



### EDITORIAL

Following on from Circular letter 2010/1 dispatched to all AIDA members at the beginning of the year, I am pleased to report that preparations for a dedicated water law session at the International Water Resources Association (IWRA)'s XIV bi-annual World Water Congress to be held in Recife, Brazil, in November 2011, are well under way. Your chair travelled to Zaragoza, Spain, on 8 November 2009, where he met with the IWRA Executive Board and its chairperson and cemented AIDA's partnership with IWRA. Moreover, a draft scientific programme has been developed on the basis of a draft agenda and your inputs, and tabled for consideration by the Scientific Organizing Committee of the IWRA Congress, of which AIDA Honorary Chairman Mr. D. Alhéritière is a member. I am proud to report that AIDA's proposals have been retained by the Committee, and grouped as distinct sub-themes under the theme 'Governance and water law'. The Overview of Themes with List of Sessions for the Congress as a whole is attached to this issue of AquaForum, for your perusal. At one point, water law as such was at risk of being obliterated as an independent Congress theme by the broader theme 'governance', however the organizers could eventually be persuaded that water law merits separate attention in its own right, albeit in combination with governance. I am happy to report that a few AIDA members have already submitted abstracts.

While progress on the scientific front has been satisfactory, progress on the financial side has been so far slow and disappointing. The ultimate success of the event AIDA is organizing will largely depend on a robust inflow of funds from willing sponsors. Unfortunately these are nowhere within sight. A vigorous fundraising effort directed primarily at the water industry sector in France has netted meagre results. I very much hope to have better luck in the coming months, and to be able to provide a rosier picture in the future issue of AquaForum. I welcome all suggestions in this regard.

In this connection, please remember that our ability to mobilize sponsors is directly proportionate to the number of members up-to-date with the payment of their dues. Your support by paying your €30 (or roughly US\$ 45 equivalent) dues for 2010 (and, for those who have not done so yet, for 2009) would no doubt be a booster to our efforts (for payment modalities see [www.aida-waterlaw.org](http://www.aida-waterlaw.org)).

Stefano Burchi  
Chairman of the Executive Council

## 1. MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- A *National Conference on Water Law* was organized at Rosario, Argentina, on 12-13 November, 2009. For further details, visit <http://www.colabro.org.ar/>

- The *1st IWA Development Congress* was organized by the International Water Association (IWA), jointly with the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México at Mexico City, Mexico, on 15-19 November, 2009. The aim of the congress was to build bridges between professionals working in different regions, different organizations and with different approaches to water and sanitation service delivery. The unifying theme consisted of solutions highlighting what is currently working in developing countries – both technical and non-technical in nature. To complement the technical presentations and posters 21 interactive workshops were conducted to allow an exchange of views and debate on hot and emerging topics in the sector. For more information, visit <http://www.iwa2009mexico.org>.

- AIDA's Honorary Chairman, Dominique Alhéritière, represented the Association at the *World Summit on Food Security*, which was held at FAO Headquarters in Rome on 16-18 November, 2009. A six-page declaration was adopted which, for the matters of direct interest to AIDA, mentions water only twice: first as a resource to be accessed in a sustainable way, and second as a limiting factor in the expansion of food production in view of its scarcity. The background document, by the title 'Feeding the World, Eradicating Hunger,' gives more importance to water. Water is seen both as a constraint to food production and as a 'victim' of agriculture, which is often a source of groundwater pollution and, in general, of the depletion of the resource. This translates into a call for water-use efficiency and therefore, implicitly, for improved water legislation. Indeed, sound water legislation should be a central issue in the debate for achieving food security, although scant attention was paid to it by the Summit.

- A *Workshop on Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Caucasus* was organized in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 8-10 December 2009, by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia, and the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) for the Caucasus within the framework of the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention). It formed part of a series of events in preparation of the second assessment of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwaters under the Convention. For further information, visit the UNECE website ([www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)).

