

# **Towards the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean**



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## MANDATE

- The Conclusions of the **Summit for the Mediterranean (13 July 2008, Paris)** included references to Water, to the need for a new Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) and to a related Ministerial Conference.
- The decision to prepare a SWM was among the key outcomes of the **Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water (22 December 2008, Dead Sea, Jordan)**
- A **Water Expert Group (WEG)** was appointed to prepare the Strategy
- The **1st Meeting of the WEG was held on 7-8 September 2009, in Athens, Greece** immediately after the de-blocking of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in July 2009
- The SWM is expected to be adopted at the next UfM Ministerial on Water organised by Spain **(12-14 April 2010, Barcelona)**

## KEY THEMES OF THE SWM: Jordan's declaration

- a. Advancing on **effective water governance** for integrated water resources management and water supply and sanitation; awareness, technical and capacity building and coordination within administrative units and among stakeholders. **Chapter Leaders: GR/LB and FR, EC, LAS**
- b. Addressing **water and climate change**, through adaptation measures together with mitigation with emphasis, *inter alia*, on management of droughts and floods, mitigation of water scarcity effects and combat desertification.  
**Chapter Leaders: GR/MO and ES and EC**
- c. Optimizing **water financing, water valuation and appropriate instruments**, with emphasis on innovative mechanisms.  
**Chapter Leaders: GER/IT and EC**
- d. **Water demand management** and efficiency and non-conventional water resources. **Chapter Leaders: FR/EG and PS, LB, HR, MO, TU and EC**



# ELABORATING THE SWM: Political Dialogue and Synergies

- The SWM should facilitate and formalize a political dialogue on water resources management, related policies, and sector performance.
- The SWM should promote synergies and transfer of experiences.

Reference to and alignment with existing strategic documents and initiatives should be secured e.g.

- MDGs, WSSD Targets
- Roadmap of the Horizon 2020 Initiative to De-pollute the Mediterranean,
- UNEP MAP Barcelona Convention and Protocols,
- Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
- EU Water Framework Directive, EU Marine Directive, EU Neighborhood Policy etc.

Coordination with the wider water sector, partners and civil society should be promoted throughout the process.

## ELABORATING THE SWM: Projects' general criteria

- The SWM should include **general criteria** for the identification of **sustainable water projects**, subject to the functions to be agreed for the UfM Secretariat in relation to projects.
- Criteria with **operational links with the UfM Projects under development as well as other processes**.
- Criteria **should reflect already existing** sector strategies, action plans and milestone concepts etc.
- Projects **should not replace ongoing engagements or planned commitments** (technical assistance and investments).
- Partners should **align** their ongoing projects to the agreed SWM.

## ELABORATING THE SWM: A complementary Action Plan

- An Action Plan to complement the SWM will be prepared, to be drafted in parallel or immediately after the SWM and serve as a roadmap – **no final decision yet by the WEG.**
- To match **policy choices** with major on-going and future operational **plans** and framework **programmes.**
- **Indicators of implementation and target achievements** would be included in the Strategy **where possible, relevant and agreeable by the formal partners**



# THE FORMAL PROCESS for the elaboration of the SWM

## - **Technical Drafting Group**

It consists of 14 WEG Members and it is mandated to elaborate the draft SWM text under the WEG political guidance. It is chaired by Spain. Support for technical expertise is sought by regional organisations and IFIs.

