

# **National Model United Nations**

## **Week A**

**March 17 – March 21, 2013**



**Economic and Social Commission for  
Western Asia  
Documentation**

# Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

## Committee Staff

Director                      Allison Chandler  
Chair/Rapporteur        Maria Gaetskaya

## Agenda

1. Promoting Sustainable Energy Production for Socio-Economic Development
2. Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity
3. Countering Socio-Economic Marginalization to Strengthen Post-Arab Spring Democracy

## Resolutions adopted by the committee

<b>Document Code</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Vote (Y/ N/ Abstention/ Non-Voting)</b>
ESCWA/1/1	Promoting Sustainable Energy Production for Socio-Economic Development	Acclamation
ESCWA/1/2	Promoting Sustainable Energy Production for Socio-Economic Development	Acclamation
ESCWA/2/1	Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity	9-0-4-0
ESCWA/2/2	Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity	13-0-0-0
ESCWA/2/3	Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity	13-0-0-0

## **Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Summary Report**

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia held its annual session to consider the following agenda items: I. Promoting Sustainable Energy Production for Socio-Economic Development, II. Countering Socio-Economic Marginalization to Strengthen post-Arab Spring Democracies, and III. Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity.

The session was attended by representatives of 14 Member States of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Summary Report.

The session opened with several remarks concerning the adoption of agenda. At its first meeting, the Commission adopted the agenda in the order of I, III, II. In the second session, two Working Groups formed. Delegates discussed the establishment of scientific research centers; trade restrictions; ways to utilize nuclear waste; and paths for regional cooperation, suggesting establishment of an annual “Green Conference” to promote sustainable development in the region. During the third session, the two Working Groups decided to merge their efforts to work towards a single consensus-based working paper.

Negotiations continued in the fourth session. The body decided to divide into small groups to focus on separate aspects of the Working Paper, focusing on the details of a “Green Conference” and a Research Center for Sustainable Development. At the same time, a second working group formed to address the development renewable energy targets by ESCWA Member States and to encourage small-scale renewable energy production. By the end of the evening session, two draft resolutions were introduced on the floor and voted upon by the Commission. Both resolutions were adopted by acclamation, reflecting the high level of consensus and cooperation within the committee. Before concluding the evening session, the Committee moved into discussion of the second item on the agenda. Several working groups formed to consider approaches supporting a program for research, water transportation, and strengthening water consumption technologies.

While delegates moved to the discussion of Topic II, they formed several working groups. The following topics were addressed during formal speeches: drinkable water reservation, clean water security and management. Some other ideas included creation of the education exchange programs and scholarships for students from the ESCWA region to study water management at regional universities. Three working papers were submitted, addressing the creation of Water Efficiency Technical Boards, increasing awareness of water management through education and scholarships, and the creation of a Conference Towards Sustainable Water Management. All three were adopted as draft resolutions, and in the final session, the Committee voted and approved all three draft resolutions. Before adjourning the meeting, the Committee moved into consideration of the third topic and heard several formal speeches, reflecting their commitment to addressing socio-economic marginalization within the ESCWA region.

Code: ESCWA/1/1

Committee: The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Subject: Promoting Sustainable Energy Production for Socio-Economic Development

1 *Recalling* the content of the Millennium Development Goal 7 to ensure environmental  
2 sustainability (A/55/2 (2000)), the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the *Kyoto*  
3 *Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* in the context  
4 of global development and sustainability,

5  
6 *Reaffirming* the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4All) launched by Secretary  
7 General Ban Ki-moon in 2011,

8  
9 *Keeping in mind* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992),

10  
11 *Underlining* General Assembly resolution *The future we want* (A/RES/66/288 (2012)),  
12 which underscores the importance of access to sustainable energy services in order to  
13 eradicate poverty and to provide basic human needs,

14  
15 *Referring* to the definition of sustainable development as it was defined by the 1987  
16 Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common  
17 Future (A/42/427 – Annex), that states “development that meets the present needs and  
18 goals of the population without compromising the ability of future generations to meet  
19 theirs”,