- The *8<sup>th</sup> World General Assembly of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) - 'Adapting to the Consequences of Climate Change in the Basins: Tools for Action'* was held at Dakar, Senegal, on 20-23 January, 2010. The topic for discussion was the need to implement programmes in order to adapt to the consequences of climate change in the basins of rivers, lakes and aquifers, either local, national or transboundary. The assembly was organized around five roundtables, dealing with the following themes: institutional frameworks for action of basin organizations; prevention and management of the extreme climate phenomena of floods and droughts; monitoring and warning systems; formulation of basin management plans and action plans and their financing; participation of local authorities, water users and the public. More details are available at <http://www.inbo-news.org/>

- The Science Shop of Law, Economics and Governance, Utrecht University, and the Rijkswaterstaat Centre for Water Management met for a multidisciplinary one-day international conference on *European Water Governance: challenges for Spatial Planning, Law and Economics*, at Utrecht, The Netherlands, on 28 January, 2010. The objective of the conference was to disseminate research results and debate key challenges in the European approach to water

resources management. Particular attention was paid to the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive, the Directive on flood management and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. For more information, visit [www.uu.nl/kennispunten/rebo](http://www.uu.nl/kennispunten/rebo).

- AIDA was represented at the *International Meeting in Support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace*, Qawra (Malta), 12-13 February, 2010, by its Honorary Chairman, Dominique Alhéritière (France). The meeting had been convened jointly by the United Nations and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, with a view to relaunching a constructive dialogue on the permanent status issues surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process, namely borders, Jerusalem, settlements, refugees and water. Thirty-two states, including all those of the Mediterranean basin, were represented, although neither Israel, nor Syria, sent official delegations. Also in attendance were seven inter-parliamentary organizations, five IGOs and 14 NGOs. More than 50 members of national parliaments and 24 ambassadors were present. The level of the debates was of high quality, both on substance (well-documented facts) and on the form (no abusive rhetoric, but dignifying statements in spite of the harsh reality and untold sorrow on the ground). Confronted with the human tragedy that the local populations endure and with the severe humanitarian emergency occurring in the Gaza Strip all the Palestinian and Israeli present continued to affirm their faith in, and to invoke international law (e.g. the agreements already signed by both parties, the UN General Assembly and Security Council Resolutions, the general principles of international law), particularly on the water issue. However, they remained conscious that as long as the colonization by Israel of the Palestinian land continues to expand beyond the borders of 1967 (with minor swaps of land to be agreed by the Parties), no rule, principle, or guideline of international water law will be given a chance to play any useful role. AIDA's intervention in the Plenary to present the Association and express its readiness to help with its expertise was very well received. In fact, AIDA is the only NGO which has been referred to in the text of the final report of the meeting.

## 2. DEVELOPMENTS AND PROGRAMMES CONCERNING WATER LAW

- **Chile** – On 13 January, 2010, the Agriculture Commission of the House of Representatives approved the idea of a constitutional reform to define water – whether in its liquid, solid or gaseous state - as a national asset for public use. At present, water is a national asset under the 2005 Water Code and the Civil Code, but not under the Constitution. Thus, the reform entails amendments to paragraphs 23 and 24 of Article 19 of the Constitution. In parallel with this, with a view to rejecting applications for groundwater rights by industrial, mining and other large-scale water users in the Arica-Parinacota and O'Higgins regions, Congress approved derogations to one of the transitional provisions of the Water Code, which allows the water administration to regularize water abstractions for agricultural water use and use by indigenous communities, limited to small volumes. In reality, this provision has only benefited major water users. For further information, visit the website of the *Dirección General de Aguas* (General Water Directorate), at <http://www.dga.cl>.

- **Honduras** – The General Water Law, (*Ley General de Aguas*) was passed by Congress on 18 August, 2009, to replace the 1927 Law on the Use of National Waters. The law provides a framework for the regulation, protection, conservation and development of water resources in the country. In particular, it defines the right to water as a human right and creates the National Water Authority (*Autoridad Nacional de Agua*) as a decentralized organ of the public administration to replace the Directorate General of Water Resources, a unit of the Secretariat of Natural Resources (SERNA).