## - **WEG Meetings and other events**

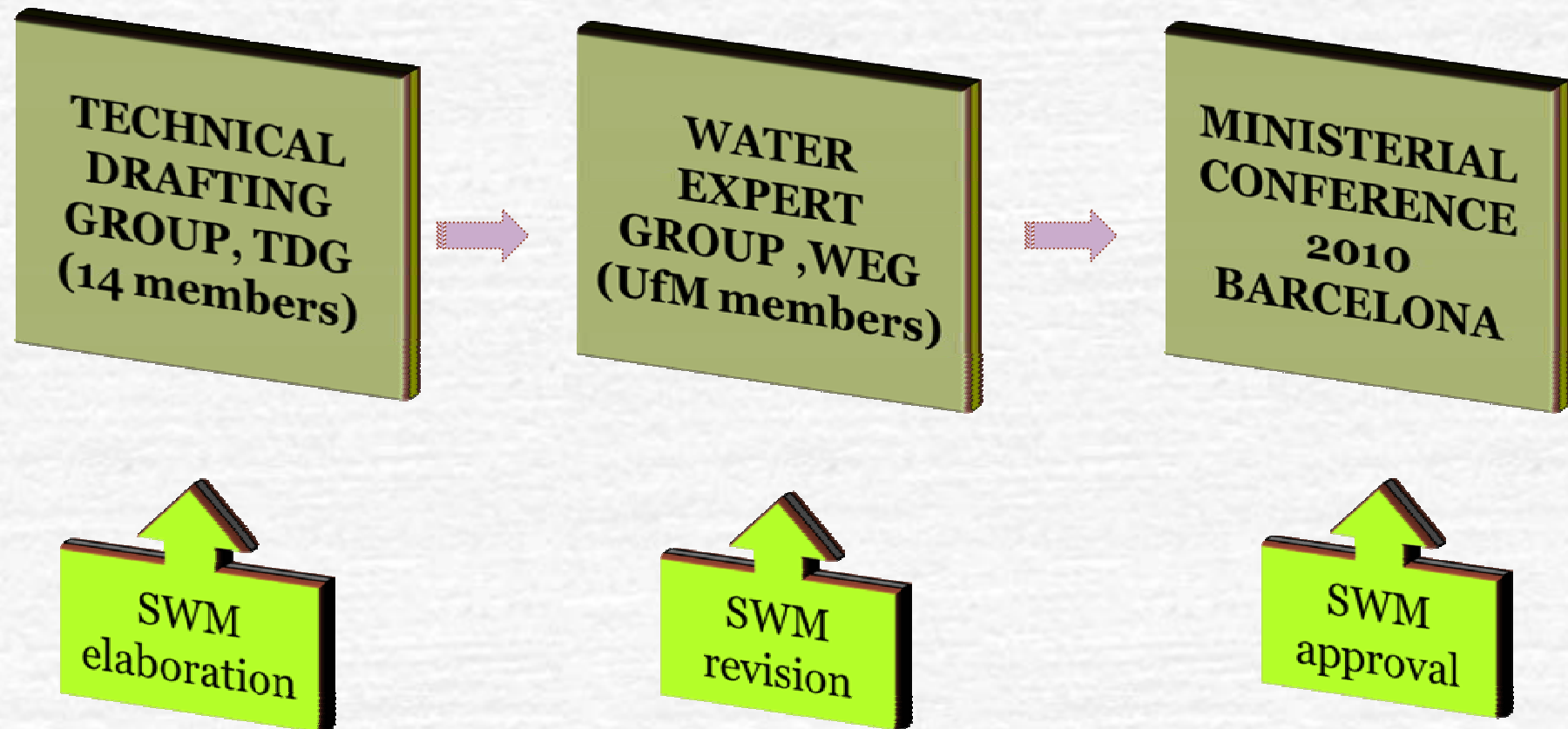
Three main WEG Meetings are suggested for the delivery of the SWM. The first was held in Athens, 7-8 September and the second took place on 4 November, in Cairo

## - **Administration**

The MED EUWI mechanism provides technical and administrative assistance to the WEG and the process

# THE FORMAL PROCESS for the elaboration of the SWM

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## Suggested TIMEFRAME

What	When
1. WEG 1	7-8/9/09, Athens
2. Drafting of SWM	Sep 09 – Feb 10
3. Joint Egypt / Dutch Conference, Multi-stakeholder - WEG 2	2-3/11/09, Cairo 4/11/09, Cairo
4. Conference of Local Authorities	23-24/11/09, Lyon
5. WEG 3, possibly linked with a session on water financing - Civil Society Conference (to be confirmed)	Feb 2010
6. UfM Ministerial Conference on Water	12-14/04/10, Spain

## Aims of Horizon 2020

- Re-focus attention on key challenge of reducing pollution

Priority sectors of

- urban waste water,
- municipal waste and
- industrial emissions

- Enhance coordination between organisations and institutions to better target resources
- Link ongoing efforts to protect the Med to EU political framework and financial tools
- Transfer knowledge and know-how
- Requires political will and concentration of financial resources

# Horizon 2020 Components

## ☞ Pollution Reduction Projects

- Identify and prioritise the most significant pollution reduction projects and work to secure funding

**Chaired by EIB**

## ☞ Research

- Strategic focus of research framework programme to support environmental policy

## ☞ Monitoring, steering and review

- Develop 'scorecard' and indicators to measure progress

**Chaired by EEA**

## ☞ Capacity building measures

- Development of legislation, institutions and civil society

**Chaired by MIO-ECSDE**