20  
21 *Bearing in mind* the need to promote sustainable energy production as the fundament for  
22 socio-economic development in the ESCWA region due to the over-reliance on fossil  
23 fuels and the rising energy demands in the Arab region and their reciprocity,

24  
25 *Noting with deep concern* that the usage and dependency on fossil fuels prevents the  
26 ability of future generations to meet their energy needs that are essential to economic  
27 growth and social development,

28  
29 *Seeking* greater regional cooperation in order to promote communication among Member  
30 States,

31  
32 *Recognizing* the ESCWA region’s capacity for development of various forms of  
33 renewable and sustainable energy sources, especially that of wind, solar, geothermal  
34 energy production and also considering nuclear energy,

35  
36 *Realizing* the variability among ESCWA nations in regards to financial, geographic, and  
37 social situation provides opportunities for finding a variety of solutions,

38  
39 *Affirming* its belief that sustainable energy can be produced locally providing fairer  
40 opportunities for development of remote regions,

41

42 *Acknowledging* the existence of the ESCWA Technology Center established in  
43 *E/ESCWA/294(XXVI) (2010)* and regretting the omission of a department for  
44 development of sustainable energy production,

45  
46 *Reaffirming* the significance of ensuring energy security for future generations,

47  
48 *Acknowledging* the need for cleaner energy usage to reduce environmental impacts  
49 stemming from the emission of greenhouse gasses associated with the burning of fossil  
50 fuels,

51  
52 *The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

53  
54 1) *Requests* the creation of a Department of Research for Sustainable Energy  
55 Production (ReSEP) to be organized within the ESCWA Technology Centre  
56 (ETC) to work specifically on sustainable energy technology research and  
57 development as well as communication, which will:

58  
59 a) Be housed in the existing complex of the ETC, in Amman, Jordan, by January  
60 2014,

61  
62 b) Be governed by the ReSEP Executive Board, which will:

63  
64 i. Consist of a Chief Administrative Officer, a Chief Financial Officer, and  
65 a Chief Research Officer, with their official duties as outlined:

66 1. The Chief Administrative Officer is in charge of the  
67 administrative tasks associated with the running of the  
68 department and is responsible for ensuring every Member State  
69 is fairly represented;

70 2. The Chief Financial Officer is in charge of allocating funds to  
71 research and development projects;

72 3. The Chief Research Officer evaluates and approves research  
73 and development projects and makes recommendations to the  
74 Chief Financial Officer;

75 ii. Be elected initially by the ETC Board of Governors, and subsequently by  
76 the vote of staff that have worked within the department for a period of  
77 at least one year;

78 iii. Each officer will serve a term of five years and can be elected for an  
79 unlimited number of terms;

80  
81 2) *Calls* upon all ESCWA Member States to increase and promote their financial and  
82 technical investments in research and development on renewable energy  
83 production by:

84  
85 a. Increasing the budget of the already existing ETC, the exact amount being  
86 established on the basis of recommendation of regional ETC experts,

