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EMWIS Flash - July/August 2008 Euro-Mediterranean Information System on the know-how in the Water Sector EMWIS is a program of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. For further information: <http://www.emwis.net> Monthly Flash produced by the EMWIS Technical Unit- OIEAU , CEDEX , SOGESID - with the support of the E.C. It is available in English , French & Arabic . (French & Arabic versions are available few days later) ===== In this issue N61

(<http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/eflash/flash61>) ===== HEADLINE 1- Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water, October 29, 2008 (Jordan) IN BRIEF 2- Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean Joint Declaration adopted 3- 5th Conference of the Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries 4- 12th EMWIS Steering Committee meeting, 21st July 2008 in Athens (Greece) 5- ANIMA puts forward 25 operational projects for the Mediterranean - Mediterranean Water Observation System 6- IUCN calls for adopting the right methodologies and participatory approaches in IWRM 7- UN-ESCWA High-Level Meeting to Promote Water Supply and Sanitation Policies 8- Israel & Morocco signed with the EC a Memorandum of Understanding on statistical data exchange 9- EMPOWERS side event in Stockholm 10- Groundwater Management in France: visit of a delegation from Morocco and Lebanon 11- Jordan: Water scarcity places economic growth at risk 12- Palestinian Authority, Israel, Jordan: Dead Sea - Red Sea channel project 13- Israel and Emerging Water Markets: The Growing Demand For New Water Technology Systems 14- France: Parliamentarian report on dam safety 15- Italy: EIB finances water and wastewater investments in the province of Rome 16- Turkey: EIB lends EUR 135 M for hydro-power project 17- WISE data availability 18- BRIDGE provides thresholds for Water Framework Directive 19- Climate change threatens global food and water supply 20- Water Resource Protection in the Arab World NOMINATIONS & VACANCIES PUBLICATIONS CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS CALL FOR PAPERS TRAINING EVENTS BRIEF EMWIS SITE MAP CONTACT US / COMMENTS =====

HEADLINE ===== 1- Following the proposal of the conference of the water directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European countries, Bled (Slovenia), in December 2007, the Ministerial Conference will be organised under the French Presidency of the European Union and the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean" together with Egypt co-Presidency and Jordan who hosts this event. This conference aims to prepare a long-term strategy on water in the region. It will be held in the Dead Sea (Jordan) on 29 October 2008. In order to involve all stakeholders, a day dedicated to civil society will be held on the eve of the ministerial conference (28 October 2008). The official conference website has been launched: <http://www.medaquaministerial2008.net/> , contributions and comments to the technical background documents can be made online. Further information on EMWIS website .

===== IN BRIEF (Full news)

===== 2- The Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean gives a new impulse to the Euromed Partnership (the so-called Barcelona Process). According to the Joint Declaration adopted at the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean (13 July), it brings at least three very important improvements: by upgrading the political level of the EU's relationship with its Mediterranean partners; by providing for further co-ownership to our multilateral

