

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to inform you that the **5th Meeting of the Working Group of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative** (MED EUWI WG), led by Greece, will take place on **22 June 2005, in Athens, Greece** (Holiday Inn Hotel).

The Meeting's main aims are to

- to review progress in implementing the 2005 Work Programme,
- to explore opportunities for the future,
- to identify long term priorities on water issues for the Mediterranean countries,
- to explore synergies with other parallel on-going initiatives,
- to identify means for enhancing partners' participation and
- consolidating the Component's organisational framework and
- to draw recommendations on the way forward for the Component.

The Meeting will be divided in 2 parts; its 2<sup>nd</sup> part will be devoted to the Mediterranean

- **Joint Process** between the EU Water Initiative and the EU Water Framework Directive, providing the opportunity to present and review progress achieved to date in the 3 thematic areas of the Joint Process (water scarcity – groundwater - rural development and agriculture), to explore synergies with other partners and to identify ways for strengthening the linkages between these 3 thematic areas/working groups.

The 5th Meeting of the MED EUWI Working Group will be organised in Athens on the occasion of and back-to-back with the **10th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development – MCSD** (Athens, 20-22 June 2005, Holiday Inn Hotel).

The 5th Meeting of the MED EUWI Working Group is also organised back-to-back with the 8th Meeting of the Steering Committee of EMWIS/SEMIDE (Athens, 23 June 2005, Holiday Inn Hotel), also aiming at strengthening synergies with the MED EUWI.

In view of the 5th Meeting of the MED EUWI Working Group, we are forwarding, for your information, the following documents:

1. Preliminary Agenda of the Meeting,
2. Useful Information Note (this note aims to assist participants with practical details about the meeting location, accommodation etc),
3. Registration Form (you are kindly requested to fill it in and return it as soon as possible to the e-mails indicated at the bottom of the form),
4. Overall Progress Report on the MED EUWI, up to May 2005,
5. Minutes/Conclusions of the previous (4th) Meeting of the MED EUWI Working Group (Brussels, January 2005),
6. MED EUWI – Organisational Framework and Modalities Document (updated version),
7. MED EUWI – Concept and Vision Note (updated version).

Please note that an updated version of the MED EUWI 2005 Work Programme will also be forwarded shortly together with a background document on the Mediterranean EUWI/WFD Joint Process.

Furthermore and according to the "Organisational Framework and Modalities Document", partner countries and organizations are kindly requested to **nominate 1 representative per country or organization**, as their official and standard representative to the **MED EUWI Working Group**. This nomination is important in order to consolidate the MED EUWI WG and its mailing list, to improve coherence and effectiveness of meetings and to enhance continuity. Nominations can be done by e-mail, by forwarding the name and full contact details of the representative.

Please do not hesitate to contact us again in case you need any further clarifications on any of the above issues.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Athens.

Kind regards,

Maria Peppas & Maria Papaioannou

Hellenic Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works

Department of International Relations and EU Affairs  
15, Amaliados str., 115 23 Athens  
T: +30 210 64 65 762, 64 59 213  
F: +30 210 64 34 470  
e-mail: [m.papaioannou@minenv.gr](mailto:m.papaioannou@minenv.gr)