87

- 88           b. Collecting the funds from ESCWA Member States according to the existing  
89           funding key of the ETC,  
90  
91           c. Allocating the necessary amount of funding for the new Department of ReSEP  
92           by the same experts;  
93  
94       3) *Requests* stronger research and development in the areas of renewable energies,  
95       especially in solar, wind, and geothermal energy, considering also nuclear energy,  
96       to enable the implementation of sustainable energy projects by:  
97  
98           a. Urging greater research by the scientists working at the ReSEP in the field of  
99           storing energy to provide for future energy needs,  
100  
101           b. Improving already existing plans and infrastructure to ensure high efficiency,  
102  
103           c. Increasing research and implementation of improved fossil fuel production  
104           methods and usage,  
105  
106           d. Considering research in the area of nuclear energy, including development of  
107           waste disposal methods,  
108  
109           e. Encouraging the department to prepare analytical studies and technical  
110           publications on issues related to energy consumption;  
111  
112       4) *Invites* governments to encourage existing research institutions to participate in  
113       the department;  
114  
115       5) *Supports* Member States to create or further develop national departments  
116       committed to developing sustainable energy solutions;  
117  
118       6) *Endorses* the cooperation between foreign and regional companies and non-  
119       governmental organizations (NGOs) and the International Renewable Energy  
120       Agency (IRENA) in order to participate in the promotion and development of  
121       sustainable energy production in the ESCWA region by:  
122  
123           a. Inviting all ESCWA Member States to become full members of IRENA,  
124  
125           b. Facilitating regulations for joint ventures in the area of sustainable energy  
126           production between foreign and local companies in order to share expertise  
127           and technology,  
128  
129           c. Lowering tax rates for companies that either use sustainable energy or  
130           produce required technology to generate renewable energy;  
131

- 132 7) *Suggests* to the ESCWA Member States to create a Green Catalogue (GreenCat)  
133 of products and technologies used in the production of sustainable energy, such as  
134 solar panels or wind turbines and also products in the area of energy consumption:  
135
- 136 a. GreenCat products will be tariff-free among ESCWA Member States in order  
137 to further deepen the regional economic integration,  
138
  - 139 b. GreenCat will be set up by an expert group on sustainable energy production  
140 comprised of ten regional experts from Department of ReSEP, acting in their  
141 individual capacity, appointed by the ReSEP Executive Board for a mandate  
142 of four years, that is continuously updating the GreenCat;  
143
- 144 8) *Calls* for the national implementation of new technologies for sustainable energy  
145 production developed by Department of ReSEP, as well as economic programs in  
146 order to achieve socio-economic development;  
147
- 148 9) Encourages the establishment of an annual Green Conference, which will:  
149
- 150 a. Start on September 1, 2014, in Amman, Jordan, with subsequent host city to  
151 be decided through an application process, which will take place at the  
152 Department of ReSEP,  
153
  - 154 b. Be funded by the hosting ESCWA Member State,  
155
  - 156 c. Consist of a platform of exchange on the issue of sustainable energy  
157 production with the target groups being international and national companies,  
158 experts of the Department of ReSEP, heads of State, and NGOs and  
159 universities in order to combine and discuss the outcomes of research and  
160 development with an economic approach,  
161
  - 162 d. Present the latest developments and achievements as well as innovations of  
163 the newly established Department of ReSEP,  
164
  - 165 e. Discuss the creation of pilot programs to assess the effectiveness of potential  
166 solutions,  
167
  - 168 f. Present the latest updates of the GreenCat;  
169
- 170 10) *Invites* Member States to set specialized, individual, target goals, set by the states  
171 on recommendation of experts of the Department of ReSEP of renewable energy  
172 usage as well as establishment of efficient fossil fuel production practices in  
173 accordance with each country's capacity;  
174
- 175 11) *Authorizes* the implementation of a monitoring program to determine the progress  
176 being made to achieve targets by:  
177

- 178 a. Asking each member state to write an annual report analyzing the progress  
179 they have made in reaching target goals and implementation of projects,  
180  
181 b. Submitting the report to the Department of ReSEP for evaluation and  
182 publishing;  
183  
184 12) *Expresses its conviction* that the creation of ReSEP will work to promote socio-  
185 economic development through its implementation of sustainable energy  
186 production and cooperative communication across the region.



