



# **13th Steering Committee Meeting Monaco, 12 May 2009 CONCLUSIONS**

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# **PARTICIPANTS OF MEETING**

## **➤ Steering Committee**

Present IT(P), MOR (VP), Leb. (VP), ALG, CY, FR, ISR, JR, PAL, SP

Absent EG, MAL, TUR

## **➤ Members of EMWIS TU**

CEDEX, IOWater, SOGESID

## **➤ Observers**

Med-EUWI, IME, EC DG Environment, PM (DE)

# MAIN TOPICS DISCUSSED

## **1. EMWIS Work**

Review of 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase (Dec 2003- June 2008) Achievements and Activities (including Budget) 2008 and Activities 2009.

## **2. Dead Sea Ministerial Conference on Water, (Dec 2008) for the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM)**

Matters arising for which EMWIS will have a significant involvement and participation.

## **3. Other Matters**

## **4. Action Plan for 2009**

# 1. EMWIS Work - Presentations

- **Achievements of EMWIS's second phase (December 2003 – June 2008)**
  - 16 Websites, 15000 Subscribers, 5 Languages, launch and funding water data Management Systems or Regional Studies
- **Review of activities and budget 2008**
- **Activities Planned for 2009**
  - The approval or renewal of countries' participation in working groups on monitoring networks and drought and water scarcity
  - The organization of 6 national workshops on the theme of national water information systems
  - Two pilot activities of standardizing data, due to start 1) in Tunisia in June 2009, (**linked project of** the African Water Facility) and 2) in Lebanon (**linked to** projects of the European Commission and GTZ).

## 2. Dead Sea Ministerial Conference on Water, Dec 2008 – Issues related to EMWIS

- The Conference, underlined the importance of **Information**

As a result:

- EMWIS will play a leading role in the future, developing its knowledge base and working towards the creation of a **water knowledge hub**.
- EMWIS TU will support the development and implementation of a **National Water Information System**, as a necessity of strengthening focal points.

## 2. Dead Sea Ministerial Conference on Water, Dec 2008 – Issues related to EMWIS

- The Conference, proposed four themes for the future Mediterranean strategy (i.e. governance, climate change, financing and demand management).

As a result:

- To contribute to the theme of water sector financing, it was decided that EMWIS will create a new section on **water tariffs** on each country's website.

## 2. Dead Sea Ministerial Conference on Water, Dec 2008 – Issues related to EMWIS

- Following the Conference recommendations
  - A concept **strengthening the coordination** of existing regional initiatives and networks on water information and monitoring, was prepared by EMWIS, Blue Plan and OIEau.
  - The general approach was approved by Steering Committee members and 6 countries (MR, JR, LIB, SP, FR, IT), will take part in a pilot exercise to take the approach in more details. Other countries are welcomed to participate.

### 3. Other Matters

- Steering Committee decided that EMWIS should be **open** to all 43 members of the UfM i.e Balkan countries, N. Europe, Monaco.
- The **renewal** of EMWIS Steering Committee members, as well as the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the NFP Coordination Committee, calls for a meeting of Water Directors from all countries.
- **Collaboration** of EMWIS with others international initiatives will continue such as Africal Water Facility, **WHO**, Water Footprint, membership of GEO.

## 4. Action Plan for the rest of 2009

Activities	Responsibilities	Dates
Steering Committee conclusions distributed to Euromed Water Directors – with a request to revise country's participation in working groups	President / EMWIS TU	June 2009
Letter to Ministers responsible for water in Mediterranean partner countries to support the setting-up of a National Water Information System	President / EMWIS TU	June 2009
Letter to Ministers responsible for water in UfM countries that do not have an NFP	President / EMWIS TU	July 2009
Gathering of information on water tariffs	EMWIS TU / NFP	November 2009
Organization of activities to strengthen water information systems	EMWIS TU / Plan Bleu / Pilot countries	December 2009

## **CRUSIAL STATEMENTS OF 13th MEETING OF SC**

- The President of the EMWIS Steering Committee will send a letter to the Ministers of Mediterranean partner countries that participate in EMWIS.
- Participants pointed out that it was very important not to lose the gains made through EMWIS regarding reference information on water in the Mediterranean.
- EMWIS considers that it is important to continue a dialogue on the transversal theme of water information systems and the exchange of knowledge, in order to make a significant contribution to the UfM water process when it resumes its activities.

**Water**  
use it  
don't waste it