relations; and by making these relations more concrete and visible through additional regional and sub-regional projects, relevant for the citizens of the region. The Summit, co-chaired by French President and President of the European Council, Nicolas Sarkozy, and Egyptian President, Hosni Mubarak, brought together 43 European and Mediterranean States, the Community institutions and the regional organisations. Further information on EMWIS website . 3- The Water Directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and Southeastern European Countries met on 21 and 22 July 2008, in Athens (Greece) to prepare the special ad hoc Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Water planned in Jordan, on 29 October 2008 and the related civil society event on 28 October. Based on the conclusions of the 4th Conference of the Water Directors (10-11 December 2007, Bled), the Ministerial conference steering group prepared the first draft documents for the Ministerial, i.e. 4 thematic papers (Effective Water Governance, Water and Climate Change Adaptation, Water Financing, Water Demand Management and Efficiency and Non-Conventional Water Resources) and State of Play technical papers. These documents are open for comments on the Ministerial conference website. Further information on EMWIS website . 4- A brief meeting of the EMWIS Steering Committee was held in Athens on 21 July 2008 at the occasion of the conference of the water directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and south-eastern European countries. France formally handed over the Presidency of EMWIS Steering Committee to Italy. Walter MAZZITTI, was nominated new EMWIS Steering Committee President. The renewal of the Steering Committee membership including the vice-Presidency as well as Presidency and vice-Presidency of the Coordination Committee will take at a later meeting of the Euromed water directors in December 2008 or during the 1st semester 2009. Further information on EMWIS website . 5- ANIMA Investment Network publishes in association with the Diplomatie magazine a special issue entitled: 25 projects for the Mediterranean countries. It is now available in kiosks in France, as well as occasionally at Euro-Med events. This magazine features 3 articles on the water sector: one analysis and two projects. The project related to the Mediterranean Water Observation System (pp. 74) is based on the results of feasibility study carried out in 2006 and 2007 by EMWIS. It highlights the importance of implementing a regional tool based on National Water Information Systems (NWIS) to provide access to reliable and harmonized data, and the relevant national and local levels, which are cruelly lacking today at the regional level to support any policy of integrated water resource management and risk prevention. At the regional level, implementation of such a tool, taking into account both the needs of international initiatives and the reality of management on the ground, would: provide an essential component for a shared environmental information system and for a global water and sanitation observation mechanism, improve the consistency of the indicators produced by different agencies, and support the implementation of regional water related strategies. An English version of the magazine will be available in Autumn 2008. Further information on EMWIS website . 6- Under the Patronage of HE Dr Mahmoud Abu Zeid President of the Arab Water Council and Egyptian Minister of Water & Irrigation, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) through its West Asia Middle East Regional Office organised a Regional Dialogue on the Future of Ground Water in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) Region between 12-14 July, 2008 in Cairo. Participants called for adopting the right methodologies and participatory approaches in Integrated Water Resources Management. Further information on EMWIS website . 7- In cooperation with the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and in partnership with the League of Arab States (LAS), UN-ESCWA organised a high level meeting to Promote Water Supply and Sanitation Policies and Related Organizational Reforms in Western Asia, on 15 July 2008 in Cairo, Egypt. The meeting coincided with the second day of the Ministerial Meeting of Arab Ministers responsible for water resources . This meeting reviewed the water supply and sanitation status in the UN-ESCWA region; analyze current situation (gaps, challenges, constraints and opportunities); and proposed policy options to expedite achievements of MDGs (Policy, institutional arrangements and proposed

