Organized with the

**Marrakech International Summit on Water Security**

**From 30 September to 2 October Marrakech (Morocco)**

**CONTENT**

INBO presentation  page 2
The World General Assembly in a few figures  page 3
Speakers and themes of plenary sessions  page 4
The final declaration called «Declaration of Marrakech»  page 8
INBO 2019-2021 Action Plan  page 14
On the way to the 9th World Water Forum…  page 15
INBO press releases  page 16
Press coverage  page 20

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INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS (INBO)

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT
1994

STATUTE
Non-profit Association under French law.

MAIN GOAL
To support all initiatives enabling the organization of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at the level of the basins of national or transboundary rivers, lakes or aquifers, to reconcile economic growth, social justice, environmental and water resource protection and participation of the civil society.

ORGANIZATION
This platform for exchanging knowledge and experience is administered by its President and the Liaison Bureau that organize the Permanent Technical Secretariat. Its World General Assembly takes place every 3 years. INBO Presidency is being held by Morocco since this WGA until 2022.

NETWORK
192 Member organizations (Basin Organizations, governmental departments in charge of water, bilateral or multilateral cooperation organizations) and Permanent Observers in 88 countries.

LOCATIONS
7 Regional Networks to strengthen the links between the Member Organizations of neighbouring countries, to develop INBO’s joint activities in the region, and to organize common activities of general interest:
- Africa - ANBO
- Latin America - LANBO
- North America – NANBO
- Asia - NARBO
- Brazil – REBOB
- Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia - EECCA-NBO
- The Mediterranean - MENBO

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES
All INBO documents are published in French, English and Spanish. Some are also in Russian and Arabic.
INBO GENERAL ASSEMBLY
IN A FEW FIGURES

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{400} & \quad \text{PARTICIPANTS} \\
\text{Coming from} & \quad \text{62} \quad \text{COUNTRIES} \\
\text{70} & \quad \text{BASIN ORGANIZATIONS} \\
\text{10} & \quad \text{MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF WATER} \\
\text{1} & \quad \text{OPENING SPEECH} \\
\text{1} & \quad \text{CENTRAL THEME: PARTICIPATIVE AND INNOVATIVE BASIN MANAGEMENT} \\
\text{5} & \quad \text{PLENARY SESSIONS} \\
\text{1} & \quad \text{FINAL DECLARATION}
\end{align*} \]
Speakers and Themes of Plenary Sessions

Opening Ceremony

Speeches from Mr. El Otmani, Head of Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, Mr. Amara, Minister of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, Kingdom of Morocco, Mr. Unver, Vice-President of UN-Water, Mr. Fauchon, President of the World Water Council, Mr. Barrios Ordoñez INBO World Presidency (2016-2019)

Ceremony of the Handover of INBO World Presidency from Mexico to Morocco

Dr. Jorge Eugenio Barrios Ordoñez, INBO World Presidency (2016-2019) & Dr. Abdelkader Amara, INBO World President (2019-2022)


- Burkina Faso: Mr. Ouédraogo, Minister of Water and Sanitation
- Finland: Ms. Pokka, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for the Environment
- Greece: Mr. Ganoulis, Former Special Secretary of State for Water
- Guinea: Mr. Koly Kourouma, Minister of Hydraulics and Sanitation
- Malta: Mr. Mizzi, Minister of Energy and Water Management
- Morocco: Mr. Amara, Minister of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water
- Palestine: Mr. Ghuneim, Minister for Water
- Romania: Ms. Petcu, Secretary of State, Ministry of Water and Forestry

Moderator: Ms. Akhmouch, Head of Division «Cities, Urban Policy and Sustainable Development», OECD
SPEAKERS AND THEMES OF PLENARY SESSIONS
(suite)

SESSION ON «INTEGRATED WATER AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT FOR FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT»

- Mr. El Hafidi, Director General, National Office for Electricity and Drinking Water (ONEE), Morocco
- Mr. Fofana, High Commissioner, Organization for the Development of the Gambia River (OMVG)
- Mr. Ziyad, Director of Hydraulic Development, Morocco
- Ms. Comeau, Deputy Executive Director, Adour-Garonne Water Agency
- Mr. Medeiros de Andrade, Director, National Water Agency, Brazil

