Principles of Water Law and Administration
National and International

Dante A. Caponera

2nd Edition, revised and updated by Marcella Nanni
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The Author: Dante A. Caponera (1921–2003)
Dante A. Caponera began his career in the field of water law and administration in the 1950’s undertaking missions for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other UN agencies. He became Chief of the FAO Legislation Branch, which, thanks to his efforts, is now a provider of legal assistance to developing countries, not only in water law but also in all the fields in which FAO is involved. He was the initiator of the FAO Legislative Studies series. As a consultant, Dr. Caponera assisted governments and international basin institutions in the drafting of water legislation and international water agreements, leading to water codes embodying principles such as those of river basin management and users’ participation and improved river basin management institutions. He used a methodological approach which he developed and which is now known world-wide. A firm believer in the importance of law in the management of water resources, he also promoted training in the field of water law and administration as a vehicle for dialogue and cooperation leading to improved legal and institutional frameworks. A prolific writer, Dr. Caponera also published a collection of selected writings in 2003.

The Reviser: Marcella Nanni
Marcella Nanni is a recognized international expert in water law and administration and related disciplines. She has provided consultancies to a number of governments and river basin institutions for projects financed by international organizations such as FAO, the European Union, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and by bilateral donors. This advice has covered the drafting of water legislation and international agreements, the development of proposals for the approximation of legislation of EU accession countries to the EU water acquis, the restructuring of water resources management institutions, water law implementation requirements and the formulation and conduct of capacity-building programmes. Dr. Nanni is a member of the board of directors of the International Association for Water Law (AIDA) and is the editor of the association’s newsletter, ‘Aquaforum’. She collaborated with Dr. Caponera for the research on the first edition of this book.