



ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR

EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF DESALINATION ON THE MEDITERRANEAN

SWIM-SM Activities 3.4.2 In coordination with UNEP-MAP

23 - 24 June 2014

Day 1:

- a. Validation of SWIM-SM assessment report on potential cumulative environmental impacts of seawater desalination conglomerating around the Mediterranean Sea.
- b. Review national desalination vision, policies and strategies to bridge the demand-supply gap with special emphasis on environmental impacts in SWIM-SM countries.

9:00-9:30 Session 1: Workshop Opening

- Opening remarks (EC SWIM project Coordinator and SWIM-SM Project Director)
- Opening remarks by representative of UNEP-MAP
- Introduction and orientation (Team Leader – SWIM-SM)
- Tour de table

9:30-11:00 Session II: Reflections and Comments on assessment report on potential cumulative environmental impacts of seawater desalination conglomerating around the Mediterranean Sea:

- Presentation on current status of desalination in the Mediterranean Sea, (15 minutes). This presentation will address the current seawater desalination production capacities of SWIM-SM countries and other major European producers, the technology in use, cumulative production capacity, uses of desalinated water in the Med region, etc.
- Round table discussion of the findings (30 minutes)
- Presentation on prospects of desalination in the Mediterranean Sea, (15 minutes). This presentation will project the cumulative production capacity of seawater desalination in the Med Region until the year 2030. This will entail the technology to



be used, the distribution by major producers, the prospect and factors that might influence the future of desalination in the future in the region.

- Round table discussion of the findings (30 minutes)

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break (30 minutes)

11:30-13:30 Session III: Reflections and Comments on assessment report on potential cumulative environmental impacts of seawater desalination conglomerating around the Mediterranean Sea:

- Presentation on environmental aspects on desalination in the Mediterranean Sea. (20 minutes). This presentation will address all environmental aspects associated with production of desalinated water including masses of pollutants discharged on a daily and yearly basis in the brine reject to the near-shores of the Mediterranean and volume of CO₂ currently discharged and the projected emissions by the year 2030.
- Round table discussion of the findings (40 minutes)
- Presentation on potential environmental impacts, fate and transport of brine reject from desalination plants in the Mediterranean Sea, (20 minutes). This presentation will address the impacts, fate, transport, transformation, bioaccumulation and biomagnification of various pollutants in the near-shore marine environment of the Mediterranean.
- Round table discussion of the findings (40 minutes)

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch Break (60 minutes)

14:30-15:30 Session III: Factors for opting to desalination in SWIM-SM countries.

- Modality for assessing country needs (15 minutes). This presentation will address the recommended measures and recommended policies for communities to undertake before opting on seawater desalination.
- Round table discussion of the findings (45 minutes)

15:30-17:30 Session IV: Review national desalination policies and strategies to bridge the demand-supply gap in SWIM-SM countries with a focus on associated environmental aspects. (Part 1) (Coffee to be served during session)

- Egypt: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Israel: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Lebanon: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Libya: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)

Discussion and comments (45 minutes)



Day 2:

- a. Review national desalination vision, policies and strategies to bridge the demand-supply gap in SWIM-SM countries with focus on associated environmental impacts. (Part 2)
- b. Discussion and finalization of draft regional strategic policy brief on desalination in the Mediterranean region.

09:00-11:00: Session V-1: Review national desalination policies and strategies to bridge the demand-supply gap in SWIM-SM countries.

- Morocco: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Palestine: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Tunisia: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Discussion and comments (45 minutes)

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00: Session V-2: Review national desalination policies and strategies to bridge the demand-supply gap in selected MED-POL countries (Spain, Cyprus and Malta)

- Spain: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Cyprus: National desalination policies and strategy (15 minutes)
- Discussions and comments (45 Minutes)

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-16:30: Session VI: Discussion and adoption of strategic policy note for the Mediterranean region. (Coffee served during session)

- Presentation of draft policy brief on cumulative environmental impacts of desalination in the Mediterranean Region (20 minutes)
- Moderated discussion:
 - o Policy options and measures for sustainable seawater desalination in the Med Region (60 minutes)
- Concluding remarks (30 minutes).