



Conférence ministérielle sur l'**EAU**
Ministerial Conference on **WATER**
المؤتمر الوزاري عن **المياه**

JORDANIE

JORDAN

الأردن

22 12 2008

A unique opportunity to build a regional strategy on water and concrete projects responding to the population's demands

France, being the President of the European Union Council, and Egypt, are the co-chairs of the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean". The two countries will co-preside together with Jordan, the hosting country, **the Ministerial Conference on Water** that will take place on the 22nd December 2008.

During the Paris Summit on the Mediterranean that was held on the 13th July 2008, several essential issues were identified by the Heads of States and Governments of member countries of this process. Among them, two main priorities regarding water: **the combat of pollution in the Mediterranean** and the **sustainable management of water resources**.

This ministerial conference will have a double objective: **to set the guidelines of a long-term strategy on water in the Mediterranean**, which should be approved by the ministers in 2010 and submitted to the Heads of States during the second summit that will be held in 2010; **to announce first concrete projects that are coherent with this strategy** in order to mobilise the governance powers of the process and the financial sponsors.

In order to cover all possible issues and to define the most relevant orientations, the topic of water must be **dealt with by all the stakeholders** (local authorities, companies, NGOs, researchers...). For this reason, the civil society actors are also invited to meet on the 21st December in order to bring an important contribution to this conference.

At the end of the day, many demonstrating projects will be presented.

This strategy and its associated projects will highlight two important points: on the one hand, a high political ambition that will help tackling problems beyond the action means of one single country or organisation, especially those linked to climate change and environment needs; on the other hand, two main concerns about the preservation of water quality, and the pressure reduction on water resources by more optimal uses.

For those journalists who are interested in attending, please contact the Press Services and fill in an on-line accreditation.

Press Contacts :

On-line accreditation: http://www.medaquaministerial2008.net/registration_press

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PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Sunday 21 December 2008

08:30 - 16:45 **Civil Society day**

17:45 - 19:45 **Presentation of concrete projects**

Sunday 22 December 2008

09:00 **Reception of participants**

09:30 **Inauguration session co-presided by Jordan, Egypt and France**

- Speech by Mr. Raed Abu Soud, Jordanian Minister of Water and Irrigation
- Speech by Mr. Mahmoud Abou Zeid, Egyptian Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation
- Speech by Mr. Jean-Louis Borloo, State Minister, French Minister of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development, and Town and Country Planning
- Speech by Mr. Stavros Dimas, Commissioner in charge of Environment, European Commission

10:30 **Group photo**

11:00 **Morning session – Water in the Mediterranean: progress accomplished and actions to be done**

12:30 **Lunch**

14:30 **Afternoon session – Water in the Mediterranean: actions to be done**

15:30 **Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration**

15:45 **Closure session by the three Jordanian, Egyptian and French Ministers**

- Mr. Mahmoud Abou Zeid, Egyptian Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation
- Mr. Jean-Louis Borloo, State Minister, French Minister of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development, and Town and Country Planning
- Mr. Raed Abu Soud, Jordanian Minister of Water and Irrigation

16:15 - 16:45 **Press Conference**