



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Committee on Middle East Questions
Roundtable on Water:
*The role of science and technology
in projects of peace*

31 May - 2 June 2016
Geneva, Switzerland

Programme

Tuesday, 31 May

- 9:30 – 10:00 **Welcome and introduction to projects of peace**
- Opening addresses by:
 - o *Ms. Denise Pascal Allende, President of the Committee*
 - o *Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General*
- 10:00 – 11:00 **Session 1: Investing in water cooperation opportunities**
- Presentations by WaterLex
 - o *The session will underscore the importance of addressing the water issue in the Middle East region, and will set the stage for the presentation of several models. WaterLex will elaborate on the means and importance of promoting dialogue for water cooperation and water governance initiatives.*
 - Interventions
- 11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee break**
- 11:15 – 12:30 **Session 1: Investing in water cooperation opportunities (cont'd.)**
- Interventions
- 12:30 – 15:00 **Lunch break**
- 15:00 – 16:00 **Session 1: Investing in water cooperation opportunities (cont'd.)**
- As part of the session, the participants will be invited to discuss, report on and present relevant examples of models for addressing the water issue from their respective countries.
- 16:00 – 16:15 **Coffee break**
- 16:15 – 18:00 **Session 1: Investing in water cooperation opportunities (cont'd.)**
- Continuation of participants' discussions on models for addressing the water issue from their respective countries.
- 19:00 **Dinner at restaurant "Port Gitana"**

Wednesday, 1 June

9:30 – 11:00

Session 2: The role of science and technology in promoting dialogue

- Presentation by Dr. Maurizio Bona, Head of Relations with International Organizations at CERN
 - o *The session will highlight the role of science as a neutral umbrella for cooperation, and its potential as a driver of peace. Science is important for society and can provide an opportunity to improve people's lives in all aspects. Scientific innovations and approaches are central to the plan of dealing with the regional water issue. As an example, CERN will present their model of international scientific cooperation, with emphasis on initiatives for the promotion of the dialogue and peace, including their teacher and student school models.*
- Interventions

11:00 – 11:15

Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30

Session 2: The role of science and technology in promoting dialogue (cont'd.)

12:30 – 14:30

Lunch break

14:30 – 15:30

Session 3: Science for peace

- Presentation by Prof. Herwig Schopper on SESAME
 - o *This session will focus on the means through which science can help meet people's essential needs and foster cooperation for the greater good. SESAME will be presented as an existing exemplary platform for science, dialogue and peace.*
- Interventions

15:30 – 15:45

Coffee break

15:45 – 17:30

Session 3: Science for peace (cont'd.)

18:00

Visit to CERN

- The visit will provide an opportunity for the participants to see first-hand the organization and its work.

Thursday, 2 June

9:30 – 11:00

Session 4: Experiences from the region: Science and technology from an entrepreneurial perspective

- This session aims to present examples from the region of ways to tackle the water issue.
- Interventions

11:00 – 11:15

Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30

Conclusions and the roadmap

- Water projects, possibilities and the role of science education programmes for water in peace
 - o *This session will provide an opportunity for a general discussion on lessons learned from the roundtable, next steps and follow-up actions. It will also encourage reflection on the models presented in order to determine feasible projects for water in the Middle East in order to pave the way for peace.*
- Study and prioritization of projects
- The next steps: Turning words into actions
- Vision for the next roundtable on food