Rapporteur: Mr. Werneck, Director of the Regulatory Agency for Water, Energy and Sanitation of the Federal District (ADASA), Brazil
Moderator: Ms. Akhmouch, Head of Division «Cities, Urban Policy and Sustainable Development», OECD

SESSION ON «THE CHALLENGES OF ADAPTING WATER TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN RIVER BASINS»

- Mr. Mizzi, Minister of Energy and Water Management, Malta
- Mr. Filali-Meknassi, Director of the Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of UNESCO-IHP
- Mr. Benjelloun, Director of Research and Planning, Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, Morocco
- Mr. Roy, General Manager, Rhone-Mediterranean-Corsica Water Agency (AERMC), France
- Mr. Lahóz, Executive Secretary, Piracicaba-Capivari-Jundiaí Basin Consortium, Brazil
- Ms. Ben Fadhl, Executive Director, Global Clean Water Desalination Alliance

Rapporteur: Ms. El Haouat, Director of the Sebou River Basin Agency
Moderator: Mr. Tardieu, Secretary, Global Alliances for Water and Climate (GAfWaC)
SPEAKERS AND THEMES OF PLENARY SESSIONS
(suite)

SESSION ON «KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION SHARING IN THE WATER SECTOR»

- Mr. Ouédraogo, Minister of Water and Sanitation, Burkina Faso
- Mr. Zerouali, Director, Bouregreg and Chaouia River Basin Agency, Morocco
- Mr. Pich Hatda, Chief Executive Officer, Secretariat of the Mekong River Commission
- Mr. Nascimento Alencastre, Director, Brazilian Network of Basin Organizations (REBOB), Director of the Pardo & Grande River Basin (DAEE), Brazil
- Mr. Pirumyan, Director, Water Resources Management Agency, Ministry of Nature Protection, Armenia
- Ms. Anziani-Vente, Manager of Partnerships, “Eau Vive Internationale”
- Mr. Menéndez Prieto, Director General for Water, Ministry of Ecological Transition, Spain

Rapporteur: Ms. Andral, Specialist in space hydrology and expert of the SWOT-downstream programme, National Centre for Space Studies (CNES), France
Moderator: Mr. Salim, Director General, Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health (GIWEH)

SESSION ON «HYDRO-DIPLOMACY, INTERNATIONAL AND TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION FOR WATER SECURITY»

- Mr. Ghuneim, Minister for Water, Palestine [tbc]
- Ms. Pokka, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for the Environment, Finland
- Mr. Kherraz, Executive Secretary, Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)
- Mr. Diaby, Secretary General, Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS)
- Mr. Naimi, General Manager, Tensift River Basin Agency, Morocco
- Mr. Ganoulis, Former Special Secretary of State for Water, Greece
- Mr. Abdalla, Chief Executive Officer, Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)
- Mr. Zeljko, Secretary, International Commission of the Sava River Basin (ICSRB)
- Mr. Biréme Hamid, Executive Secretary, Niger Basin Authority (NBA)
- Ms. Moreira López, Secretary General, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahbou, Director of the Guir-Ziz-Rhéris River Basin Agency
Moderator: Ms. Koeppele, Secretary of the Water Convention, Co-Secretary of the Water and Health Protocol, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

SPEAKERS AND THEMES OF PLENARY SESSIONS
(suite)
SESSION ON THE «FUNDING OF WATER SECURITY»

- Mr. Chelugui, Minister for Water and Sanitation, Kenya
- Mr. Yaw Ampomah, Executive Secretary, Water Resources Commission, Ghana
- Ms. Dominguez-Torres, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, World Bank
- Mr. Bensaadout, Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs of the Water Department
- Mr. Jorio, Budget Directorate, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Morocco
- Mr. Bougaire, Head of Water Partnerships Coordination Division, African Development Bank
- Mr. Maurel, Team Leader, French Development Agency

Rapporteur: Mr. El Fasskaoui, Director General, Souss-Massa and Drâa River Basin Agency
Moderator: Ms. Moha, Journalist

CLOSING CEREMONY

The Master of Ceremony, Mr. Éric Tardieu, INBO General Secretary, spoke successively to...

