04-05 DECEMBER 2018

Internet Governance and Cybersecurity: Promoting Trust in Cyberspace

ESCWA organized this regional dialogue and experts meeting in partnership with the League of Arab States, in preparation for the fifth Arab Internet Governance Forum. The meeting addressed cybersecurity and trust, in accordance with the regional priorities outlined in the Second Arab Roadmap for Internet Governance.

READ MORE

04-05 DECEMBER 2018

Women, Peace and Security: Conflict, Occupation and Transition

In partnership with the London School of Economics and the Lebanese American University, ESCWA convened an Expert Group Meeting to initiate an upcoming report on “Women, Peace and Security: National Women’s Machineries, Conflict, Occupation and Transition in the Arab Region.” The study examines the institutional resilience of National Women’s Machineries (NWM), bringing to light experiences from Yemen, Jordan, Palestine and Tunisia, and suggesting a set of drivers to reinforce NWM resilience in line with global standards.

READ MORE

05 DECEMBER 2018

Expert Group Meeting on Fossil Fuels

Global energy markets have endured challenges in recent years with oil price fluctuation, demographic change and an adverse global economic conjuncture. Technology has created new patterns of energy demand and supply, and the Arab region is transitioning from a leading supplier to a growing demand market.

At its eleventh session in Cairo (May 2017), ESCWA’s Committee on Energy (CoE) called for the establishment of a Group of Experts on Fossil Fuels. In its first meeting, the Group was formally created, and its yearly regional program was formulated, with defined objectives and activities. Priority issues will include the sustainable production and use of fossil fuels, and climate change mitigation.

READ MORE
Using Art to Fight Discrimination

To mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, ESCWA and The Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World at the Lebanese American University organized a round-table discussion and competition on the theme: “Fighting gender-based discrimination with art”. Activists and artists attended the competition, which attracted 200 submissions from youth in the Arab region. Contestants submitted paintings, photos, videos, songs, and poems on the theme “Hear Me Too: Speak up against violence against women and girls”.

Shared Water Resources within Global and Regional Agreements

ESCWA and the League of Arab States co-organized an Expert Group Meeting on “Improving Shared Water Resources Cooperation within the Framework of Global and Regional Agreements”. Participant addressed the need to significantly reduce the number of people facing water scarcity, and developed common guiding principles for shared water resource management in the region. Colleagues from UNECE and UNESCO/HQ attended and will coordinate follow-up action on shared water cooperation.

DID YOU KNOW?

The United Nations estimates that 244 million people (4% of the world population) are international migrants. On 10 December 2018, a majority of U.N member States adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).

In September 2016, the held its first high-level Summit dedicated to Refugees and Migrants.
GLOBAL EVENTS

**COP24 KATOWICE 2018** (UNFCCC COP 24), Katowice, Poland 2-14 December

**International Day of Persons with Disabilities**, 3 December

**International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development**, 5 December

**World Soil Day**, 5 December

ESCWA recently welcomed its very first **UN Volunteer** (UNV), Hussein Chokr. A Master’s student in Public Policy and International Affairs, Hussein joined OES after having worked with UNDP at the Lebanese Ministry of Finance.

“On this International Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to work together for a better world that is inclusive, equitable and sustainable for everyone, where the rights of people with disabilities are fully realized.” António Guterres, UN Secretary-General.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Every year, $1 trillion is paid in bribes, while an estimated $2.6 trillion are stolen annually through corruption – a sum equivalent to more than 5% of global GDP. In developing countries, funds lost to corruption are estimated at 10 times the amount of official development assistance.

**Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**, 10-11 December

**Training Workshops on Energy Statistics: Joint Organizations Data Initiative (JODI) and Energy Balances (IEF ESCWA UNSD IEA)** 11-14 December

**International Anti-Corruption Day**, 9 December

**Human Rights Day**, 10 December 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UDHR

View the original document at the British Library’s digital archives [here](#).

**International Neutrality Day**, 12 December

**International Universal Health Coverage Day**, 12 December

**World Arabic Language Day** ESCWA

commemoration on 14 December, ahead of the official date on the 18th