

Technical Committee Meeting Brief
August 22-23, 2012, Stockholm Sweden

The purpose of the meeting was to monitor progress on TEC priority thematic areas as defined in TEC 2010 - 2012 road map and to discuss the next steps to complete the GWP Strategy 2009-2013.

Below is a brief summary of progress and next steps as discussed during the meeting.

WATER SECURITY PAPER

Progress

Based upon a Perspectives Paper on Water Security, a background paper is being developed. It will be broadly discussed during a joint meeting of TEC members and Regional Chairs and Coordinators (August 24). In addition, the publication proposal and ToC were disseminated to RWPs for their input.

Action to be taken:

- Eelco and Wouter, supported by Oscar, are to finalize the draft background paper for TEC review by the October 26, 2012.
- Inputs from regions will be coordinated by Danka and Zaki (September – October).
- A consultation meeting on water security indicators to be held in October/November (hosted by GWPO).
- The Background Paper should be launched in January 2013, during the Abu Dhabi International Water Summit.

TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

Progress

A draft of the background paper on transboundary cooperation was developed. It will include case studies from several transboundary basins. The paper will discuss the legal implications of transboundary cooperation (or the lack thereof). The cases discussed include the following river basins: the Zambezi River, the Mekong River, the Danube River and the Drin River. Cooperation and input from RWPs are required.

Action to be taken:

- Patricia supported by Anton Earle (SIWI) is to submit a final draft background paper by October 26, 2012 for feedback from TEC members.
- The Background Paper is to be published by the end of December 2012.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Progress

A Perspectives Paper on “Groundwater Resources and Irrigated Agriculture” will be launched during the Stockholm World Water Week (August 27). A proposal is to build on this paper and develop a

Background Paper on policy and institutional aspects of groundwater management, including management of transboundary aquifers. With regard to the process for this proposed publication, the perspectives paper together with a publication proposal were circulated to the RWPs that are invited to provide input including case studies (with a particular focus on South Asia and China, though not limited to those areas).

Action to be taken:

- Tushaar and Stephen are to develop a draft background paper with input from the RWPs by October 26, 2012
- The Background paper is to be published by the end of December 2012.

FOOD AND WATER SECURITY

Progress

A perspectives paper is under development which will focus on South Asia and Africa as the key battlegrounds for future global food, water, and energy security. The paper will suggest there are lessons to be learned from the two contrasting major economies of China and India and the different approaches they are taking to agricultural water management, both rainfed and irrigated, which can provide insights for developing agriculture in Africa, particularly sub-Saharan Africa.

Action to be taken:

- Uma will further develop the perspective paper by October 19, 2012

ECONOMIC VALUE OF WATER SECURITY

Progress

Claudia and Dale presented a preliminary draft of the background paper. This paper will support the perspectives paper on Water Security. The paper will be discussed during a joint session of TEC members and Regional Coordinators and Chair on August 24 to seek the input from the regions.

Action to be taken:

- Dale and Claudia will submit a final draft background paper by October 26th for feedback from TEC members.
- The Background Paper is to be published by November 23rd

WATER AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Progress

This is a new activity. The pressures on land and water and the trends in biofuel investments and their implications for land were discussed and suggested to be explored in a paper. It is envisaged to address the issues of implications of land management decisions to water management.

Action to be taken:

- A concept note needs to be developed on the basis of the presentation to initiate the publication process through the Knowledge Chain.
- The concept note should be circulated to TEC members for feedback by October 19th, 2012

INTEGRATED URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT

Progress

This activity builds on previous perspectives paper and background paper (published in 2011, 2012). A proposal is to have technical focus papers that will improve understanding of the urban water management for cities of the future.

Action to be taken:

- A concept note for the entire agenda in this area will be developed for the next TEC meeting on what the GWP's involvement in this area could be.
- A draft of a Technical Focus Paper on "cities as arenas of integration" should be developed by October 19th, 2012

OTHER ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- The Technical Focus Paper on Water Demand Management in the Mediterranean region will be launched at the 2012 Stockholm World Water Week.
- The GWP-DHI-SIWI Technical Focus Paper "Application of Models and Decision Support Systems for Integrated Water Resources Management in Practice" will be launched as a "draft" at the 2012 Stockholm World Water Week (the Seminar on "Optimizing water allocation in agriculture with use of simulation models and decision support systems")
- TEC will support GWP CEE for the regional workshop on Integrated Drought Management; there will be a kick-off workshop for the IDMP initiative of GWP and WMO in October 2012. The GWP will also support a High Level Panel on IDM (March 2013) organized by WMO
- The TEC 2013 Workplan will be elaborated by October for submission to the Steering Committee.
- TEC members will be invited to contribute, as appropriate, to the planning process for a new GWP strategy.

NEXT MEETING

The next full TEC meeting is scheduled on 11-12 March 2013, Manila, Philippines (prior to Asia Water Week).