- **Queensland (Australia)** – The Water and Another Act Amendment Act 2009 (No. 18 of 2009) amends the Water Act 2000 so as to introduce some modifications to the provisions relating to the Queensland Water Commission, and in particular to the relationship between the commission and state bodies.

- **Victoria (Australia)** – The Water Amendment (Non Water User Limit) Act 2009 (No. 54 of 2009) amends the Water Act of 1989 by repealing some of its provisions and modifying others as far as the owner of water shares are concerned, as well as their rights and obligations.

### 3. TRAINING AND RESEARCH CONCERNING WATER LAW

- The UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE), jointly with UNESCO's From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential (PCPC) Programme, is to hold a short course on '*Negotiation and Mediation for Water Conflict Management*' in Delft, The Netherlands, on 1-19 March, 2010. The course offers a recap of basic concepts in, and introduces advanced processes related to, conflict resolution and cooperation building. It provides in-depth skills training. Cases of transboundary water conflicts will be discussed with invited speakers from the field of water governance and conflict resolution. A two-day role play, during which the participants will apply all the skills learned, will conclude the course. Information regarding the course is available at <http://www.unesco-ihe.org:80/Education/Short-courses>.

- UNESCO-IHE also offers an 18-month *Course on Water Conflict Management* focusing on negotiation, mediation and decision-making processes geared to the prevention, management and resolution of water conflicts. During the first semester, which is the same for all, the students will be introduced to water governance from the law, policy, management, and scientific perspectives. The second will focus on the fundamentals of water law, institutional aspects of water management and negotiation and mediation techniques. Students will be offered the possibility to specialize in water law or management. The course is designed for water managers, as well as for institutional, legal international relations experts interested in local, national and international water management. Course locations are UNESCO-IHE, Delft, The Netherlands, and the Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, Dundee, Scotland. Two different diplomas are offered, namely an MSc for students enrolled at UNESCO-IHE and an LLM for those enrolled at the Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science. The next session starts in October, 2010. Detailed information may be obtained at <http://www.unesco-ihe.org/Education/MSc-Programmes/MSc-in-Water-Management/Water-Conflict-Management>.

- The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, University of Singapore, offers a *research fellowship on the 'Future of the World's Water'*. This fellowship provides an opportunity to contribute to cutting-edge research on the traditional and non-traditional drivers of change for water management beyond 2020. These drivers include, but are not limited to, population, urbanization, globalization, free trade, HIV/AIDS, technological developments and increasing interrelationships between water, food, energy, and environmental securities. The fellow will collaborate and participate in the research programme on the Future of World's Water under Prof. Asit K. Biswas and Prof. Cecilia Tortajada of the school's Institute of Water Policy. The Institute is a Centre of Excellence for Water Governance under the Asia Pacific Water Forum's network of Regional Water Knowledge Hubs. The fellowship will have a two-year duration, renewable. The successful candidate should be a researcher able to work in multidisciplinary and multisectoral settings. S/he should have broad knowledge of public policies especially in terms of water. Added assets are publications in reputed journals and experience in research collaboration. Specific requirements are: a Ph.D. degree and background on water in relation with engineering, economics, biology,

environment, politics or sociology; broad knowledge of public policy formulation and implementation; research experience in collaboration with external organizations; good communication skills in the English language, oral and written. Applicants are invited to submit electronically, to Bernard Tan at [sppbtys@nus.edu.sg](mailto:sppbtys@nus.edu.sg), their CV, Table 1 herebelow duly completed and a two-page note on what they think are important water problems in the world. Applications should be received by 31 March 2010.

