

Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting
for the 13th Session of the Commission for Sustainable Development

Saudi Arabia Intervention
3rd meeting,
Policy options and possible actions to expedite implementation
Tuesday, March 1, 10:00 PM
Conference Room 3

Mr. Chairman,

Let me start by agreeing with previous speakers in stressing the fact that water is a very vital and important resource. This is highly magnified in Saudi Arabia because of its extreme dry climate conditions which are further exacerbated by the harsh regional desert environment. Furthermore, it plays a very important role in influencing the process and pathway for social and economical development. The scarcity of fresh water resources is one of the main challenges for sustainable development in Saudi Arabia.

The further development and increased effectiveness of integrated water management can be achieved through the adoption of collective policies that take into consideration future needs, and focus on the most efficient and cost effective means to meet these future needs, taking into confederation the three pillars of sustainable development.

In this regard, Saudi Arabia would like to share with the international community some of the policies adopted to achieve the millennium development goal. related to water issue.

- Application of latest means and technologies in water utilization and management
Promotion of rationalized usage of water in the increasing agriculture demand
- Intensifying programs for development of surface water, and renewable ground water, while guaranteeing efficient utilization
- Adoption of stringent follow up procedure to assure adherence to the regulations of conservation and rational utilization of water
- Establishment of databank for water information, and utilize the data in continued detailed analysis, and further dissemination of this information.
- Improvement of maintenance and operations for water related work, in a manner to achieve the highest efficiency.
- Increasing national capacity building in the field of water management
- Inclusion of environmental aspects during the establishment and operation of water facilities
- Enhancement of private sector involvement in integrated water management
- Supporting the scientific research and technical development in the field of desalination and waste water treatment