation.
- Climate change adaptation and water.
- Water, employment and migration.

*Water governance and financing as a horizontal activity.
The Financial Strategy will address the instruments and resources for the financing of the Water sector in the Mediterranean, as well as the support to the development and implementation of the four priority areas in the Water Agenda, in a global and coherent manner.”
Proposals for development of UfM Water agenda since 7\textsuperscript{th} WEG (1)

- After the SOM’s agreement on the progress of the work done so far, drafts will be discussed and agreed at the 8\textsuperscript{th} WEG, that is scheduled for the beginning of 2018, and in the subsequent task forces for each priority work area.

- The work in progress involves WEG members and benefits as well from the contribution from potential partner organisations working in the region, such as UNEP-MAP, GWP-Med, SIWI, OECD, CIHEAM, REC, GWOPA. Furthermore, GWP-Med continues providing technical support to the UfMS in advancing the process.
Proposals for development of UfM Water agenda since 7th WEG (2)

- **Draft work program proposals:** Proposals for draft work programmes on two priority areas (Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus, Water, employment and migration) have been elaborated and will be presented for discussion to the 8th WEG meeting.

- **The Financial Strategy:** will address the instruments and resources for the financing of the Water sector in the Mediterranean, as well as the support to the development and implementation of the four priority areas in the Water Agenda, in a global and coherent manner.
The UfM Water Agenda Development Process

1. **Political Level**
   - Approval

2. **Policy Level**
   - WEG Endorsement
   - Water, energy, food, ecosystems nexus
   - Water supply and sanitation
   - Climate change adaptation and water
   - Water employment and migration
   - Water governance and financing as horizontal

3. **Project Development and Implementation**
   - UfM Co-Presidency + UfM Secretariat
## Time frame

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT</th>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>When</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of contents of the UfM Water Agenda</td>
<td>UFMS</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submit to the SOM for approval the CN</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td>12/2017</td>
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<td>Countries to provide their Input and feedback for each Priority area</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>20/01/2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEG 8 meeting:</td>
<td>WEG</td>
<td>01/02/2018</td>
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<td>back to back with SWIM-Sm in Amman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priority work areas and Financial Strategy Task Force Meetings</td>
<td>TF/WEG</td>
<td>Feb-April 2018</td>
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<td>Consultation with SOM</td>
<td>UFMS</td>
<td>April 2018</td>
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<td>Building consensus of the Final Draft WP and draft Financial Strategy</td>
<td>TF/WEG</td>
<td>May-July/2018</td>
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<td>Consultation/approval SOM</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td>July 2018</td>
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<td>9º WEG</td>
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<td>September 2018</td>
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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