





**Regional Meeting on Transboundary Aquifers Cooperation in Africa**

**5-8 September 2017**

**Observatory of the Sahara and the Sahel (OSS), Tunis, Tunisia**

**- DRAFT AGENDA –**

**DAY 1 • Tuesday, 5 September 2017**

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| **8:30-9:30** | **Registration** |
| **9:30** | **Opening of the meeting** |
| **9:30-10:45** | **Statements from National Authorities** |
|  | * **Welcome remarks**    + ***Mr Khatim Kerraz****, Executive Secretary, Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)*   + ***Ms Alice Aureli****,**Chief of Section Groundwater Systems, UNESCO-IHP*      * **Opening Statements**   + ***Ms Nouha Mimouni,*** *Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia*   + ***Representative from Algeria,*** *Ministry of Water Resources, Algeria (TBC)*   + ***Representative from Libya,*** *General Water Authority, Libya (TBC)*   + ***Mr Rachid Taibi****, Coordinator of the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System Consultation Mechanism (NWSAS MCCM)* * **Statements by High-Level Officials from the Ministries in charge of Water Resources Department in the Stampriet Transboundary Aquifer System (STAS)**    + ***Mr Pelotshweu Phofuetsile,*** *Deputy Director, Department of Water Affairs (Botswana)*   + ***Ms Maria Amakali****, Director, Directorate of Water Resources Management, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (Namibia)*   + ***Mr Dan Mashitisho,*** *Director General, Department of Water and Sanitation (South Africa) (TBC)* * **Statements by Donors and Regional Organizations**    + ***Mr Olivier Magnin,*** *Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation*   + ***Mr Rapule Pule,*** *Orange-Senqu River Basin Commission (ORASECOM)* * **Introduction of the participants and adoption of the agenda** |
| ***10:45-11:00*** | ***Coffee break*** |
| **11:00 – 13:00** | **Transboundary Aquifers Cooperation in Africa** |
|  | * Presentation of the OSS – Experience on transboundary aquifers cooperation   + *Mr Khatim Kerraz, OSS* * UNESCO experience on transboundary aquifers cooperation   + *Mr Tales Carvalho Resende, UNESCO-IHP* * The role of science in decision making in the context of transboundary aquifer cooperation   + *Mr Shaminder Puri, International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH), Secretary General (TBC)* * Legal norms, agreements, and joint cooperation mechanisms for transboundary aquifers   + *Mr Stefano Burchi, International Water Law Association (AIDA)* * *Discussion* |
| ***13:00-14:30*** | ***Lunch*** |
| **14:30-15:30** | **Presentation of the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System (NWSAS) Consultation Mechanism** |
|  | * From the knowledge to a joined management of the NWSAS water resources   + *Mr Djamel Latrech, in charge of NWSAS project, OSS* * NWSAS Consultation Mechanism : Institutional Framework   + *Mr Rachid Taibi, Coordinator of the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System Consultation Mechanism* * *Discussion* |
| **15:30-16:00** | ***Coffee break*** |
| **16:30-17:30** | **Duplication and adaptation from NWSAS to other aquifers** |
|  | * Presentation of the Iullemeden-Taoudeni-Tanezrouft Aquifer System (ITTAS): Duplication and Adaptation from NWSAS to others aquifers   + *Mr Abdel Kader Dodo, Water Program Coordinator, OSS* * *Discussion* |
| **17:30-19:00** | **Visit to OSS Secretariat** |

**DAY 2 • Wednesday, 6 September 2017**

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| **9:30-11:00** | **Towards the establishment of the Stampriet Transboundary Aquifer System (STAS) Multi-Country Consultation Mechanism (MCCM)** |
|  | * Presentation of the Governance of Groundwater Resources in Transboundary Aquifers (GGRETA) project: main findings and achievements   + *Mr Piet Kenabatho, University of Botswana, STAS Assessment Report Coordinator* * Presentation of the Orange-Senqu River Basin Commission (ORASECOM)   + *Mr Rapule Pule, ORASECOM* * Presentation of the Namibia proposal for the establishment of the STAS MCCM   + *Ms Maria Amakali, Ministry of Water, Agriculture and Forestry, Namibia* |
| **11:00-11:30** | ***Coffee break*** |
| **11:30-13:00** | **Sharing experiences on transboundary aquifers cooperation** |
|  | * Group work exercise on sharing experiences for the future STAS MCCM based on the NWSAS MCCM. |
| **13:00-14:30** | ***Lunch*** |
| **14:30-15:30** | **Sharing experiences on transboundary aquifers cooperation (ctd.)** |
|  | * Reactions from Member States * General discussion and feedback * Main decisions and way forward |
|  | **Final remarks** |
|  | * + ***Mr Khatim Kerraz****, Executive Secretary, OSS*   + ***Ms Alice Aureli****,**Chief of Section Groundwater Systems, UNESCO-IHP*   + ***Ms Nouha Mimouni,*** *Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia*   + ***Representative from Algeria,*** *Ministry of Water Resources, Algeria (TBC)*   + ***Representative from Libya,*** *General Water Authority, Libya (TBC)*   + ***Mr Rachid Taibi****, Coordinator of the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System Consultation Mechanism (NWSAS MCCM), OSS*   + ***Mr Pelotshweu Phofuetsile,*** *Deputy Director, Department of Water Affairs (Botswana)*   + ***Ms Maria Amakali****, Director, Directorate of Water Resources Management, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry (Namibia)*   + ***Mr Dan Mashitisho,*** *Director General, Department of Water and Sanitation (South Africa) (TBC)* |

**DAY 3 • Thursday, 7 September 2017**

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| **9:30-10:00** | **Sharing experiences on groundwater modelling** |
|  | * Overview of groundwater modelling in a transboundary context * *Mr Tales Carvalho Resende, UNESCO-IHP* * Discussion |
| **10:00-11:00** | **Presentation of the baseline for the development of the NWSAS numerical model** |
|  | * Presentation of the baseline for the development of the NWSAS numerical model:   - Background  - Challenges  - Lessons learnt   * *Mr Mouhamadou Ould Babasy,**Database, GIS and Modeling Manager, OSS* * Discussion |
| **11:00-11:30** | ***Coffee break*** |
| **11:30-12:30** | **Presentation of the baseline for the development of groundwater modeling in Northern Africa** |
|  | * Presentation of the baseline for the development of groundwater modeling in Northern Africa:   - Background  - Challenges  - Lessons learnt   * *Mr Christian Leduc,**IRD, Tunis* * Discussion |
| ***12:30-14:30*** | ***Lunch*** |
| **14:30-15:30** | **Climate change and groundwater modelling** |
|  | * Impact of climate variability on groundwater resources across Africa * *Mr Tales Carvalho Resende, UNESCO-IHP* |
| ***15:30-16:00*** | ***Coffee break*** |
| **16:00-17:00** | **Climate change and groundwater modelling (ctd.)** |
|  | * Consideration of climate variability in groundwater modelling * *Mr Tales Carvalho Resende, UNESCO-IHP* |

**DAY 4 • Friday, 8 September 2017**

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| **9:30-11:00** | **Groundwater modelling for the STAS: data preparation (ctd.)** |
|  | * Working group for data preparation * Discussion |
| ***11:00-11:30*** | ***Coffee break*** |
| **11:30-12:30** | **Groundwater modelling for the STAS: data preparation (ctd.)** |
|  | * Working group for data preparation * Discussion |
| **12:30-13:00** | **Groundwater modelling for the STAS: way forward** |
|  | * General discussion and feedback * Main decisions and way forward |
| ***13:00-14:00*** | ***Lunch*** |