Code: ESCWA/1/2

Committee: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Subject: Promoting Sustainable Energy Production for Socio-economic Development

1 *Recalling* Millennium Development Goal Seven, part A, to ensure environmental  
2 sustainability through integrating the principles of sustainable development into country  
3 policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources,

4  
5 *Taking into account* the *Kyoto Protocol* and in particular the Clean Development  
6 Mechanism,

7  
8 *Realizing* the need for small-scale energy needs in homes located in rural areas,

9  
10 *Affirming* the importance of energy in socio-economic development in rural communities,

11  
12 *Observing* the positive effects of bringing stable electrical power in communities,

13  
14 *The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

- 15  
16 1) *Urges* ESCWA Member States to create their own voluntary renewable energy  
17 production goal, which:  
18  
19 a. Shall be designed as a ten year objective,  
20  
21 b. Shall include:  
22  
23 i. Increasing the percentage of renewable energy produced,  
24 ii. Increasing the efficiency of fossil fuel use;  
25  
26 2) *Recommends* the communication of these goals through an annual report to  
27 ESCWA that will be published;  
28  
29 3) *Encourages* the development of small-scale renewable energy production in rural  
30 and electric power-deprived areas, through measures such as:  
31  
32 a. Solar panels on homes,  
33  
34 b. Small wind turbines in rural communities,  
35  
36 c. Geothermal energy in areas that geologically permit the activity;  
37  
38 4) *Invites* developed countries, as well as countries within Western Asia to use the  
39 Clean Development Mechanism of the *Kyoto Protocol* to invest in the energy  
40 sector within our region, and share technologies and knowledge;  
41

42 5) *Further invites* all Member States to establish collaboration with the United  
43 Nations Development Program (UNDP) to increase access to renewable energies  
44 in order to improve access to electricity in rural areas and to eradicate poverty.

Code: ESCWA/2/1

Committee: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Subject: Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity

1 *Guided by the Millennium Development Goal Seven, Part C on halving the percentage of*  
2 *population that is prevented access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation,*

3  
4 *Acknowledging A/RES/64/292 (2010), A/HRC/12/24 (2009) and A/HRC/15/L.14 on water and*  
5 *sanitation being a human right,*

6  
7 *Guided by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that states health and well-*  
8 *being including the fundamental need for basic nutrition such as water,*

9  
10 *Cognizant of the Arab Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production of the*  
11 *United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) on the protection of water resources and the*  
12 *development of alternative water resources,*

13  
14 *Keeping in mind the report of the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner on Human*  
15 *Rights (OHCHR) again reaffirming the necessary access to clear and safe drinking water,*

16  
17 *The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

- 18  
19 1) *Asks the ESCWA Member States to establish Water Efficiency Technical Boards (WET)*  
20 *that do specific advisory work in foreign policy bargaining;*  
21  
22 2) *Suggests that all members of the ESCWA integrate a WET at their respective office of*  
23 *foreign relations in order to have the regional sensitive issue of water fully integrated into*  
24 *mutual negotiations;*  
25  
26 3) *Intends to have every ESCWA Member State finance their WET through their offices of*  
27 *foreign relations;*  
28  
29 4) *Calls upon the respective Member States to appoint the number of WET advisory experts*  
30 *by a procedure the nations deem appropriate;*  
31  
32 5) *Recommends to implement the Member States WETs by the end of August 2013;*  
33  
34 6) *Further recommends a WET Forum of Representatives of Member States meet every half*  
35 *year taking place in the regular meeting of the ESCWA Sustainable Development and*  
36 *Productivity Division (SDPD) starting two months after the WETs have been established,*  
37 *being funded by the regular budget of SDPD in order to:*  
38  
39 a. *Provide a platform to mutually inform about and negotiate on the holistic*  
40 *considerations of solutions on water problems,*  
41

- 42 b. Invite neighboring riparian states who are not members of ESCWA to join the WET  
43 Forum,  
44
- 45 c. Set the first agenda on the topic of the progress that has been made since the creation  
46 of the WETs, as well as the dispossession of the natural springs in Palestine and then  
47 have continuously set the agenda by the preceding WET-Forum,  
48
- 49 d. Integrate the outcome of the WET Forum in the Member States' WET policy, thus  
50 creating a feedback mechanism between ESCWA and the Member States,  
51
- 52 e. Report the outcome of the WET-Forum regularly in form of a lessons-learned report  
53 at ESCWA meetings;  
54
- 55 7) *Decides* to have the WETs concentrate and advise their respective governments in the  
56 realms of:  
57
- 58 a. Water issues of rivers and borders and the respect of national sovereignty,  
59
- 60 b. Water sharing agreements among nations that explicitly share same rivers that should  
61 be considered international property,  
62
- 63 c. Shared cross boarder ground water,  
64
- 65 d. Water pollution and over usage of water in more upstream nations,  
66
- 67 e. Local rural water scarcity,  
68
- 69 f. Respect and implementation of already existing agreements, treaties, reports, and  
70 resolutions on the issue of water sharing.