reforms). The aim of the meeting was to support political awareness and organizational change for improving Water Supply and Sanitation, particularly in the context of 2008 as the International Year for Sanitation. Further information on EMWIS website . 8- The European Commission (EC) has signed two Memorandum of Understanding establishing the basis for a sustainable exchange of data between and the statistical offices respectively of Israel and Morocco, within the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). Israel is the first Mediterranean Partner country to sign such a memorandum. The statistical office of the Occupied Palestinian Territory is expected to follow. Negotiations with other Mediterranean Partner Countries (Algeria, Tunisia, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Egypt) on similar memoranda are being carried out. Co-operation will focus on the exchange of data for the following priority sectors: Agriculture, Energy, Environment (including water issues), External Trade & Balance of Payments, National Accounts, Social, Transport, and Tourism. Further information on EMWIS website (Morocco - Israel). 9- On Sunday August 17 at 17:15 o'clock the EMPOWERS Thematic Group organises a side event in the World Water Week to launch the EMPOWERS guidelines for improved local water governance. The guidelines are based on work in Egypt, Jordan and Palestine that was carried out in the framework of an EU funded MEDA-Water project by a partnership of international and local organisations. They are part of a set of publications including a story book on local water governance, a guide to process documentation and a summary of the EMPOWERS approach. All publications are available in English and Arabic. The side event will present the main elements of the guidelines and the stories of local people working on improved water governance. There will be opportunity to share experiences and discuss approaches for water governance. Further information on EMWIS website . 10- From 22 to 29 June, a delegation composed from the Litani River Basin Authority (Lebanon), Mohamad Younes and Nabil Amacha, and the Sebou Basin Agency (Morocco), Mustapha Gouaamar and Bouchaid Magrane, met various french experts in the field of groundwater management. Further information on EMWIS website . 11- Jordan's Prime Minister Nader Al Dahabi was in Paris for the inaugural Mediterranean Union summit, where he took the opportunity to highlight the problem of water supply in the Middle East. In an address given on behalf of the King, Dahabi told delegates, "the region's demand for water is rising rapidly in tandem with a growing population and an increasingly dangerous water scarcity". At a meeting held by the Water and Irrigation Ministry (MWRI) shortly before he left for Paris, Prime Minister Dahabi announced that water security was now the government's priority. Water and Irrigation Minister Raed Abu Saud, said Jordan's water deficit for this summer currently stood at 12.7m cubic metres. Earlier in June, Abu Saud had warned Jordanians to expect shortages this summer, as the nation's reservoirs stood at only 40% of their capacity. The Paris speech was followed the next day by the publication of a report by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a US government-funded programme designed to aid development in emerging markets. The report concluded that water scarcity placed Jordan's continued economic growth at risk, and that progress on canalisation and conservation was urgently required. Further information on EMWIS website . 12- Coyne and Bellier company, subsidiary of the French group Suez, will study the technical feasibility, the economy and environment of the channel project which will connect the Red Sea to the Dead Sea. Further information on EMWIS website . On the other hand, environmental groups have expressed concern about this channel project. They say not enough research has been done and alternative options have not been checked. Some experts have pointed out that the area is known for seismic activity. The Red-Dead project would take water out of the Red Sea, desalinating some of it for use as drinking water, which would be used for Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians. The rest of the water would go to help save the Dead Sea. Many environmental activists agree that the option of saving the River Jordan, water from which is also siphoned off by Syria, Israel and Jordan for drinking water, has not been explored enough. Others have suggested a Dead-Med canal. Further information on EMWIS website . 13- The worldwide demand for new water technology and

management systems is constantly growing, in both developed and developing countries. Companies and university researchers have begun to step up their development and export of efficient wastewater treatment and water supply technologies. One of the leaders in the field is Israel, which recycles 60-65% of its wastewater. Israel boasts the world's largest desalination plant that is based on the highly efficient reverse osmosis method, and has authorized the construction of another large, reverse osmosis desalination plant. The country exported \$1 billion in water purification and water management solutions in 2006, a 25% jump over the previous year's figure, according to the Israel Export and International Cooperation Institute. At the same time, the country's universities are seeking to develop new water management solutions. Further information on EMWIS website . 14- The Parliamentary Office for evaluating scientific and technological choices adopted on July 2, 2008, the report of Mr Christian KERT, Deputy of the Bouches du Rhone, on how to improve the safety of dams and waterworks . The reporter noted that while large hydroelectric dams create fewer problems than what seemed, the infinite variety of small dams presented real risks. In addition, the policy maintenance of dams is still very heterogeneous and raises many questions. Further information on EMWIS website . 15- The European Investment Bank is lending EUR 200 million to finance water and wastewater investments in the Province of Rome. The project covers investments from ACEAs 2007-2012 investment programme under its ATO2 concession. ACEA is today the largest Italian water sector operator, with a population served in excess of 8 million. The investment programme under the concession ATO2 Lazio Centrale Roma contributes to ACEAs compliance with key EU water sector Directives . Further information on EMWIS website . 16- The European Investment Bank, the European Unions long-term financing arm, is to lend EUR 135 million to support the construction of eight hydroelectric power plants in South East Turkey. The eight plants with an installed capacity of 955 megawatts (MW) are to be built along the Seyhan and Ceyhan rivers and comprise of run-the-river weirs as well as reservoir dam structures. Most of the projects hydro-power plants are expected to become operational in 2011, with the remainder coming on stream in 2012. Further information on EMWIS website . 17- The WISE (Water Information System for Europe) map viewer has been updated for the World Water Day in March 2008 with thematic maps representing the reporting of data by EU Member States under the Water Framework Directive (article 8). The reporting was carried out in late 2007. It was calling for information on the national monitoring programmes and stations for both surface and ground water. Over time, these stations will be used for reporting environmental information under the Water Framework Directive, on State of the Environment as well as support requirements stemming from other Environmental legislation. The maps provide a European overview as well as individual information on each monitoring station based on interactive maps. A second update of the map viewer happened late ay, including the annual state of the Environment data (WISE SoE), as well as 2007 ata on bathing water (BWD) and data collected n urban waste water under the UWWTD in 2007. Further information on EMWIS website . 18- The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) defines chemical status objectives for groundwater and related monitoring obligations but does not yet provide criteria to assess chemical status compliance. Now researchers from EU project BRIDGE (Background Criteria for the Identification of Groundwater Thresholds) have investigated 14 representative bodies of groundwater and developed thresholds that can be used to protect both human health and the environment. The 14 groundwater bodies investigated in BRIDGE were selected to represent as many aquifer types, climate settings and European ecoregions as possible within the project group that included partners from 17 EU countries. The research has shown that developing environmental quality standards for groundwater 'itself' is in its infancy. Further information on EMWIS website . 19- Scientists from all over the world representing some of the most prestigious national academies of science from the developed and developing countries have issued a warning that is making people sit up and take note. Since then, the 2007 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reaffirmed that not

