

Programme of the Roundtable on transboundary collaboration on the Senegalese-Mauritanian Aquifer

Dates: Wednesday 6 February 2019 from 14h to 18h

Thursday 7 February 2019 from 9h to 17h30

Venue: Geneva Lake Hotel, Route de Suisse 79 1290 Versoix

Objectives of the Roundtable

The Roundtable objectives will be to:

- Establish a first assessment on the current knowledge of the aquifer and discuss challenges and possible developments related to its use.
- Identify the benefits of regional cooperation for each stakeholder.
- Identify opportunities for technical and financial cooperation.
- Determine possible future steps to enhance cooperation and collaborative management of the aquifer, within the framework of the region's peaceful and sustainable development.

Main issues at stake in the discussion process

The main issues at stake during this roundtable will be to:

- Adopt an inclusive approach for all the aquifer's States and transboundary basin organisations.
- Provide a safe space that will nurture discussions on key issues from each stakeholder's perspective.

<i>DAY 1</i> <i>WEDNESDAY 6 February 2019</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Schedule</i>
Objective of the day: Sharing the state of knowledge related to the aquifer as well as main issues from each stakeholder's perspective		
Welcoming of participants and lunch at the Geneva Lake Hotel		12h00 – 14h00
<p>1. Roundtable introduction and presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Roundtable objectives and framework by the Geneva Water Hub and UNECE • Brief presentation of each participant 	<p>30'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>15'</p>	<p>14h00 – 14h30</p>
<p>2. Structured presentation of available knowledge related to the aquifer and States' challenges in its utilisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Present the current knowledge on the aquifer and areas to be explored in priority ii. Take stock of challenges pertaining to the management of the aquifer in terms of quality and quantity of the resource iii. Discuss identified challenges regarding current and future States' interests in the utilisation of the aquifer iv. Present passed and current initiatives as well as projects or future intentions v. Present the benefits for a reinforced cooperation on the aquifer from the point of view of stakeholders. • Presentation of Gambia • Presentation of Guinée Bissau • Questions and answers • Presentation of Mauritania • Presentation of Senegal • Questions and answers 	<p>120'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>15'</p> <p>30'</p>	<p>14h30 – 16h30</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion • Session moderator: Geneva Water Hub 		
Break (20') and Group picture	30'	16h30– 17h00
<p>3. Structured presentation of aquifer knowledge and its challenges by OMVS and OMVG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Take stock of findings related to, (a) interactions between relevant watercourses and the aquifer, as well as (b) challenges of integrated/joint management in terms of quality and quantity of the resource, from the point of view of the basin organisation. ii. Present challenges regarding current and future interests managed by the basin organisation. iii. Outline how groundwater is taken into account in environmental governance/management tools iv. Present past and current initiatives (lessons learned when existing) as well as future projections. v. Outline the role that basin organisations may endorse regarding cooperation on this aquifer, and specifically possible interactions between OMVG and OMVS. 	60'	17h00 – 18h00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of OMVG • Presentation of OMVS 	15' 15'	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions & Answers, and exchanges • Session moderator: UNESCO 	30'	
<p>Dinner in a restaurant at 19h00</p> <p><i>Transfer from the hotel to the restaurant will be organized by shuttle bus.</i></p>		

<p><i>DAY 2</i> <i>THURSDAY 7 February 2019</i></p> <p>Objectives of the day: (a) Identify benefits of cooperation around a collaborative aquifer management based on technical and financial cooperation support; and (b) Agree on next steps for action</p>	<p><i>Timing</i></p>	<p><i>Schedule</i></p>
<p>4. Recap from the previous day and introduction of the programme of Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present a summary of main elements identified the previous day • Present the programme of Day 2 • Presentation of the Geneva Water Hub 	<p>15'</p>	<p>9h00 - 9h15</p>
<p>5. Workshop on the identification of transboundary cooperation benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Identify a first cluster of economic, social and environmental benefits, as well another one related to regional economic cooperation, peace and security benefits. ii. Establish a first qualitative assessment of these benefits iii. Present links between the benefits of cooperation and the challenges related to the use of the aquifer in the short and long terms • Group Work 1 • Group Work 2 • Session moderator: UNECE 	<p>105'</p>	<p>9h15 – 11h00</p>



Break		11h00– 11h15
<p>6. Discussion on opportunities for cooperation with technical and financial partners in view of multi-stakeholders engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Outline existing programs and supports as well as possible offers of collaboration from technical and financial partners in response to needs expressed in previous sessions ii. Enable States and transboundary basin organisations to reassess and communicate their needs in terms of support <p>Foreseen interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAEA, AfDB, BGR (Germany) 15' • Exchanges 25' • Transboundary Commission on Geneva Aquifer, SDC, GWH 15' • Exchanges 25' • IGRAC, UNECE, UNESCO 15' • Exchanges 25' • Session moderator: SDC 	120'	11h15-13h15
Lunch at the Hotel		13h15-14h30
<p>7. Synthesis on aquifer management priorities and concerted use as well as definition of next steps for action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agree on aquifer management priorities and collaborative use of the aquifer ii. Lay foundations for a possible reinforced consultation framework and definition of next action steps 	90'	14h30-16h00



<p>iii. Discuss possible responsibilities of each partner with regard to various stages of action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Synthetic presentation of needs expressed and collaboration proposals mentioned during the roundtable• Sequenced analysis on priority themes of transboundary collaboration • Session moderator: UNECE		
Break		16h00– 16h20
Continuation and completion of item 7 of the agenda	40'	16h20 – 17h00
8. Conclusion Intervention: Geneva Water Hub and Plenary	30'	17h00 – 17h30