Tuesday 6th September

9:30 Welcome address: Abdin Salih Director Division of Water Sciences UNESCO-IHP; Alice Aureli (Chief Groundwater Systems Section UNESCO-IHP) and Ivan Zavadsky (GEF Secretariat)

Introduction to the GEF project on “Groundwater Governance” (Jacob Burke – Project Coordinator)

Objective of the meeting – building a consensus on a Shared Vision and Framework for Action on groundwater governance (Alice Aureli – UNESCO-IHP)

Introduction to the state of groundwater governance and prospects for a common vision - (Robert Varady, Arizona University, USA)

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Panel 1 Question: How do you view groundwater governance within your field and what aspects would be relevant for a Framework for Action (FA)? Chair and Introduction Alice Aureli (UNESCO-IHP)

5 minutes statements: Four interest groups: User Groups, Policy-decision making, Education-capacity building, Research-University, Jorge Rucks (Ministry of Housing, Land Planning and Environment of Uruguay), Ramon Llamas (University Complutense, Madrid), Nadia Abdou (ACWA), Ahmed Ali Murad (UAE IHP National Committee)

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

12:00 Moving from hydrogeological science to public awareness; where we have failed and where we have succeeded - Component 1 (Chair and Introduction; Willi Struckmeier, IAH)

Panel 2 Question: How to bridge effectively between groundwater science and public policy?

5 minutes statements: Jac Van Der Gun (UNESCO IHP-IGRAC), , Ingrid Verstraeten (USGS), Stephen Foster (GWP), H.E. Dr. Mary M. Kimulu (Ambassador Permanent Delegation of Kenya at UNESCO), Kerstin Mechlem (University of Belfast)

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

13:00 Lunch

14:30 Cultures of groundwater use- the regional characteristics - Component 2. Chair and Introduction, Alice Aureli (UNESCO-IHP)
Panel 3 Question: How significant are the regional variations with regard to groundwater governance?

5 minutes statements: Perspectives from the regions. Bai-Mass Taal (Secretary General AMCOW), Vladimir Mamaev (UNDP-GEF), Emmanuel Chinyamakobvu (UNCCD), Lilian del Castillo (University of Buenos Aires), Raya Stephan (UNESCO-IHP).

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

16:00

16:30 How to build a Global Framework for Action (FA) – Component 3. Chair and Introduction, Andrea Merla (ex-GEF Secretariat)

Panel 4 Question: Are the links between good groundwater governance, economic development and environmental benefits clear enough to build a Global Framework for Action?

5 minutes statements: Perspectives from economists, finance, development agencies and environmental agencies. Marcus Wijnen (World Bank), Djamel Latrech (OSS), Gonzalo de la Camara (IMDEA), Sharon Megdal (University of Arizona)

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

17:00 First day Wrap up and Closing

Wednesday 7th September

9:30 The Purpose and Function of the Permanent Consultation Mechanism (PCM) (Project Team)

Presenters - Project team

Contribution about the IWLEARN and Community of practices - Lucilla Minelli, UNESCO

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Tools for changing perceptions and behaviours in relation to groundwater and aquifers Chair and Introduction; Miguel Solanes (IMDEA).

Panel 5 Question: How do the more formal legal and economic approaches compare with promotion of aquifer awareness and self-organization?

5 minutes statements: Stefano Burchi (AIDA), John Chilton (IAH), Francesco Sindico (University of Dundee), Marcus Wishart (WB South Africa)

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

13:00 Lunch

14:30 A Process for getting the message across – Component 4 (Chair and introduction Jacob Burke, Project Coordinator)

Presenter: Nicoletta Forlano (Communications Officer)

Discussion – Proposals and interventions from the participants

15:30 Tea break

16:00 Final Adjustments - adapting the project approach and workplan (Project Team)

Discussion – Recommendations, proposals and interventions from the participants

17:00 Wrap up and Closing