only is climate change happening, but that anthropogenic warming is influencing many physical and biological systems. Water resources are most vulnerable along with food supplies, health, coastal settlements and some ecosystems, in particular, the arctic, tundra, alpine, and coral reef ecosystems. The most sensitive regions are most likely to include the Arctic, Africa, small islands and the densely populated Asian mega-deltas. In their latest statement, they not only raise attention to the need for adaptation to climate change but also the need for concrete action to be undertaken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. They call for governments to agree, by 2009, to a timetable and funding, as well as formulating a coordinated plan for the construction of a significant number of carbon capture and storage demonstration plants. The statement was delivered to the Japanese Government held during the G8 meeting on July 7-9. Further information on EMWIS website . 20- From 2 to 4 June 2008, the regional workshop on "Protecting Drinking Water Sources from Pollution: Policy Options and Practical Solutions" was held under the patronage of H.E. the Minister of Water and Irrigation of Jordan, Eng. Raed Abu Soud at the Dead Sea in Jordan. The workshop was organised by the regional BGR-ESCWA water project in cooperation with the MWI-BGR project in Jordan, AWARENET, ACWUA, and was funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The workshop brought together over 70 participants from competent government authorities, water utilities, academia, NGOs, the private sector and development projects from 12 Arab Countries, namely: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen, including resource people from Germany, Japan, UK and USA. The participants issued the "Dead Sea Statement" on water protection recommendations in condensed form. The "Dead Sea Statement" shall facilitate and support advocacy work by local, national and regional initiatives and projects for water and environmental protection. Further information on EMWIS website .