- Mr. Barrios Ordoñez representative of the INBO World Presidency (2016-2019)
- Mr. Sene, Co-Chair of the International Preparatory Committee for the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar in 2021, who presented the process of preparation of this event
- Mr. Benjelloun, INBO World Presidency (2019-2022)
Rapporteur: Ms. El Haouat, Director, Sebou River Basin Agency (ABHS)
Meeting under the Marrakech International Summit on Water Security, INBO members held their General Assembly from 30 September to 3 October 2019.

The meeting was honoured with the effective presence of 9 ministerial personalities in charge of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at basin level in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Finland, Guinea, Greece, Kenya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine and Romania.

The Assembly gathered more than 400 registered delegates, representing the Member Organizations, water administrations or observers from 62 Countries, as well as the representatives of several interested bi or multilateral organizations and International Commissions or Authorities of transboundary basins.

Considering the urgency to meet the many challenges facing the world in the field of water and in the sectors that depend on it, recalling the terms of the Declaration of Merida (2016) which recommends an unprecedented mobilization and which calls for action, the following points should be dealt with.

INTEGRATED WATER AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT FOR FOOD SECURITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Water management is at the crossroads of many areas essential for humanity. This is the case for energy development, rural development and food security. It is of prime importance to improve water resources management by integrating these dimensions and ensuring that the water needs of populations and ecosystems are met.

To achieve this goal, integrated management should be implemented at national and transboundary basin level, through the development of basin management plans carried out with the participation of all stakeholders and the various sectors.
Since agriculture is the biggest water consumer everywhere, solutions should be found through effective farming and water saving systems, adapted to the region and having the minimum impact on natural resources. Knowledge in this field is still insufficient or poorly disseminated. Research is needed to have an agriculture that produces the necessary food with fewer inputs and less water.

All over the world, rural areas are often poorly equipped with vital services such as those related to water: drinking water, sanitation, protection against floods. To enable the development of these spaces, access to these services must be made possible. Water security is a necessary condition for reducing poverty, especially in rural areas, and raising the standard of living.

Finding the right positioning of IWRM at the basin level to meet food and economic development needs while respecting the environment is a big challenge that requires complex strategies and beyond that, strong political will.

This entails the development of control systems and strategies for reducing withdrawals and losses of all kinds – supply systems, evaporation, infiltration, runoff - increasing the degree of purification of polluted water, reducing pollution at the source in order to have a positive impact on the environment and to increase the available volumes. There is a need for demand management mechanisms for any water user sector. All this must be accompanied by institutional and technical reforms that facilitate the work of basin organizations.

**CHALLENGES OF ADAPTING WATER TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN RIVER BASINS**

Climate change is one of the most significant challenges facing humanity in this century. Worsening water scarcity and floods, as a result of the increasing intensity and frequency of extreme events, affect people’s security and quality of life, economic development and natural heritage. Added to this is the resurgence of conflicts and migration of populations fleeing areas at risk.

Adaptation strategies need to be developed in all areas and at all levels. For the water sector, efficiency requires that the adaptation strategy be thought out and implemented at the national and transboundary basin level, while falling within the national guidelines of the plans for climate change.

Adaptation to climate change should be integrated into basin management planning, based on the various sectors and users concerned and enabling synergies for the protection of vulnerable populations, supporting diversification of the economy, improving the flow of information to define policies and legal frameworks, and coordinating financial support.

Climate change impacts all the water resources of the basins in quantity and quality and the entire water cycle: for example, evapotranspiration of plants, evaporation, water temperature, rainfall intensity and distribution. The water supply is affected, shortage threatens hygiene and health and excess water causes mortality and damage. Solutions must be sought in all components of the water cycle. In addition, climate change induces changes in other sectors (energy, agriculture, consumption, transport...), an iterative approach between water and other sectors is to be preferred.

Considering the time needed for making institutional changes, investments for adaptation, or changing behaviours (one generation), there is an urgent need to take action to adapt to climate change.
KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND INFORMATION SHARING IN THE WATER SECTOR

The complexity of water resources management, its relationship with other areas, in a context of big changes, such as climate change, population growth, concentration of populations, evolution of food consumption, requires new knowledge on water, its uses, the various impacts as well as on the prospects for evolution.