**Table 1**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Response</b>
Master's and Ph.D. Degrees	Thesis title, year degree awarded, institution, name of supervisor
Evidence of knowledge in the water sector	Courses attended and experience
References	names, addresses, telephone No. and emails of 2 referees
Knowledge of policy area disciplines (such as water, energy, agriculture, environment, macro economics)	As above
Broad understanding of public policy issues in terms of water	As above
Publications	Please provide details of ALL publications
Presentations at international conferences	Details covering conferences over 2006-09
Experience in seeking and managing research grants	Give details
Experience in research collaboration within/outside currently employed institution	As above
Excellent verbal, written, and interpersonal communication skills	Respond as you wish

- The ***Environmental Regulatory Research Group (ERRG)*** of the University of Surrey, UK, has been awarded a two-year 'Knowledge Transfership Fellowship' from the Surrey Water Research Group. The project will study the regulation of the Guaraní Aquifer, which is shared by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, and is one of the world's largest groundwater reservoirs, in the light of current developments in the international law on transboundary aquifers. At the same time it aims to strengthen a network of international researchers who will develop the *University of Surrey Centre of Excellence on Aquifers*. The Guaraní Aquifer System has been selected as the starting point for this research. If you wish to know more on this initiative, visit <http://www2.surrey.ac.uk/errg/projects/aquifer/#project>

- Through the *Centro de Economía, Legislación y Administración del Agua - CELA* (Center of Water Economy, Legislation and Administration) and the *Centro Regional de Agua Subterránea – CRAS* (Regional Center on Groundwater), the *Instituto Nacional del Agua* (National Water Institute) will organize a ***course on groundwater economy and management*** at the Universidad de Cuyo at Mendoza, Argentina, on 11-13 May, 2010. The course will offer sessions on various topic, including groundwater law and administration. Case studies will also be discussed. Details on the course may be retrieved at [www.fce.uncu.edu.ar](http://www.fce.uncu.edu.ar)

- The ***UNESCO IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy & Science of the University of Dundee***, Scotland, is looking to recruit a Lecturer in Water Law. See further details at [www.jobs.dundee.ac.uk](http://www.jobs.dundee.ac.uk).

#### 4. PUBLICATIONS AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO AIDA MEMBERS

- Dante A. Caponera's basic textbook on water law and administration, *Les Principes du droit et de l'administration des eaux – Droit interne et droit international*, 2nd edition, revised and updated by AIDA's Vice-Chairperson Marcella Nanni, was published by Editions Johanet, Paris, December, 2009. The original French version of *Principles of Water Law and Administration – National and International* (Balkema, Rotterdam, 1992), translated by B.J. Wohlwend, dates back to 2000. The present release, which was translated by AIDA's Honorary Chairman, D.M. Alhéritière, contains updates covering the period through 2009. The book is available for purchase online at <http://www.editions-johanet.net/>

- *The World Bank Policy for Projects on International Waterways: An Historical and Legal Analysis*, by AIDA member Salman, M.A. Salman, World Bank publication, Washington, D.C., 2009. This publication discusses the evolution and context of the Bank policy for projects on international waterways. It starts with a brief description of how the Bank faced the challenges stemming from such projects and analyzes the different approaches deliberated by the Bank that led to the issuance of the first policy in 1956. It then examines the main features, as well as the implementation experience, of each of the policies issued in 1956, 1965, and 1985, respectively. The principles of international water law prevailing at each stage are reviewed and compared with those of the Bank policy. The book discusses in detail the notification process, the different responses of the riparians, and how objections to Bank-financed projects are handled, as well as the exceptions to the notification requirement. It also assesses how the Bank has dealt with transboundary groundwater, and the linkages of the policy with the policies on disputed areas and environmental impact assessment. The book concludes with an overview of the main findings and lessons drawn from the implementation experience. It may be ordered at [https://extop-workflow.worldbank.org/extop/ecommerce/catalog/product?item\\_id=9131116](https://extop-workflow.worldbank.org/extop/ecommerce/catalog/product?item_id=9131116).

- *The International Law Commission adopts Draft Articles on Transboundary Aquifers*, by AIDA member Prof. Stephen McCaffrey (USA), in 'the American Journal of International Law,' issue No.103 of 2009. The article carries a critique of the draft articles which were adopted by the UN International Law Commission in 2008 and which were subsequently acknowledged by the UN General Assembly at its Sixty-third session by Resolution 63/124 of 11 December, 2008. The author criticizes the draft articles on the grounds that they overlap in part with the provisions of the 1997 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses, with the risk of generating confusion as a result. Moreover, Prof. McCaffrey takes exception to the general principle of the sovereignty of aquifer states, enshrined in the draft articles.

