

Water Executive Committee (WEC)

Terms of Reference

Background:

The Water Executive Committee (WEC) is created pursuant to the mutual commitment of the Government of Lebanon, the UN and other stakeholders of the water sector to a collaborative approach to address immediate water and wastewater needs of the most at-risk communities in Lebanon and the most vulnerable households and individuals as well as increase synergies, cooperation and resources between all stakeholders.

As such, the WEC, led by MoEW with the membership and support of key international stakeholders, represents the central policy-level governance and coordination platform for the water and wastewater sector in Lebanon. Its overarching mandate is to ensure the most critical water and wastewater public sector investments in the sector are undertaken efficiently and are of high impact and quality through coordinating efforts to, *inter alia*, develop, update monitor and implement the Government of Lebanon's National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS) 2012, the United Nations Strategic Framework (UNSF) which represents the UN's cooperation framework with Lebanon for the period 2017-2020, the water crisis response plan elaborated by the Government of Lebanon and its international partners in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) 2017-2020, and the multi-stakeholder child survival and maternal health plan 2017-2020 known as Thrive.

Function:

The function of the WEC is to provide a platform for strategic guidance, assessment, planning and review of investments in programmes and projects in the water sector in Lebanon to ensure achievement of national objectives related to the Syrian Crisis Response.

Responsibilities:

The WEC is, *inter alia*, responsible for:

- a. Ensuring that national and sub-national water-related strategies, plans and programmes are reviewed to realise their intended results.
- b. Ensuring that investments and interventions are based on available evidence prioritising communities most in need and at-risk.
- c. Coordinating with other government institutions, national and international organisations and the private sector insofar as their involvement in the water sector.
- d. Strengthen and share agreed, clear and well documented standards, guidelines and good practice for implementation and monitoring of water-related programming.
- e. Promote and support effective collection, compilation, analysis and use of research, evaluations and data pertaining to investments in the water sector.
- f. Scope, manage and endorse work of technical working groups established, as required, by the WEC to ensure they are able to discharge their functions.

Technical working groups:

Technical working groups will be created as required by the committee to fulfil specific tasks or implement committee responsibilities.

Composition:

The WEC is chaired by H.E. the Minister of MoEW, or his delegate, and is comprised of the following membership:

1. Water Advisor to the Minister of MoEW;
2. Director General of Tutelage, MoEW;
3. Ministry of Social Affairs;
4. Ministry of Public Health;
5. European Union Delegation;
6. BMZ / KfW;
7. USAID;
8. World Bank;
9. Embassy of Switzerland;
10. UNICEF;
11. UNDP;
12. UNHCR;
13. INGO representative;
14. LINGO representative;
15. Water Sector Coordinator.

Director Generals of Water Establishments and other stakeholders shall be invited to participate in specific meetings as needed and agreed by the committee.

Chair:

The WEC is chaired by H.E. the Minister of MoEW, or his delegate, with support from UNICEF as designated UN Water Sector lead.

Quorum:

The quorum for any meeting of the WEC shall be two-thirds of its membership, including the Chair, at the time of the meeting.

The members of the WEC may participate in a meeting of the WEC from separate locations by means of conference telephone or other communication equipment, and shall be entitled to vote or be counted in the quorum accordingly.

Procedures:

Except as otherwise stated in these Provisions, the WEC shall determine its own procedures.

Resolutions:

Other than set out in these provisions, the WEC shall reach decisions by consensus. Should consensus not be reached, the Minister will retain the right to determine a way forward.

Notice of meetings:

The WEC meeting agenda and papers should be circulated at least one week prior.

Documentation, communication and reporting:

Minutes of the WEC meetings shall be the responsibility of MoEW and should be circulated in draft form to all members for review within three working days following the meeting. A finalised version of the minutes shall be shared with all members within two weeks of the meeting, having incorporating any comments received.

The WEC reports to the Minister of Energy and Water.

Time Frame and Meetings:

The WEC is constituted commencing in June 2017 until December 2020. The WEC will meet quarterly as a minimum, with ad hoc meetings called as needed, using face-to-face meetings, conference calls and/or electronic correspondence.

The WEC will review these Terms of Reference each year.