Code: ESCWA/2/2

Committee: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Subject: Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity

1 *Stressing the importance* of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development  
2 (A/CONF.151/26 (1992)) as well as The Future we Want (A/RES/66/288),

3  
4 *Underscoring* the importance 1987 Report of the World Commission on Environment  
5 and Development: Our Common Future (A/42/428—Annex),

6  
7 *Keeping in mind* the resolution of the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/RES/21/2),  
8 ensuring the right of all to safe drinking water and sanitation,

9  
10 *Recalling and noting with satisfaction* the achievement of Millennium Development Goal  
11 7c ensuring environmental sustainability, specifically increasing the access of people to  
12 clean drinking water (A/55/2 (2000)),

13  
14 *Reaffirming* E/ESCWA/SDPD/2011/4, proposing the Committee on Water Resources,

15  
16 *Reinforcing* the concept of Integrated Water Resource Management (2002) especially  
17 through education to achieve the reduction of water consumption and mismanagement,

18  
19 *Acknowledging* the importance of raising awareness on water-related issues in the  
20 ESCWA region through effective communication,

21  
22 *Emphasizing* the role of governments in addressing water management issues and  
23 communicating with the public,

24  
25 *Observing* the importance of communication through education to ensure the public is  
26 aware of the issues surrounding water management and consumption,

27  
28 *Recognizing* the inadequate communication of inefficient practices and more sustainable  
29 alternatives,

30  
31 *The Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia,*

- 32  
33 1) *Urges* ESCWA Member States to implement Integrated Water Resource  
34 Management (IWRM) on a more effective basis by encouraging governments to  
35 enforce their current plans;
- 36  
37 2) *Promotes* the raising of awareness of water resource issues through formal  
38 education, by;
- 39  
40 a. Integrating water awareness into curriculum for primary and secondary school  
41 science classes,
- 42

- 43           b. Requiring classes focused on water management and recycling practices  
44           should be required for university students studying agriculture, architecture,  
45           engineering, education, and other disciplines in which water management is  
46           relevant,  
47  
48           c. Creating fields of study in universities for students to study the management  
49           of water,  
50  
51           d. Organizing university students enrolled in the water programs to use their  
52           expertise to hold workshop groups or seminars for all age groups further  
53           educating the public on best water management practices,  
54  
55           e. Creating partnerships among ESCWA region universities to form exchange  
56           programs for students to gain more diverse experiences in the field of water  
57           management,  
58  
59           f. Forming partnerships between universities and companies specializing in  
60           water management,  
61  
62           g. ESCWA Committee on Water Resources should offer technical and financial  
63           assistance in formulating curriculum as well as training instructors in the field  
64           of water management;  
65  
66        3) *Encourages* ESCWA Member States to determine nationally and offer  
67        scholarships to students from the ESCWA Member States studying water  
68        management and development at universities within the ESCWA region as well  
69        as the creation of internships for students to gain practical experience;  
70  
71        4) *Supports* the ESCWA Member States in the creation of media campaigns and  
72        educational programs in order to raise public awareness of the issues regarding  
73        water management and consumption through the development a website by the  
74        ESCWA Committee on Water Resources to be called [www.educationblue.org](http://www.educationblue.org) that  
75        provides a forum and a database for the dissemination of information pertaining to  
76        water management practices;  
77  
78        5) *Encourages* national television and radio to promote media campaigns that raise  
79        awareness as well as the production of water related documentaries;  
80  
81        6) *Endorses* the creation of a publication highlighting companies that utilize water  
82        most efficiently to promote the public to direct consumption towards these firms  
83        as well as encouraging companies to increase their own efficiency;  
84  
85        7) *Encourages* Member States to communicate with the ESCWA Committee on  
86        Water Resources to gain information and to consider alternatives to desalinization  
87        such as efficient consumption and water recycling.

