Water Management Adaptation Strategies for Global Changes, including Climate Change/Variability

Summary: 3rd Preparatory Committee Meeting

The meeting of the 3rd Preparatory Committee (PrepCom III) of the Ministerial Process of the 5th World Water Forum took place at FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy on 21-23 January 2009. The meeting was attended by 200 participants constituted of delegates from 68 countries, representatives of international organizations and stakeholder groups.

PrepCom III was presided over by Chairperson Ambassador Sumru Noyan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Turkey, who introduced the meeting and led an opening session with statements from Mr. Alexander Müller, Assistant Director General for the Natural Resources Management and Environmental Department of FAO and Mr. Ger Bergkamp, Executive Director of the World Water Council (WWC).

Presentations by the Co-Chairs of the Political Process Committee of the 5th World Water Forum, Mr. Vural Altay (Turkish MFA) and Mr. Andras Szollosi-Nagy (WWC) then followed, outlining briefly the overall Political Process of the 5th World Water Forum and how the Ministerial Process fits into the overall structure of the Political Process. Following the Co-Chairs’ presentation, Mr. Altay Altinòrs (Turkish MFA) and Mr. Joshua Newton (WWC), the Secretaries of the PrepCom series, gave a presentation on the Process Update and the Method of Work of the PrepCom III, outlining the concepts and rules of the meeting.

In the afternoon of the first day, Ambassador Sumru Noyan opened the discussion for comments on the second version of the Chairperson’s Paper. The discussions continued on the Paper during the second day in the morning.

After finalizing the comments on the Chairperson’s Paper, the discussion on the title of this document took place and based on the majority of the comments raised from the floor, the title of the document was proposed to be the “[Istanbul Water Strategy Guideline]”, but will remain in brackets for further comments.

In the afternoon of the second day, one time slot was allocated to the Thematic and Regional coordinators of the 5th World Water Forum and Major Group representatives in order to make their general comments on the draft Ministerial Statement and then they remained as observers until the end of the negotiations of the 3rd PrepCom. After receiving their comments, the floor was opened to the national governments and international organizations to negotiate the Ministerial Statement. The discussions were generally more focused on the preamble of the Statement during the second day.

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1 **PowerPoint Presentations** given during PrepCom III can be found in the “Documents” folder of the National Governments section of the 5th World Water Forum Virtual Meeting Space (VMS): [http://portal.worldwaterforum5.org/](http://portal.worldwaterforum5.org/)  
2 This information may be found in the **PrepCom Process Document** on the VMS.
The comments received on the draft Ministerial Statement was incorporated into the revised version accordingly and distributed to all the participants at the beginning of the third day of the meeting. Mr. Altay Altınörs made a presentation related to the Senior Officials’ Meeting and the Ministerial Conference, which will take place during the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul. He also provided information in terms of logistics and registration of the Ministerial Conference. After his explanation, Daniel Zimmer (WWC), member of the Political Process Committee, made a presentation on the Ministerial Roundtables, informing the result of the survey conducted at the PrepCom II in Geneva and selected topics for the Roundtable discussions. He furthermore gave some brief information regarding national governments and international organizations, which already have stated their interest in becoming leads to the topics of the Ministerial Roundtables.

The final session of the PrepCom was completed with the negotiations on the “goals” of the document which are security, adaptability and solidarity, and the general framework for action that will move towards achieving them. During the negotiations, it was raised that one more PrepCom meeting is highly necessary in order to prepare the final draft of the Ministerial Statement before the Senior Officials’ Meeting in Istanbul.

The comments from PrepCom III will be incorporated into the new version of the [Istanbul Water Strategy Guide]. Moreover, the revised version of the Ministerial Statement will be prepared by the Political Process Committee of the 5th World Water Forum. The [Istanbul Water Strategy Guide] will be sent to participants by early February and they will have three weeks to comment on the document before the document is finalized in late February. The Ministerial Statement will be sent to participants also in February in preparation for PrepCom IV. Both documents will be available on the VMS as well.

Ambassador Noyan closed the Third Preparatory Committee Meeting of the Ministerial Process of the 5th World Water Forum, highlighting some of the major topics that were discussed, and congratulating the participants on a successful meeting and expressed her willingness to have a consensus document adopted by all parties and wishes to see the participants at PrepCom IV.

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