



Lebanese
National Assembly



Inter-Parliamentary
Union



Arab Inter-Parliamentary
Union



UNITAR

Global capacity-building initiative for parliaments on sustainable development
Regional seminar for the parliaments of the Arab States
Beirut (29 and 30 November 2005)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Tuesday - 29 November 2005

08.30 to 09.30: Registration

09.30 to 10.30: Plenary 1
Opening addresses

- Mr. Nabih Berri, President of the National Assembly of Lebanon
- Dr. Marcel Boisard, Executive Director of UNITAR, Assistant Secretary-General of the UN
- Mr. Martin Chungong, Director, Division for the Promotion of Democracy of the IPU
- Mr. Nour Eddine Bouchkouj, Secretary General of Arab IPU

10.30 to 11.15: Plenary 2 Chair: Dr. Marcel Boisard, Executive Director of UNITAR
Overview of the global water policy issues

- Dr. Mounir El Khatib, President of Khatib & Alami
- Overview of seminar goals and methodology, by Dr. Philippe Roch, former Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape
- Presentation on global water issues, the water cycle by Dr. Philippe Roch, former Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape
- Facilitated discussion

11.15 to 11.30: Coffee break

11.30 to 13.00: Plenary 3 Chair: Dr. Philippe Roch, former Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape
Global and regional experiences with water

- Presentation on challenges related to global and regional water Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), by Dr. Philippe Roch, former Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape
- Presentation on the challenges of the Arab region in implementing the water-related MDGs, by Dr. Hosny Khordagui, Head Environment and Water Team, UNESCWA
- Presentation on regional regimes: the MedWet Initiative and the European Union's Water Framework Directive, Mr. Spyros Kouvelis, MedWest Coordinator, Ramsar Convention
- Facilitated discussion on implementation experiences

13.00 to 15.00: Lunch hosted by Lebanese Parliament

15.00 to 16.30: Drafting exercise 1
Group 1: Mr. Spyros Kouvelis, MedWest Coordinator, Ramsar Convention
Group 2: Dr. Hosny Khordagui, Head Environment and Water Team, UNESCWA
Regional water framework

- Overview of objectives and methodology of drafting exercises
- Execution of drafting exercise
- Presentation of drafting exercise results
- Collective review of drafting exercise

- 16.30 to 16.45: Coffee break
- 16.45 to 18.00: Plenary 4
Water and cross-cutting issues: integrated water resource management presented by Dr. Philippe Roch, former Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape

Wednesday - 30 November 2005

- 08.30 to 10.00 Plenary 5 Chair: Dr Adel Aboujaoude, Khatib & Alami
The national experience in implementing MDG water goals
- Presentation by Mr. Nasser Nasrallah, Deputy, National Assembly of the Lebanon
 - Presentation by a Parliamentarian from another region (*To be determined*)
 - The role of the private sector in water-related MDGs, and the importance of partnerships, by Dr Najib Khatib, Khatib & Alami, Consolidated Engineering Company
 - The role the private sector in sustainable development, Alain Coine, Vice-President, Rhodia Group
 - Facilitated discussion on national experiences
- 10.00 to 11.30: Drafting Exercise 2
 Group 1: Dr. Nadim Farajalla, Assistant Professor, American University of Beirut
 Group 2: Dr. Adel Aboujaoude, Khatib & Alami
National strategy on water-related MDGs
- Overview of drafting exercises objectives and methodology
 - Execution of drafting exercise
 - Presentation of drafting exercise results
 - Collective review of drafting exercise
- 11.30 to 13.30: Lunch hosted by President and CEO of Khatib & Alami
- 13.30 to 14.30: Plenary 6 Chair: Mr Martin Chungong, Director, Division for the promotion of Democracy. IPU
Anatomy of a water bill
- Presentation by a Parliamentarian of the Arab region on the process and substantive challenges in water-related law making
 - Facilitated discussion
- 14.30 to 16.30: Drafting Exercise 3
 Group 1: Mr. Nasser Nasrallah, Deputy, National Assembly of the Lebanon
 Group 2: Dr. Nadim Farajalla, Assistant Professor, American University of Beirut
National water bill
- Overview of drafting exercises objectives and methodology
 - Execution of drafting exercise
 - Presentation of drafting exercise results
 - Collective review of drafting exercise
- 16.30 to 16.45: Coffee break
- 16.45 to 17.30: Plenary 7 Chair: Dr. Philippe Roch, former Director of the Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape
Evaluation of the parliamentary seminar on water
- Summary of key issues raised in plenary sessions, by the chair or parliamentarian
 - Summary of results of drafting exercises, by Nasser Nasrallah, Deputy, National Assembly of the Lebanon