In addition to day-to-day management and medium-term planning, it is necessary to build a long-term vision (10 - 30 years) of water resources management in basins. This requires increasing knowledge, especially on long-term trends, to better understand the uncertainty of the future and the modes of interaction between the various sectors and the water sector.

It is also necessary to innovate in the instruments of information management, to encourage the sharing of knowledge and data by highlighting the possible added value of these exchanges, and to innovate in the way of producing and implementing planning.

Global changes have never been so fast. They generate significant changes in the demand for and supply of water resources and in the pressures on water quality in rural and urban areas. This implies taking a cross-cutting approach to water security and adopting comprehensive policies for integrated and efficient water resources management in basins.

Improving knowledge on the water cycle, uses, environments, climate variables, sectoral interactions is an essential condition for progress.

HYDRO-DIPLOMACY, INTERNATIONAL AND TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION FOR WATER SECURITY

A big volume of the water resources is shared by several countries. To achieve water security in these transboundary basins, it is essential to develop cooperation between the riparian countries, especially as the trend is a decrease in water availability and an increase of extreme events impacting the populations and properties in the considered basins. This cooperation must lead to an equitable and reasonable distribution between upstream and downstream areas, between riparian countries and between uses and encourage compliance with quality monitoring and discharges control programmes.

The 1992 Helsinki Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, and the 1997 United Nations Convention are the relevant framework for improving transboundary cooperation in the field of water in the basins based on a shared governance. Where cooperation agreements, conventions or treaties exist, these should be consolidated, and their content expanded given the new or foreseeable pressures on water resources.

Where there is no agreement, the riparian countries should lay the foundations for hydrodiplomacy, most often starting from technical and scientific agreements and exchange of practices, to establish joint transboundary basin management bodies, which are essential for negotiations on water. These basin bodies or international commissions, when they function, allow dialogue, the exchange of useful information, the resolution of conflicts ahead and facilitate an approach to sharing the benefits of transboundary joint management.

International organizations should support the establishment and strengthening of these river basin institutions so that they have clear mandates and acute skills through sufficient and sustainable human, technical and financial resources.
FUNDING OF WATER SECURITY
Water security cannot be guaranteed without financial resources. The investments required to sustainably manage, administer, preserve and control resources and ecosystems, as well as to build and operate community facilities, require huge financial resources. In the context of deep changes, the resources devoted to the management of water resources and aquatic ecosystems are notoriously insufficient.

Adaptation requires additional funding to be found at basin level, with the adoption of mechanisms such as the introduction of basin fees, insurance systems or market instruments or the development of public-private partnerships in the case of heavy investments.

Specific financial resources should be sought by combining national or local administrative taxes, the pricing of community services, social, geographical and cross-sectoral equalization mechanisms, payment for environmental services and fees allocated to the objectives set by consultation in accordance with the «polluter pays» and «user pays» principles. These mechanisms can also enable water saving and pollution removal by modifying behaviours, while ensuring solidarity between user categories and between upstream and downstream areas.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP ON THE TRANSFER OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS OF THE AFIALLIANCE PROJECT ON WATER AND CLIMATE
The workshop was guided by the need to increase knowledge sharing on social innovations related to water and climate.

This knowledge-sharing event is a platform for innovators from academia, research centres, municipalities, youth organizations, intergovernmental organizations and private organizations. It presents the technologies, economic models and potential governance structures that exist and that can provide solutions to the water-climate challenge in Africa, with a focus on West and North Africa. Panellists from basin organizations, the banking sector and international organizations provided information on the structural bottlenecks of some of these social innovations.

RECOMMENDATIONS
INBO General Assembly members reaffirm the need to take into account water resources management in basins as a fundamental basis for progress in water management and governance.