===== NOMINATIONS & VACANCIES

===== 21- Mr. Walter MAZZITTI , was nominated new EMWIS Steering Committee President, during the brief meeting of the EMWIS Steering Committee that was held in Athens on 21 July 2008 at the occasion of the conference of the water directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and south-eastern European countries. Further information on EMWIS website . 22- Lebanon finally formed a 30-member national unity government last month. Alain Tobourian is the new Energy and Water Minister. Further information on EMWIS website . 23- New Water General Director nominated in Spain: The new general director of Water, Marta Moren , took office on 8th July in a ceremony presided over by the Ministry of Environment and Rural and Maritime Affairs (MARM), Elena Espinosa. Marta Moren was working at the Climate Change and Environmental Risks Unit of the EC. She served as Head of "Relations with the European Commission" Service of the planning and sustainable use of water Unit under the Spanish Ministry of Environment and previously was consultant on issues of transboundary water management in the context of the Water Framework Directive for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Further information on EMWIS website . 24- Appointments and reorganization MEEDDAT (France): On the proposal of Mr. Borloo, State Minister for Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Land Use Planning (MEEDDAT), Mrs. Judith JIGUET , chief engineer of Agricultural Engineering, water and forests, has been nominated on last July 11, director for water and biodiversity in the general direction for development, housing and nature of the MEEDDAT. Further information on EMWIS website . 25- Mr. Marc Reneaume , Deputy General Manager of Veolia Water in charge of France, was appointed President of the Federation of Professional Water Companies (FP2E), on the occasion of the General Assembly of the Federation on July 8, 2008. Further information on EMWIS website . 26- Global Water Partnership (GWP) is seeking an Executive Secretary. Based in Stockholm, Sweden, the Executive Secretary will be a charismatic and strategic leader who can take the organization forward into its next strategy period

with a focus on the contribution of water to social and economic development, and with attention to climate change adaptation in our changing world. The Executive Secretary should have at least 10 years of experience in management at senior level including working experience with major aid agencies/organizations and/or other international organizations. The closing date for applications is 10 August 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website . 27- Middle East Desalination Research Centre (MEDRC) looking for a Director: The current Director is moving on after 10 years and we wish to find a successor to start by early 2009. A major new Headquarters facility opened in March 2008, increasing MEDRCs ability to carry out its mission. The new Director will be a charismatic leader and outstanding manager with highly developed skills in diplomacy, and the ability to understand and communicate about scientific material, without necessarily being a scientist. The closing date for the job will be Monday 1st September 2008 with interviews in Oct Nov 2008. Further information on EMWIS website . 28- SwissRe invites applications for the International ReSource Award for Sustainable Watershed Management 2009: The Award worth USD 150 000 is an internationally recognized prize for leadership in implementing the principles of sustainability in watershed management, and is granted to one or several projects selected by an international jury. The prize money is open to NGOs, private, scientific and public institutions. As the worlds leading and most diversified global reinsurer, Swiss Re offers financial services products that enable risk taking essential to enterprise and progress. Deadline: 31 May 2009 . Further information on EMWIS website 29- Post-Doc, University of Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain: The Aragon I+D Foundation (Spain) offers a permanent research position for a Post-Doc Researcher with previous experience in hydraulics and water resources, namely expertise in one or more of the following topics: 1. Numerical modelling (good knowledge of programming language). 2. Hydraulics. 3. Hydrology. 4. Advanced experimental techniques in fluid dynamics. Application deadline: September 26, 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website

===== PUBLICATIONS

===== 30- The Final report "The assessment and prospects for cooperation in the Mediterranean water sector prepared by Mr. H. LAINE and Mr. P. MARCHANDISE has been presented at the occasion of the conference of the water directors of the Euro-Mediterranean and south-eastern European countries held in Athens (Greece) last 21-22 July 2008. Comments on the final report are expected by 10th September 2008 as this report will be one of the background documents for the Ministerial conference to be held in the Dead Sea (Jordan) next 29 October 2008. This study was launched in the framework of EMWIS Steering Committee in Madrid in July 2007. Further information on EMWIS website 31- Two major projects from the Euro-Med regional programmes, EMWIS and SMAP, were in the spotlight to celebrate World Environment Day. On June 5, the EuroMed Info Centre published the stories in English, French and Arabic: a feature entitled "Olive mill waste: a source of concern for the environment," focusing on the SMAP II-funded project in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, and a second feature "EMWIS Algeria: the winning team," on water management successes in Algeria. Further information on EMWIS website 32- The "First International Conference on Energy and Climate Change" took place in Tripoli, Libya last 20-22 May 2008. The scope of the conference was to present and discuss problems, best practices and appropriate technology led solutions in developing efficient energy systems in the MENA region with an emphasis on environmental protection, ecosystems, clean energy production, energy efficiency and practical cost-effective solutions. An objective was to highlight problems related to climate change, environment and energy, energy supply and financing of energy systems, particularly in remote and rural areas and in developing countries including the use of the clean development mechanism (CDM). The conclusions of this conference are available now online. Further information on EMWIS website 33- "Water Demand Management in Jordan" is a new report published last June by Rania A. Abdel Khaleq, Water

