

**Minutes of the GWP Technical Committee Meeting
via Skype 26 March 2015**

Present:

TEC members: M. Ait Kadi, E. van Beek, D. Whittington, W. L. Arriens, D. Fields, N. Bernex (Part time), D. Tarlock, K. Vairavamoorthy, T. Shah, M. Young, M. Niasse

GWPO: R. Cleveringa

Apologies: T. Pannella (ADB representative),

Support to TEC: M. Kay

1. Introduction

TEC members ‘met’, via skype, on 26 March 2015 to discuss an internal agenda of TEC. This was a change of plan because of the high cost of organising a TEC meeting alongside the WWF in Korea in April 2015.

Mohamed (Chair) opened the meeting with an outline of the agenda and updated TEC members on four major GWP developments.

- Ania Grobicki has left GWP for a new position as Deputy Secretary General of the RAMSAR Convention. The Steering Committee has appointed Rudolph Cleveringa, Deputy Exec Secretary, as acting Exec Secretary during the interregnum.
- The report of the GWP-OECD Task Force ‘Securing Water Securing Growth’ is finalised and will be launched at the WWF7 in South Korea. A High Level Panel will be convened on April 13 in Daegu. GWP and OECD have jointly prepared a Policy Statement
- PEM Consult from Denmark was selected to conduct the ‘Knowledge Management and Organisational Review of GWP’. The main objective is to assess how GWP’s Knowledge Chain is currently functioning and to identify measures that would enhance this function to support (i) generating and communicating knowledge, (ii) strengthening partnerships and (iii) catalysing change in policies and practices. We now have the consultant’s methodology for undertaking this review.
- As Mohamed’s term of office as TEC chair ends in August 2015, discussions are taking place with the GWP Chair, Ursula, about the process for appointing a new TEC chair. The Nomination committee of the SC will take responsibility for this appointment. The TOR is updated and it is hoped that the new Chair will attend the TEC meeting in August. Mohamed is planning one month handover period.

Following a period prior to this meeting, TEC members shared their views in writing on TEC’s current publications portfolio. This meeting, which was limited to two hours, was devoted to discussing progress on the papers. Mohamed expressed his expectation that members should be accountable for the current Work Plan and it was important to keep up TEC’s momentum and comply with the deadlines set for each publication.

Mohamed reminded TEC members that this is a critical time in GWP’s history. GWP’s major asset is knowledge capital. TEC should continue to play an active role in developing this capital by producing, collating, and distributing knowledge products for improving water management. Each and every TEC publication is the result of multidisciplinary discussions within the Committee and in this sense they are

unique. TEC's goal is not just to add to the myriad of reports that are produced by a constellation of actors on the current water scene. Rather TEC's focus is to define and create knowledge that is useful to promote water security in a time of global challenges. People usually allow their behaviour and beliefs to be influenced by knowledge they can trust. And users perceive knowledge as trustworthy when they see it as technically credible, practically relevant, politically legitimate, and produced and presented in an unbiased and independent manner. This is TEC's main comparative advantage which has made GWP a trusted and neutral international reference point for water management. GWP's future will continue to build on this solid foundation that TEC has laid over the past 20 years.

2. On-going projects

Affordable access: Charging households for access to urban water and sanitation services

Mike Young presented a revised and more focused Concept Note for this Background Paper together with Dale Whittington as co-author. This paper aims to shift thinking on water pricing by re-assembling the available information to reveal the high costs to society of using water pricing arrangements to ensure that access to services is 'affordable'. The authors will achieve this by providing crisp evidence about the failure of existing arrangements, show-case a range of better ways to ensure that access to water is affordable, and map out politically acceptable ways to transition out of existing regimes.

Discussion points:

- Include a discussion on 'right to water'. Dan to provide information on this.
- What will the paper explore in terms of aligning with SDG 6?
- Financial Partner Group concerned about GWP involvement in WASH. But paper is linked to SDGs and Dale's work on the economics of WASH in Africa.
- Need to place this paper in the context of financing the water sector as a whole.
- Reconsider title of paper.
- Need for clarity on the audience for this paper. At present there are three distinct audiences. Will there be consultation with these audiences to ensure it meets their requirements.
- Take account of cost of metering and places where water is not metered on a volume basis.
- Bring in the politics of introducing charges. How do countries move from position A to position B?

Action to be taken:

- Prepare first draft by 30 June with a view to receiving comments in July to present a final draft paper at TEC meeting in August.
GWPO to investigate possibility of Background Paper launch during the SWWW 2015

Contextualising IWRM for water economies at different stages of evolution

Tushaar Shah presented a Concept Note in which he argues that IWRM has been offered to governments as a 'template' for improvement without due regard for countries being at different stages of economic development and thus having different priorities. We need to move from applying this standard template which may be used to satisfy loan agencies, and as such may not achieve the expected results, towards a more detailed and nuanced approach on how to proceed with implementing IWRM.

Discussion points:

- Integration is not in doubt but concern about the continuing focus on 'IWRM'.
- Many developing countries now have IWRM enshrined in legislation and so not easy to change this.
- Paper needs to speak to donors who are shifting away from IWRM towards climate change and green economies.

