

Symposium on Women and Water Security for Peacebuilding in the Arab Region

Beirut, Lebanon, 9-10 May 2018

AGENDA

Wednesday, 9 May 2018

8:30 – 9:00

Registration

The meeting will be held at the United Nations House in the Committee Room I on the B1 level. Sponsored participants are kindly asked to bring their passports and airline boarding stubs to the meeting.

9:00 – 10:00

Opening Session

Co-Chairs:

*Ms. Kenza Kaouakib-Robinson, Senior Sustainable Development Officer,
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Headquarters, USA*

*Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable
Development Policies Division, ESCWA*

Opening Remarks

- *Ms. Khawla Matar, Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme Support,
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
(ESCWA), Lebanon*

Keynote Presentations

- **Women, Water and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab Context**
*Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development Policies Division,
ESCWA, Lebanon*
- **Overview on Women, Water Security and Peacebuilding in the Arab Region**
*Mr. Zafar Adeel, Professor of Professional Practice, Pacific Water
Research Center, Simon Fraser University, Canada*

Tour de Table

Review of the Agenda

Session I

Case Studies from the Arab Region

Chair:

Ms. Mehrnaz El Awady, Director, Centre for Women, ESCWA

10:00 – 10:15

Water Security in Iraqi Refugee Camps

- *Ms. Ghada Alamily, General Director, Almada Group for Media, Culture
and Arts, Iraq*

10:15 – 10:30	Syrian Refugees in Jordan and Lebanon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Reem Al Rawashdeh, Senior Columnist, Al Rai Newspaper, Jordan</i>
10:30 – 10:50	Discussion
10:50 – 11:05	Human Rights, Women and Access to Water in the State of Palestine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Manal Tamimi, Field Researcher, Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, State of Palestine</i>
11:05 – 11:20	Women and Water in Yemen under Conditions of Conflict <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Layla Lutf Al-Thour, President, SAM Organization for Rights and Development, Yemen</i>
11:20 – 11:40	Discussion
11:40 – 11:45	Summary by the Chair
11:45 – 12:15	Coffee Break

Session II **SDG 3 & SDG 5 Nexus: Linking Good Health and Well-being to Gender Equality and Empowerment**

Chair:	<i>Ms. Luna Abu Swaireh, Director General, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Lebanon</i>
12:15 – 12:30	Access to WASH Services in Arab Region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Nohal Al Homsy, Environmental Health Officer, World Health Organization (WHO), Lebanon and Mr. Hamed Bakir, Coordinator, Regional Advisor on Water, Sanitation, Climate Change and Health, Coordinator and Environmental Health Interventions, WHO Center for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA), Jordan</i>
12:30 – 12:45	Women and Water within the Frameworks of SDG 3 and SDG 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Osman Hussein Abubaker, General Director, Almassar Organization, Sudan</i>
12:45 – 13:00	Discussion
13:00 – 13:15	Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well-being for All at All Ages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Karen Assaf, Arab Scientific Institute for Research and Transfer of Technology, State of Palestine</i>
13:15 – 13:30	Advancing Gender Equality and Empower for Enhanced Water Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Nedjma Koval Saifi, Founding Partner and CEO, Integrated International, Jordan</i>
13:30 – 13:45	Discussion
13:45 – 13:50	Summary by the Chair
13:50 – 15:00	Lunch hosted by ESCWA

Session III**SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation for All**

Chair:	<i>Ms. Carol Chouchani Cherfane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, ESCWA</i>
15:00 – 15:15	Women and WASH: Empowering Women by Engaging at the Community Level <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms. Maria Saldarriaga, Assistant Professor and Chair, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, American University of Iraq Sulaimani, Iraq</i>
15:15 – 15:30	Discussion
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:00	Gender issues to consider when seeking to ensure water availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms. Soumaya Ibrahim, Independent Consultant on Gender and Development, Egypt</i>
16:00 – 16:15	Community and household level challenges facing women accessing water services under current Syrian conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms. Suheir Raies, Head, Syria Coast Society for Environment Protection, Syrian Arab Republic</i>
16:15 – 16:30	Women, Water User Associations and Water Security in Yemen <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Walid Saleh, Chief Technical Advisor, Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Yemen</i>
16:30 – 16:55	Discussion
16:55 – 17:00	Summary by the Chair
	End of Day 1