Demand Management Unit Director, for the Jordanian Ministry of Water and Irrigation. Further information on EMWIS website 34- "Managing Water Demand: Policies, Practices, and Lessons from the Middle East and North Africa Forums": This book lists exhaustively the tools used to manage water demand in the MENA region. It proposes a review of the effectiveness of WDM techniques, whether different aspects of wastewater reuse, the economic value of water, public-private partnerships or decentralization and participatory management of irrigation. Further information on EMWIS website 35- WISE Newsletter June 2008 has just been published. WISE Newsletter provides updated information on the development, implementation and review of water policies is available twice a year through the WISE Newsletter, bulletin of the Water Information System for Europe (WISE). Further information on EMWIS website 36- For the first time, WISE reference data is provided for download from EEA data service. This starts with datasets on River basin districts and Large rivers and large lakes. Both datasets can be used in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for analytical as well as for mapping purposes. EEA is looking forward on user feedback on this data and will maintain and enhance the reference data over the years to come. Further datasets will be published in preparation of the reporting on River Basin Management Plans. Further information on EMWIS website 37- Every day, over 2.5 billion people suffer from a lack of access to improved sanitation and nearly 1.2 billion practice open defecation, the riskiest sanitary practice of all, according to a report issued by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Drinking-water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), a Water and Sanitation Program partner. The JMP report, titled "Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation - Special Focus on Sanitation," comes halfway through the International Year of Sanitation. The report assesses -- for the first time ever -- global, regional and country progress using an innovative "ladder" concept. This shows sanitation practices in greater detail, enabling experts to highlight trends in using improved, shared and unimproved sanitation facilities and the trend in open defecation. Similarly, the 'drinking water ladder' shows the percentage of the world population that uses water piped into a dwelling, plot or yard; other improved water sources such as hand pumps, and unimproved sources. Further information on EMWIS website 38- Due to wide variations among countries in survey tools and methods, comparison between different surveys is difficult. To help overcome this problem, the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) has developed a set of harmonized survey questions: "Core questions on drinking-water and sanitation household surveys" to help resolve these comparability problems. Including this question set in national surveys and censuses will help countries gain more systematic information on the drinking-water and sanitation practices and needs of the population. The core question set presented in this document is already in use by the Demographic and Health Surveys, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, and the World Health Survey. JMP wishes to encourage widespread use of these harmonized questions in countries both to facilitate evidence-based decision-making at national level and to help enhance the accuracy of its own information. Further information on EMWIS website 39- The proceedings of the event on the financing of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) are available: The French Partnership for Water organized for France and on behalf of the European Union, a parallel event on the financing of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) last May 12, 2008, at the 16th UN Commission of Sustainable in New York and more specifically its review of decisions on water and sanitation. The conference, entitled "Investing in IWRM, it relates!" discussed the financing of IWRM at national and across borders levels. Further information on EMWIS website 40- "Sealing water aid against corruption: donor interventions, donor responsibilities": Grit Martinez, Fellow at Ecologic, and Kathleen Shordt elaborate the role and responsibilities of donors in the fight against corruption in the water sector. Further information on EMWIS website 41- The Issue No 9 of the GEWAMED Newsletter (Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions Into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region) has been published. Further information on EMWIS

