

# Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water Issues for the 2018 Arab Forum on Sustainable Development and High Level Political Forum

Beirut, Lebanon, 28-29 March 2018

2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development: Setting the stage

UN Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia



UNITED NATIONS

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ESCWA

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**WATER ACTION DECADE**

2018 - 2028

# Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development: Key Principles

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development clearly states that the SDGs are universal, indivisible, integrated and people-centered (in preamble & paras. 5, 18, 55, 71)

The 2030 Agenda affirms the **Human Right to Water & Sanitation** by aspiring for all:

“A world where we reaffirm our commitments regarding the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and where there is improved hygiene; and where food is sufficient, safe, affordable and nutritious. A world where human habitats are safe, resilient and sustainable and where there is universal access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy”.



 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



**17 SDGs**

**169 Targets**

**232 Indicators** *(9 repeated)*

# All 17 SDGs are Water-related

## Dedicated



## Explicitly



## Implicitly



# SDG 6: Goal & Targets

## Ensure availability & sustainable management of water & sanitation for all

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- 6.1 by 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- 6.2 by 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- 6.3 by 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater, and increasing recycling and safe reuse by x% globally
- 6.4 by 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity, and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
- 6.5 by 2030 implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate
- 6.6 by 2020 protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes
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- 6.A by 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water and sanitation related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies
- 6.B support and strengthen the participation of local communities for improving water and sanitation management

# High Level Political Forum:

## The global mechanism for tracking the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development





## High-Level Political Forum 2018: Theme

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The 2018 HLPF on Sustainable Development will be convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council from **9-18 July 2018**. The three-day ministerial meeting will be from **16-18 July 2018**.

Theme: "**Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies**".

The set of goals to be reviewed in depth will be the following:

**Goal 6.** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

**Goal 7.** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

**Goal 11.** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

**Goal 12.** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

**Goal 15.** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss

**Goal 17:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (Goal 17 is reviewed each year)

# Arab Forum for Sustainable Development (AFSD)

## Regional Preparations for High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

**Arab High Level Forum on Sustainable Development**  
Amman, 2-4 April 2014

**Second Session of the Arab High-Level Forum on Sustainable Development**  
Manama, 5-7 May 2015

*\* Included Side Event on Water for Sustainable Development*

***Adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development***  
***New York, September 2015***

**2016 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development**  
Amman, 29-30 May 2016

**2017 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development**  
Morocco, 3-5 May 2017

**2018 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development**  
Beirut, 24-26 April 2018

*\* Includes special session on water and the SDGs*



***AFSD 2018 Theme: Natural Resources, Future Generations and the Common Good***



# Follow-up and Review through Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)



UN EcoSoc Chamber

## National Reviews:

- ✓ Egypt and Morocco are the two Arab countries who participated in the 2016 reviews
- ✓ Qatar and Jordan participated in the 2017 reviews
- ✓ 8 Arab States participating in 2018 reviews: **Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Sudan, United Arab Emirates**
- ❑ Countries will benefit from in-depth technical examination of specific concerns especially as implementation challenges, technology gaps, level of development, cultural issues and thematic networks are often common across countries within a region
- ❑ Opportunity to review progress against specific regional priorities such as water – *although generally covers all SDGs, not only those in thematic focus for that HLPF session, thus provides opportunity for highlighting integration across SDGs at country-level*
- ❑ *FUR and support for VNRs being provided by ESCWA for Arab States, and includes consultations on mainstreaming water issues highlighted in 2030 Agenda in VNRs and national development strategies and plans.*