The participants in the General Assembly consider that special attention should be paid to the following recommendations:

- Water security needs to be addressed at the national and transboundary basin level as this is the physical unit for implementing, within a reasonable time, realistic and true solutions to meet all challenges related to water resources and to the ecosystems that depend on them;
- In the action plans of international organizations, it is necessary to focus on the basins in the world that are highly vulnerable to water insecurity, especially as a result of foreseeable evolutions related to climate change;
Since knowledge is the basis of all progress in water management, it is necessary to increase support to the implementation of water information systems and the expansion of existing ones needed to address the issues of interactivity between sectors. The functioning and modernization of hydrological cycle and climate variables measurement systems and the design of real WISs at the national and transboundary basin level are to be promoted;

At the basin level, there is a scientific need to address the links and interactions between the water sector and other dominant sectors in the basin concerned, such as energy, agriculture, transport, biodiversity and the environment;

National, regional and international capacity building is needed to develop the new basin water resource management tools;

There is a need to promote the use of the water governance indicators developed in the OECD Water Governance Initiative, as these indicators are useful for defining priorities for action at basin or country level;

Cooperation between national or transboundary basin organizations in different regions of the world needs to be supported and developed to facilitate the transfer of experiences and knowledge on best basin management practices.

The General Assembly hopes that INBO’s regional networks will be strengthened in their skills and actions in order to play a role of resource centre for basin organizations.

CONCLUSIONS

INBO General Assembly in Marrakech is an important step in the process of preparing the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar in 2021 with the theme «Water Security for Peace and Sustainable Development». This forum will include four themes: water and rural development, water security, resources and tools, cooperation.

INBO, co-facilitator of the «cooperation» theme with OMVS and the Korean Water Forum, participated in several meetings and co-facilitated this theme at the kick-off meeting for the preparation of the Forum in June 2019, from which three priority issues arose:

- Transboundary cooperation, water sharing and common infrastructures;
- Dialogue and cooperation at all institutional levels;
- Water for peace.

INBO, its members and INBO regional networks want to be active in the preparation and implementation of the next Forum.

The workshop organized on 30 September as a side event of the General Assembly enriched the first working documents with operational inputs and the vision of the basin organizations.
Enhancing the commitment of policy makers to water security, reaffirming the need for dialogue between stakeholders at the basin level and strengthening integrated management are issues that INBO supports at its own level.

The INBO 2019 - 2021 action plan, approved by the members of the General Assembly, aims to contribute to the implementation of solutions that will lead to guarantee worldwide water security, the cornerstone of sustainable development. This means initiating a series of consistent actions that focus on the following issues:

- Improving, developing and strengthening basin-level information and data systems, especially by enabling the exchange of experience and knowledge on WISs and the dissemination of the handbook and by participating in the World Water Data initiative and in the activities of the Global Hydrometry Support Facility led by WMO. Cross-peer-to-peer expert projects will be sought;

- Adapting basin management plans to the impacts of climate change, especially by strengthening exchanges of know-how between Basin Organizations on the preparation of plans for adaptation to climate change and by taking actions to make the water project incubation platform sustainable. INBO will continue incubating projects, especially through the «100 projects for Africa» initiative;

- Improving water governance: INBO will co-ordinate the production of a handbook dedicated to the water police and continue its contributions to the OECD’s Water Governance Initiative on the indicator and capacity development components;

- As part of IWRM, increasing the interaction between water management, economic activities and environmental conservation, by relying on practical examples from national or transboundary basins and by leading a debate on the operational relationship between the agricultural use of water and the management of water and fish resources. INBO will focus on taking ecosystems and biodiversity into account in basin water management;

- Strengthening the city-basin dialogue through the «Basin-connected Cities Agenda» developed by the International Water Association and the production, in partnership with IWA, of a handbook dedicated to the city / basin dialogue;

- Developing citizen participation in the management of basins and sub-basins by continuing to disseminate the Handbook on Participation and producing a compendium of achievements in national and transboundary basins targeted on specific topics, such as the development and implementation of management plans for instance or the definition of financial terms and conditions for water management;

- Strengthening partnerships and enabling the transfer of research results.

Through the seven priorities of the action plan, INBO intends to provide answers to the many challenges raised during the General Assembly and whose solutions are largely found in integrated basin management.