- *Gobernanza de Aguas compartidas. Aspectos jurídicos e institucionales*, by AIDA member A. Iza (Argentina) and G. Aguilar, UICN Serie de Política y Derecho Ambiental No. 58 rev., published by IUCN, Gland, in cooperation with the Environmental Law Center, Bonn, 2009. This book, which is an updated version of the publication by the same title of 2006, deals with the challenges confronting the management of shared water resources. Particular attention is devoted to the variety of legal and institutional arrangements and approaches, which might constrain the achievement of sustainability and equity. Thus, emphasis is placed on the need to devise policies, strategies and legislation facilitating cooperation and, possibly, the joint management of water resources. The book (only in Spanish) may be downloaded at <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/EPLP-058-rev.pdf>.

- *The Evolution of the Law and Politics of Water*, edited by AIDA member J. Dellapenna (USA) and J. Gupta, Springer, 2009. This book describes global patterns and sets forth the particulars of eight national legal systems drawn from every continent and five regional systems, as well as the body of customary international law as a whole. It explores the interrelation between culture, religion, government and law in water governance and management. Those interested in discovering how water governance has changed through time and in different places, and in defining the main lines of legal reform may order the book online at <http://www.springer.com/law/environmental/book/978-1-4020-9866-6>.

- *Water Resources Law*, by A. Gardner, R. Bartlett & J. Gray, LexisNexis Butterworths, Australia, 2009. This book explains in practical terms how the water resources legislation enacted by the Australian parliaments over the past 15 years seeks to implement the national reform policies that were undertaken in order to strike a balance between growing water demands and water scarcity. The book consists of seven parts, namely: Part 1, devoted to the Australian water resources and water access policy; Part 2, on the constitutional and administrative framework; Part 3 on the nature of water access rights; Part 4, focusing on water resources planning; Part 5, relating to the administration of access entitlements; Part 6, on water trading; and, Part 7, containing a conclusion on the sharing of water scarcity in Australia. Orders are available online, at [http://www.lexisnexis.com.au/aus/products/catalog/current\\_htm/B0661.asp?productid=B0661&jurisdiction=0&category=&medium=0&author=&title=&overview=](http://www.lexisnexis.com.au/aus/products/catalog/current_htm/B0661.asp?productid=B0661&jurisdiction=0&category=&medium=0&author=&title=&overview=)

- ***Contabilidad regulatoria, sustentabilidad financiera y gestion mancomunada: temas relevantes en servicios de agua y saneamiento*** (Regulatory accounting, financial sustainability and aggregated management: important issues in water supply and sanitation services), by Diego Fernandez, Andrei Jouravlev, Emilio Lentini and Angel Yurquina, LC/L.3098-P, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Series No. 146, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2009. The publication may be downloaded at: <http://www.eclac.org/publicaciones/xml/7/37447/lcl3098e.pdf>

- *River Basin Commissions and other Institutions for Transboundary Water Cooperation*, by Iulia Trombitcaia, Francesca Bernardini, Sonja Koeppel and Bo Libert, UNECE publication, Geneva, 2009. This publication was developed to stimulate discussions at the workshop 'River Basin Commissions and other Institutions for Transboundary Water Cooperation', which took place at Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 23–25 October 2007. It contains an overview of institutional arrangements for the management of international water resources, together with conclusions and recommendations as to the establishment and strengthening of joint bodies in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The publication may be downloaded from <http://www.unece.org/env/water/documents/CWC%20publication%20joint%20bodies.pdf>

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, ***Transboundary Flood Risk Management: Experiences from the UNECE Region***, United Nations, New York and Geneva, 2009. This publication is based on the discussions and findings of the Workshop on Transboundary Flood Risk Management organized under the Water Convention in April 2009 in cooperation with the Governments of Germany and the Netherlands and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). It builds on experiences from 10 river basins in the UNECE region and provides examples of concrete situations, problems encountered and progress made, as well as of remaining challenges and possible solutions. To download the publication, click on [http://www.unece.org/env/water/mop5/Transboundary\\_Flood\\_Risk\\_Managment.pdf](http://www.unece.org/env/water/mop5/Transboundary_Flood_Risk_Managment.pdf)

