



Friends of the Earth Middle East
جمعية أصدقاء الأرض الشرق الأوسط
ידידי כדור הארץ המזרח התיכון



REQUEST TO SUBMIT TO NEXT EMWIS FLASH

[Friends of the Earth Middle East](#) divided up its annual "[Good Water Neighbors](#)" regional conference this year, holding one for the Jordan River / Dead Sea communities entitled "[One Basin – Conflicting Visions](#)" in Amman Jordan, on November 2nd -3rd; and one for the Mt. and Coastal Aquifer communities, entitled "[A Water Agreement Cannot Wait](#)", in Jerusalem, on Nov. 30th.

The conference in Amman included 150 Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian mayors, municipal representatives, community residents as well as water experts from all the countries to discuss the **different development plans** being undertaken for the Jordan River / Dead Sea Basin. Following presentations by planners from the 3 countries, interesting discussions were held asking "What are the conflicting visions?", "What is our interest in a shared vision? Pros? Cons?" and "How do we move forward?" [Read more on our blog page...](#)

Among the 120 guests in the conference in Jerusalem, were MK Yoel Hasson, Head of the new 'Lobby for Water Security' from the Israeli Parliament, Fouad Bateh, senior advisor to the Minister of Water in Palestine, Michael Zaideh, Strategic Planning from the Israeli Water Authority, a representative of the Quartet, Prince Firas from Jordan, water experts, international water law experts from academia, and mayors and residents of our Good Water Neighbors project. A new [Model Water Agreement](#) was presented to participants. The cross border municipal experience of our Good Water Neighbors communities was highlighted in this event, with discussions and examples given of the difficulties in dealing with the present Joint Water Committee, and calling for a new structure / institution to be created. For more information, visit the [website event page](#) that includes links to the press releases, the agenda, a summary of the conference, and the Oral Presentation given by the speakers.

On November 22nd, the '**Lobby for Water Security in Israel**' was launched at the Knesset, attracting parliamentarians, water experts, activists and concerned residents from all over the country. The Lobby, headed by MK Yoel Hasson (Kadima party), aims to raise awareness regarding the water crisis and to encourage wise investments in the development of water resources, as well as regional cooperation on shared waters.

Friends of the Earth Middle East played a central role at the event. The lobby took shape in the context of our '**Transboundary Advocacy of Parliamentarians**' project (TAP), which encompasses joint efforts of Palestinian, Jordanian and Israeli residents to advocate at the government level on the shared water issues of their communities. The TAP project was presented at the event and Israeli activists from the project were able to highlight their concerns of their own water realities and their neighbors' water reality, and called for more equitable and sustainable cross border cooperation on water issues.

**NGO in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations*

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