Unanimously approved in Marrakech on 2 October 2019
During the Statutory Session of this World General Assembly, the Member Organizations adopted an ambitious 3-year action plan, built around the promotion of basin management based on structured organizations with adequate governance, skills, knowledge and funding mechanisms needed for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

INBO Work Program 2019-2021

Promotion of water management at basin scale through structured basin organizations, with proper governance, competencies and knowledge, as well as sustainable financial mechanisms for IWRM

7 Priorities

1. Water Information Systems
2. Climate Change Adaptation
3. Better governance
4. Intersectoral coordination & environmental conservation
5. Strengthening city-basin dialogue
6. Participatory and citizen management
7. Increasing partnerships

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ON THE WAY TO THE 9TH WORLD WATER FORUM
(DAKAR – 2021)

During the closing ceremony, Mr. SENE, President of the International Preparatory Committee for the 9th World Water Forum, welcomed the quality of the exchanges and the outcome of INBO’s WGA. According to him, it is an important step in the process of preparing this great event planned in Dakar in 2021, on the topic.

MR. SENE

INBO and OMVS* will organize round tables on cooperation and users’ involvement in IWRM at the Forum.

INBO is therefore involved in the preparation of the Forum for several reasons. It is also a key partner in supporting OMVS*, which has already signed a strategic partnership with Senegal. We have retained the principles that OMVS* is technically and scientifically supported by INBO, to assume the responsibilities and missions that are expected within this strategic partnership.

INBO is for us a major partner in the organization of this Forum, because of its expertise and commitment.

*Organization for the Development of the Senegal River
The 11th INBO World General Assembly (WGA) was held in conjunction with the «Marrakech International Summit on Water Security», from 30 September to 2 October 2019 in Marrakech (Morocco). In the presence of the Ministers in charge of water management in Armenia, Burkina Faso, Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Greece, Kenya, Malta, Palestine and Romania, this meeting brought together nearly 400 participants from 62 countries and 70 basin organizations, around a central theme: participative and innovative basin management.

Jointly organized with the Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water of Morocco, this WGA was opened by speeches of the Head of Government, Mr. Saâdeddine El Othmani, and the Minister for Water of the Kingdom of Morocco, Mr. Abdelkader Amara. They were followed by the Vice-President of UN-Water, the President of the World Water Council and the representative of the Mexican Presidency of INBO.

In a context of climate change, while water security is a major issue for socio-economic development, INBO welcomes the clearly expressed political will to design more systematically agreements, strategies, programmes, financing processes, and water management controls at the basin level.

A recognition of the analyses and actions carried out by INBO Members for 25 years!

For 4 days, speakers with varied profiles (Ministers, managers of Water Agencies and River Basin Organizations, representatives of UN specialized agencies: UNECE, UNESCO…), facilitated round tables and workshops on the following themes:

- «Integrated water and energy management for food security and sustainable development»;
- «The challenges of adapting water to climate change in river basins»;
- «Knowledge, innovation and information sharing in the water sector»;
- «Hydro-diplomacy, international and transboundary cooperation for water security»;
- «Funding of water security»;
- «The transfer of innovative solutions»;
- «Cooperation, one of the themes of the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar, in 2021»

There was a strong mobilization of high-level policy-makers and field stakeholders, who came from all continents to reaffirm the central importance of the national and transboundary basin unit for effective water resource management.
During this WGA, INBO also adopted its 2019-2021 action plan, built around the promotion of basin management based on structured organizations with adequate governance, skills, knowledge and the necessary funding mechanisms for IWRM.

In accordance with the statutes of the association, Mexico, which held INBO Presidency from 2016 to 2019 handed over this mandate to Morocco which will assume it until 2022.

As done in every WGA, INBO Member Organizations and permanent observers agreed to draft a Joint Declaration reaffirming the following 4 points:

● The basin is the appropriate scale for an effective interface between the political and technical levels;
● Adaptation to climate and global changes requires institutional reforms, infrastructure development and suitable financial support;
● Hydro-diplomacy, especially promoted by basin organizations, needs to be strengthened because it brings water security, which is the cornerstone of sustainable development;
● Knowledge about water and all related tools need to be expanded to enable development and better sharing of skills, from a local to global scale.

INBO was pleased by the quality of the exchanges and outcome of this WGA work, a significant step in the process of preparing the 9th World Water Forum (Dakar - 2021), as expressed by Mr. SENE, Chairman of the International Preparation Committee, in his closing speech.