website 42- Invest in water for farming, or the world will go hungry: A leading researcher warns that the world is facing an imminent water crisis that could perpetuate the current food shortage, and that spending must be increased on water research and development, as well as infrastructure, if such dire consequences are to be avoided. Further information on EMWIS website 43- "Workshop on water and adaptation to climate change -outcomes": This document has been prepared for the Workshop on Water and Climate Adaptation (Amsterdam, 12 July 2008). It is an intermediary version of the draft guidance on water and climate adaptation being prepared under the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and its Protocol on Water and Health for possible adoption by the Meetings of the Parties to both instruments in 2009/2010. The document has been jointly prepared by the Conventions Task Force on Water and Climate and the Protocols Task Force on Extreme Weather Events. Further information on EMWIS website 44- "Publication: Assessing Management Regimes in Transboundary River Basins: Do They Support Adaptive Management?". Transboundary river basin management, in itself of high complexity due to the variety of countries and stakeholders involved, is facing increasing challenges due to new social, economic and climate-change drivers. In this article, Tom Raadgever, Erik Mostert, Nicole Kranz, Eduard Interwies, and Jos Timmerman analyse the regime features that contribute to adaptive management of these basins. Further information on EMWIS website

===== CALL FOR TENDERS and PROPOSALS =====

45- LIFE+ new call for proposals to be launched: publication of the Regulation in the Official Journal L149 of 9 June 2007. With a budget of €2.143 billion (for the period 2007-2013), LIFE+ is a limited but focused funding instrument providing specific support for the development and implementation of Community environmental policy and legislation, in particular the objectives of the 6th Environment Action Programme and resulting thematic strategies. At least 78% of LIFE+ funding will be for the cofinancing of project action grants, of which at least 50% will be for nature and biodiversity projects (including projects in support of water and marine policies). The new projects will start in January 2009. This second call for proposals for LIFE+ has been published in the Official Journal (2008/C 178/20) on 15 July 2008. For this second LIFE+ call for proposals, the deadline for the submission of proposals to the Member States is 21 November 2008 . A total amount of €207,5 million is available for the 2008 call for proposals. Further information on EMWIS website 46 - EU-FP7 Call for proposal - ERA-NET / ERA-NET PLUS Call 2008: Call identifier: FP7-ERANET-2008-RTD, Indicative budget: 29,3 M€ . This call for Coordination and Support Actions covers a.o. Environment topics (including Climate Change). Deadline for application: August 12, 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website . 47- A Call for expressions of interest (Reference Nr EuropeAid/ 123304/C/SER/TPS) for the "Provision of training on various subjects related to the implementation of projects financed from the EU General Budget in the context of external actions" has been launched by EuropeAid (framework contract). This Call is open until 4 February 2009 . The activities for this Call may be related to distance learning, or pedagogical methods such as on-the-job training or case studies. They may also include design, printing and delivery of publications such as brochures, leaflets and reports related to training activities undertaken by EuropeAid. The sub-fields are: Sub-list 1: EC contractual and financial procedures related to the implementation of projects financed from the EC General Budget in the context of external actions. Sub-list 2: Various fields related to cooperation and development. Sub-list 3: Knowledge Management projects. Sub-list 4: Information systems. Further information on EMWIS website . 48- GSDI Small Grants Program Call for proposals: The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association announced its Small Grants Program for the year 2008. The Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) Association is dedicated to international cooperation and collaboration in support of local, national, and international spatial data infrastructure developments that would allow nations to better address social, economic, and environmental issues of pressing

importance. Priority will be given to projects in developing nations and countries with economies in transition. Grants can be awarded to SDI coordinating bodies (councils, committees) and GIS user groups, but the GSDI Association asks that one institution take responsibility for receiving/depositing the funds. Grants will not cover organization overhead expenses. Application deadline of 30 August 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website . 49 - Mitigating Flood Risk in Flooded Areas in the GAP region in Turkey: The global objective of this assignment is to increase the efficiency and the effectiveness of the 'Mitigating flood risk in flooded areas in the GAP region' project. Closing date: 19 December 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website .