- More information on the transition process. Donor focus is more on the end result and this needs shifting towards the transition – how do you move from position A to position B? Implementation is the key.
- Not only does ‘one size does not fit all’ but all aspects of the ‘IWRM package’ may not be relevant to all.
- Regional/local, rather than OECD donor funding may become important in the future. Need to look again at donor audience for this paper.
- IWRM was an important starting point for this paper as this is the starting point for many developing countries.
- Paper is not just a concept, it is a framework for action.

Action to be taken:

- Draft Background Paper to be prepared by end of June 2015 to be launched at the TEC meeting in August.

From Principles to practice: What is effective trans-basin use and management cooperation among riparian nations?

Dan Tarlock presented a revised Concept Note for this Background Paper. There are many factors that lead to cooperation – from national self-interest to trust among basin leaders. This paper, however, will focus on the role that international water law and basin treaties and other legal instruments play in encouraging more effective cooperation. Dan argues that we should reject formal, largely aspirational measures of cooperation, such as cooperation agreements, and instead adopt output standards to measure the ‘on-the-ground’ impacts of cooperation or lack thereof. These measure cooperation efforts against the ability to lessen water stresses in a basin and ensure that all nations within basin receive concrete benefits from cooperation.

Discussion points:

- Retain the principles from North American practices in the paper but need to include more developing country basins, particularly from Asia and South America.
- Avoid the large, traditional and well documented big basins, such as the Nile. Smaller basins?
- Key to cooperation is managing the benefits not the water.
- Senegal River wants to build cooperation by sharing benefits.

Action to be taken:

- Draft paper available for mid June 2015 to be launched at next TEC meeting in August.

Water and ecosystems

Not discussed as Nicole was unable to provide a draft because she was in hospital.

Action to be taken:

- Prepare draft Concept Note for discussion at next TEC meeting in August.

3. Any other business

Leadership for water security

Wouter Lincklaen Arriëns presented a Proposal for Publication in collaboration with Andre Taylor, International Water Centre, Brisbane, Australia (not present) for a Perspective Paper on leadership for water security. Wouter argues that GWP can accelerate its work to increase water security in the world by

investing in developing aspiring leaders across its network of partners who can multiply results on the ground, starting in GWP's priority projects. The paper will take stock of recent innovative Water Leadership Programmes in Australia and elsewhere. These developments—and their underpinning research— could guide GWP to adopt effective approaches for developing individual and collective leadership in projects and organisations, to accelerate the process of results into practice.

Discussion points:

- 'Water leaders are born' and 'natural leaders' are outdated notions. Leadership programmes can be more pro-active in bringing forward and developing the next generation of leaders.
- Need to differentiate between leadership and advocacy.
- What is it we want to change and how do we do it?
- Paper will help rebrand GWP as an essential 'go to' community/organisation.
- Keep paper as practical as possible to aid implementation.
- Paper explores new ground for GWP and links into GWP projects. It may well have a 'snowball' effect beyond GWP.

Action to be taken:

- First draft of Perspectives Paper by mid June. Final paper available for Stockholm WWW. Follow up from paper to be discussed at next TEC meeting in August.

The Global Food Security Challenge through Coordinated Land and Water Governance

Madiodio Niassa provided an update on the workshop to be held in Pretoria, South Africa, 14-15 June 2015. This is a joint GWP-ILC-IWMI initiative.

Discussion points:

- A good example of GWP integration.
- Anticipated messages from the workshop need clarifying.
- 'Three clear, bottom line messages' needed and people commissioned to speak who can reinforce them. Announce speakers rather than just 'call for papers'.
- Need more than proceedings, the workshop needs to produce actions to be taken to bring about change.
- Need case/country studies to understand what happens in practice and to reinforce messages and actions needed.

Action to be taken:

- Madiodio Niassa to keep TEC members informed of progress. Mohamed to decide who will attend the workshop on behalf of TEC.

DANIDA review of Knowledge Management

Consultants have been appointed to undertake a review of GWP Knowledge Management. TEC has received their methodology for comment (see Mohamed's opening remarks). More information will be sent to TEC members when it is received. The results of this review are expected to be available for discussion at the next TEC meeting in August.

WWF Korea

GWP will have a presence at the WWF. GWP is jointly sponsoring, with K-Water, the session on 'Economically water insecure areas'. This is a new cross-regional process to focus and facilitate dialogue

on the challenges of areas that are lacking water security due to economic factors. The meeting will address Asian and African perspectives, infrastructure, governance, and post 2015 development agenda. Ursula (GWP Chair) will chair this event and Mohamed and Rudolph will give key note addresses.

GWP and OECD will jointly organise a high level panel on ‘Securing Water Securing Growth’ based on the work undertaken by Oxford University. A High Level Panel will be convened on April 13 in Daegu (see Mohamed’s opening remarks).

Next meeting

Next TEC meeting is scheduled on 28 and 29th August 2015 following the Stockholm World Water Week. Next TEC+ follows on from this on 30 and 31st August 2015.