«The success of our Marrakech GA owes a lot to the resolute commitment of the Kingdom of Morocco: the high political authorities of the Kingdom, including the Minister, Mr. Amara, but also all the field stakeholders, especially the River Basin Agencies, have boosted our collective will for «innovative and participatory» action. With the new 2019-2021 action plan adopted in Marrakech, INBO and its new Moroccan Presidency are ready to deepen their action for better water management, on a global scale and in all basins» said Mr. Eric Tardieu, INBO Secretary General, at the end of the WGA work.

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While water security is a major issue that affects socio-economic development on a global scale, enhancing the role of national and transboundary basins as effective water resources management unit will be at the core of the exchanges during the INBO World General Assembly (WGA) to be held in conjunction with the « Marrakech International Summit on Water Security », from 30 September to 3 October 2019 in Marrakech.

More than 300 participants from 65 countries, including more than 10 Ministers in charge of water management, will meet to share their knowledge and experiences and thus contribute to the development of practical and effective solutions to achieve a true water security.

Indeed, on all continents, water resources are encountering increasing pressures related to economic activity, population growth and urbanization. Added to this are the intensity and frequency of extreme hydrometeorological phenomena resulting from climate change.

In this context of quantitative and qualitative tensions, how can we ensure, on the river basin scale, sustainable access to water resources of enough quantity and quality for the health of human beings and ecosystems on which our societies depend?

INBO recommends an unprecedented dialogue and mobilization of all stakeholders to meet these many challenges. Because water concerns agriculture, energy, transport, conflict prevention, diplomacy, migrations, poverty reduction, food security, etc.

INBO WGA in Marrakesh, open to all INBO members and permanent observers, as well as to all water administrations interested in / concerned by Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), will therefore organize its work around these major strategic issues to allow all participants to strengthen their skills and actions.
For 4 days, speakers with varied profiles (Ministers, managers of Water Agencies and River Basin Organizations, representatives of UN specialized agencies: UN Water, UNECE, UNESCO...), coming from all continents will hold round tables and workshops on the following themes:

- "Integrated water and energy management for food security and sustainable development";
- "The challenges of adapting water to climate change in river basins";
- "Knowledge, innovation and information sharing in the water sector";
- "Hydro-diplomacy, international and transboundary cooperation for water security";
- "Funding of water security".

Technical visits to the Menara and the Water Museum will close this meeting. The detailed programme is accessible here.

INBO wishes to make this WGA and the results of its work an important step in the process of preparing the 9th World Water Forum planned in Dakar in March 2021, on the theme of "Water security for peace and sustainable development".

This INBO initiative is part of its 2019 - 2021 action plan aimed at contributing to the implementation of solutions that will lead to guaranteeing water security worldwide, the cornerstone of sustainable development.

**CONTACT**
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*INBO is the International Network of Basin Organizations that works for sound and balanced water resources management all over the world. It is a non-profit Association of general interest. It has 200 members in 70 countries and is composed of 7 regional networks, by geographical area. This platform for exchanging knowledge and experience helps to improve the implementation of integrated water resources management around the world. INBO holds a World General Assembly every 3 years.*
PRESS COVERAGE

11th World General Assembly
of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

LE SOMMET INTERNATIONAL SUR LA SÉCURITÉ HYDRIQUE, DU 1ER AU 3 OCTOBRE À MARRAKECH
Atlasinfo, 27 Septembre 2019

Mamlaka Press, 27 Septembre 2019

Mamlaka Press, 27 Septembre 2019

Mamlaka Press, 27 Septembre 2019

Mamlaka Press, 27 Septembre 2019

20
PRESS COVERAGE (suite)

11th World General Assembly of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)

LA SÉCURITÉ HYDRIQUE SE JOUE À MARRAKECH
Le 360, 29 Septembre 2019

Marrakech Alaan, 28 Septembre 2019

STRESS HYDRIQUE: UNE MESSE INTERNATIONALE À MARRAKECH
Perspectives Med, 30 Septembre 2019

LE MAROC ACCUEILLE LE SOMMET INTERNATIONAL SUR LA SÉCURITÉ HYDRIQUE DU 1ER AU 3 OCTOBRE 2019
2M Maroc, 29 Septembre 2019

تحتضن القمة الدولية للأمن المائي
Marrakech Alaan, 28 Septembre 2019

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