# Regional Preparatory Meeting on Water Issues for the 2018 AFSD and HLPF

*Revised Outcome Statement for Consultation & Submission to AFSD and HLPF*



*Plus other Arab Ministerial Water Council HLPF Working Group members*

## Regional Priorities

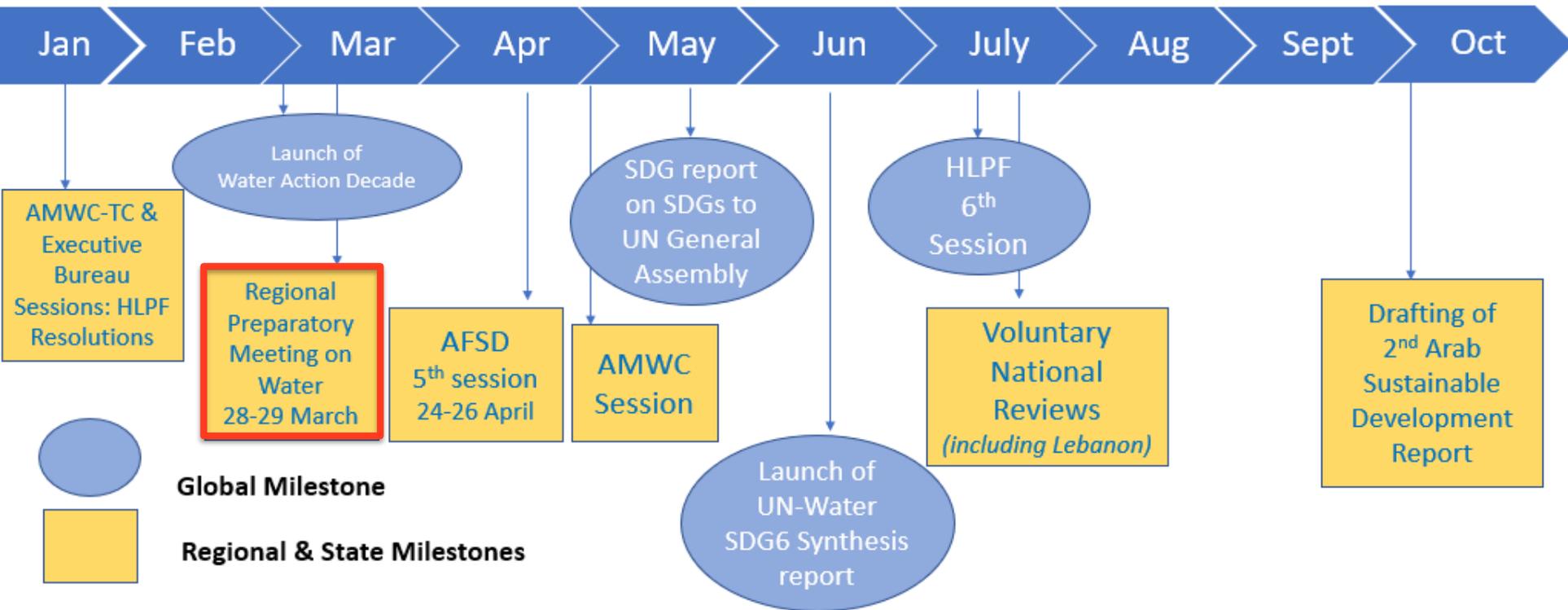
1. Water security & IWRM under water scarcity & stress
2. Enhancing cooperation on shared water resources management
3. Adapting to climate change and reducing risk of exposure to natural disasters
4. Improving water related infrastructure and services for all

## Means of Implementation

1. Regional cooperation
2. National coherence and coordination across sectors, including through IWRM tools
3. Technology transfer and investment
4. Financing
5. Capacity building



# 2030 Agenda Selected Milestones for 2018





# Water Action Decade (2018-2028)



UNGA Resolution 71/222 proclaims the period 2018 to 2028 the **International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”** to further improve cooperation, partnership and capacity development in response to the ambitious 2030 Agenda.

Objectives of the Decade are to:

- **Advance sustainable development & IWRM** for achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives;
- **Energize implementation** and promotion of programmes and projects; and
- **Mobilize action**, cooperation and partnerships at all levels to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**UN-Water** Task Force prepared UN Secretary-General **Action Plan for Water Action Decade.**

- ESCWA serves as a member of the Task Force and will be collaborating with national, regional and global partners to advance the objectives of the Water Action Decade

# Thank you!

*Resources:*

<https://www.unescwa.org/events/arab-preparatory-meeting-water-issues-2018>

<https://www.unescwa.org/events/arab-forum-sustainable-development-2018>

[www.wateractiondecade.org](http://www.wateractiondecade.org)

[www.escwa.un.org](http://www.escwa.un.org)



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