Thursday, 10 May 2018

Session IV**Voices of Women from the Field**

Chair:	<i>Ms. Kenza Kaouakib-Robinson, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Headquarters</i>
9:00 – 9:15	Summary of Day 1 Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms. Stephanie Chaban, Social Affairs Officer, Center for Women, ESCWA</i>• <i>Ms. Nina Kfoury Nichols, Simon Fraser University, Canada</i>
	Discussion

- 9:15 – 10:00 Panel: Insights into the Experiences of Refugee Women in Lebanon
- *Ms. Diala Ktaiche, WASH Officer, Public Health Promotion, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Lebanon*
 - *Voices of Women from the field*
 - *Experiences of women WASH volunteers in informal settlements in the Bekaa Valley, Lebanon*
 - *Insights from MercyCorp WASH organizers serving in the Bekaa Valley*
- 10:00 – 10:15 Discussion
- 10:15 – 10:45 Coffee Break

Session V SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

- Chair: *Ms. Margareta Wahlström, President, Swedish Red Cross; Former Special Representative of the United Nations' Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Former Head of United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)*
- 10:45 – 11:00 Women in Water Diplomacy
- *Ms. Natasha Carmi, Water Advisor, Geneva Water Hub, Switzerland; formerly with the Palestinian Negotiations Support Project, State of Palestine*
- 11:00 – 11:15 High Level Panel on Water and Peace - recommendations
- *Mr. François Münger, Director, Geneva Water Hub, Switzerland*
- 11:15 – 11:30 Discussion
- 11:30 – 12:15 Panel: Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies for Sustainable Development, Provide Access to Justice for All and Build Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Institutions at All Levels
- *Amb. Shahira Wahbi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sudan*
 - *Ms. Chahra Ksai, Water Expert, Syrian Arab Republic; Former Director of the Center for Arab Water Studies and Water Security, League of Arab States*
 - *Ms. Mona Fakhri, Director, Water Resources, General Directorate of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources, Ministry of Energy and Water, Lebanon*
 - *Ms. Mey Alsayegh, Communications Manager, Ministry of State for Displaced Affairs, Lebanon*
 - *Ms. Nadine El Marouk, Head of Design and Planning Unit, Nahr El Bared Reconstruction Project Unit, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), Lebanon*
- 12:15 – 12:25 Discussion

- 12:25 – 12:30 Summary by the Chair
- 12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break and administrative matters

Session VI Raising Awareness, Advocacy and the Media

- Chair: *tbc*
- 14:00 – 14:20 *Ms. Mervat Kamal Batarseh, Head of Environmental Education Section, Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), Jordan*
- 14:20 – 14:40 Discussion
- 14:40 – 15:00 *Ms. Daniella Bostrom Couffe, Communications Manager, UN-Water, Switzerland*
- 15:00 – 15:20 Discussion
- 15:20 – 15:25 Summary by the Chair
- 15:25 – 15:45 Coffee Break

Session VII Integrating Themes

- Chair: *Mr. Zafar Adeel, Professor of Professional Practice, Pacific Water Research Center, Simon Fraser University*
- 15:45 – 16:45 Developing an Actionable Agenda
Moderated discussion involving all symposium participants
- 16:45 – 16:50 Summary by the Chair

Session VIII Closing Session

- Chair: *Ms. Kenza Kaouakib-Robinson, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Headquarters*
- 16:50 – 17:00 Closing Remarks by the Symposium Organizers
- End of meeting