Code: ESCWA/2/3

Committee: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Subject: Towards Sustainable Water Management, Development, and Productivity

1 *Recalling* Millennium Development Goal 7c aiming at halving the proportion of the population  
2 without access to safe drinking water and sanitation, especially as the goal has already been  
3 achieved early, stressing states' ability to further improve the population's access to it,  
4

5 *Further recalling* General Assembly resolution 64/154 (2011) that establishes The International  
6 Year of Water Cooperation 2013,  
7

8 *Recognizing* the effort of pioneering ESCWA Member States in the area of water infrastructure  
9 inefficiencies,  
10

11 *Noting with deep concern* the effects of leakages in the water pipe systems and contamination of  
12 water on national water supply as well as the need for water recycling methods and systems,  
13

14 *Recalling* resolution E/ESCWA/205(XVIII) (1995) establishing the Committee on Water  
15 Resources,  
16

17 *Alarmed by* the absence of attention to the issues of water leakages, contamination and water  
18 recycling within the Committee on Water Resources,  
19

20 *Conscious of* the disparity between Member States' capacity for water management and ability to  
21 implement more efficient technologies to address water infrastructure,  
22

23 *The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*  
24

- 25 1) *Calls upon* the Committee on Water Resources to urge Member States to combat issues  
26 of water leakages, contamination and recycling within their existing water infrastructure  
27 by implementing the following suggestions;  
28
- 29 2) *Requests* the Committee on Water Resources to act as a platform for Member States to  
30 exchange technologies and expertise regarding water infrastructure management by:  
31
  - 32 a. Establishing the five-day long Conference Towards Sustainable Water Management  
33 which will:  
34
    - 35 i. Take place annually beginning on March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014 in order to also reflect  
36 upon The International Year of Water Cooperation 2013,
    - 37 ii. Be hosted by an ESCWA Member State as selected through an annual  
38 application process submitted to the Committee on Water Resources and  
39 financed by the hosting Member State,
    - 40 iii. Empower the collaboration between experienced Member States already  
41 having implemented initiatives on the issues of pipe leakages,

- 42 contaminated and recyclable water and those who are seeking to improve  
43 their water management practices;  
44
- 45 b. Endorsing the cooperation on monitoring, detecting, and rebuilding water  
46 infrastructure systems,  
47
- 48 c. Promoting the collaboration on solutions for contaminated and recyclable water  
49 supplies;  
50
- 51 3) *Asks* all ESCWA Member States to incorporate the regional expertise, technologies, and  
52 projects based on the suggestions made at the Conference Towards Sustainable Water  
53 Management, therefore:  
54
- 55 a) Setting up a national board of inspectors within each ESCWA Member State to first  
56 assess the water infrastructure systems' management and quality of water by  
57 inspecting existing systems, detecting inefficiencies, and suggesting the rebuilding or  
58 repairing measures to the ESCWA Member States' water systems,  
59
- 60 b) Encouraging all Member States to follow already existing successful national  
61 initiatives, which aim at reducing the waste of water and at improving its quality, and  
62 adapt those initiatives according to their specific challenges in water infrastructure  
63 management,  
64
- 65 c) Including these national initiatives in the national boards of inspectors,  
66
- 67 d) Fostering the development of techniques to recycle water;  
68
- 69 4) *Designates* the Committee on Water Resources to support cooperation between  
70 experienced Member States and those Member States who seek to improve their water  
71 infrastructure management practices by establishing financial, technological, and  
72 personnel partnerships.