===== CALL FOR PAPERS

===== 50- Call for Participation: INSPIRE Annex I data specifications testing. The INSPIRE Consolidation Team has started the organisation of testing data specifications related to Annex I data, which covers coordinate reference systems, geographical grids, geographical names, administrative units, addresses, cadastral parcels, transport networks, hydrography, and protected sites. The Call for Participation published on the INSPIRE web-site invites projects, organisations, companies, consortia, and other interested parties to provide in-kind contribution to the task. It is expected that the testing process provides benefits both for the participants and the larger INSPIRE community. The testing period spans from mid-October 2008 till mid February 2009. Preliminary expression of interest for participation by 1 September to Freddy Fierens (freddy.fierens@jrc.it) is highly appreciated. The formal registration for the testing will be available through the INSPIRE web-site (<http://www.ec-gis.org/inspire/>) from 15 August and will close on 15 September 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website . 51- CIWEM Annual Conference 2009 (29-30 April 2009, UK) Call for papers: This conference is organised on an academic model, like the Defra Flood Risk Management conference, where there is a call for papers and speakers will be selected on that basis by the conference organising committee. All the speakers will pay the conference fee and this will be broadly in line with current CIWEM one day events. Submission Deadline: August 15th 2008 . Further information on EMWIS website . 52- To promote a common understanding of technical terms related to health and environment issues WHO has created an on-line searchable database with multi-language terminology equivalence, called The Health and Environment Lexicon (The Lexicon). Most terms currently have multi-language equivalents in French, Portuguese, and Spanish with Arabic, Chinese, German, and Russian being added progressively. This is an on-going project which has three phases, listed in order of priority: 1) translations; 2) definitions; and 3) explanations and examples. The Lexicon is being extended, completed and improved with all three phases being addressed simultaneously for some terms. Currently over 350 terms have definitions. If you would like to be considered as a potential reviewer or if you have any comments, suggestions or additions, please email to thelexicon@who.int . Further information on EMWIS website .

===== TRAINING ===== 53- [2008/08/25 -

2008/08/29] International Summer School: Complex flows, turbulence, morphodynamics and ecology in rivers, Delft, The Netherlands Further information on EMWIS website

54- [2008/08/25 -

2008/09/05] Certificate of Advanced Studies in IWRM, Biel, Switzerland Further information on EMWIS website

55- [2008/08/11 - 2008/09/02] 2008 Integrated Water Resources Management International Training Programme, Stockholm, Sweden Further information on EMWIS website

===== EVENTS (Full Agenda)

===== [2008/08/31 - 2008/09/05] 11th

International Conference on Urban Drainage, Edinburgh, Scotland Further information on EMWIS

website [2008/08/25 - 2008/08/29] EUROSIL 2008: Soil, Society & Environment, Vienna, Austria.

Further information on EMWIS website [2008/08/20 - 2008/08/20] Response of IFIs to Major

Challenges in the Water Sector: Launch of the EIB Water Sector Lending Policy - Stockholm World

Water Week, Stockholm, Sweden. Further information on EMWIS website [2008/08/19 - 2008/08/19]
National SMAP RMSU meeting on "Environmental Information Exchange and Reporting Mechanisms in the Mediterranean", Cairo, Egypt Further information on EMWIS website [2008/08/19 - 2008/08/19]
2008 World Water Week - High-Level Panel: The Challenge of Improved Global Freshwater Governance & The UN Watercourses Convention, Stockholm, Sweden. Further information on EMWIS website [2008/08/17 - 2008/08/23]
World Water Week in Stockholm: "Progress and Prospects on Water: For a Clean and Healthy World", Stockholm, Sweden. Further information on EMWIS website [2008/08/04 - 2008/08/04]
National SMAP RMSU meeting on "Environmental Information Exchange and Reporting Mechanisms in the Mediterranean", Damascus, Syria Further information on EMWIS website

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