- The 30<sup>th</sup> issue of the ***Circular of the Network for Cooperation in Integrated Water Resource Management for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean*** is now available online at <http://www.eclac.org/drni/noticias/circulares/1/36321/Carta30in.pdf> . It includes articles on the following: Global Economic Crisis and Public Services; Regulatory Accounting (Argentina); New Regulatory Model (Bolivia); National Water Programme (Mexico); New Water Resources Law (Peru); Internationalization and Business Strategies in the Electric Industry; UNECE Water Convention; Regional Conference on Policies for Drinking Water and Sanitation Services; and International Seminar 'Infrastructure 2020'.

- Issue 6 of volume 19 of the ***Journal of Water Law*** (2008) (Lawtext Publishing, UK) carries the *2008 Year-end Review* feature, by AIDA Executive Council Chairman S.Burchi. The article features an in-depth review of water resources statutes enacted by seven selected countries (Argentina (Chubut Province), Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Italy (Puglia Region), Paraguay, Peru, and Syria) in the course of 2008 or in the years immediately preceding, and a final comparative analysis. Prior issues of the ***Journal*** carry the reviews for the years from 2001, by the same author. The Journal is available from [waterlaw@lawtext.com](mailto:waterlaw@lawtext.com) .

## 5. FUTURE EVENTS

- UNESCO has convened an ***International Conference on 'Transboundary Aquifers – Challenges and new directions'*** in Paris, 6-8 December 2010. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 63/124 of 11 December 2008, carrying 'The law of transboundary aquifers' (see AquaForum No.41) will be central to the Conference. A preliminary announcement has been posted at <[www.isarm.net](http://www.isarm.net)>. Interested members should note that a limited number of travel grants are available from the conference organizers for participants from developing countries whose papers have been accepted by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the conference. The AIDA Executive Council Chairman is a member of such Committee.

- The African Water Association (AfWA), in cooperation with the Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment and the National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), and with the participation of the International Water Association (IWA), will hold the ***15th African International Water Congress and Exhibition*** on 15-18 March, 2010, in Kampala, Uganda. The theme for discussion will be 'Water and Sanitation: What Perspectives relating to Energy Challenges and Climate Change?' The congress will provide a forum for brainstorming on the manner in which issues emerging from climate change affect decisions by water managers and policy makers with regard to water services. To know more on this event contact [afwacongress2010@nwsc.co.ug](mailto:afwacongress2010@nwsc.co.ug).

- The Mekong River Commission (MRC) will organize the ***1<sup>st</sup> Mekong River Summit*** at Hua Hin, Thailand, on 1-5 April, 2010. This event marks the 15th Anniversary of the Mekong River Commission and will serve to reaffirm at the highest level the political commitment of the member countries to the mission of the MRC. It will aim to reaffirm the continued good relationships that the organization has had with dialogue partners, such as the People's Republic of China and the Union of Myanmar, and to discuss a range of challenges and opportunities facing the Mekong river basin today, especially in the light of the long-term effects of climate change and the role of river basin organisations in poverty alleviation. Read more at [http://www.mrcmekong.org/MRC\\_news/Mekong-river-summit2010.htm](http://www.mrcmekong.org/MRC_news/Mekong-river-summit2010.htm)

- A conference devoted to international water law by the title *‘Du droit international de l’eau au droit à l’eau’* will be organized by the *Société française pour le droit international* (French Society for International Law) in Orléans, France, on 3-5 June, 2010. The topics to be debated will include, in particular, international water law in general, i.e., the rights and obligations stemming from international water law, and the provision of water services within a transboundary context. Thematic workshops will deal with the settlement of water disputes, international cooperation, corruption in water services and international water law as part of international environmental law. The last session will focus on the right to water, i.e., on the question as to whether this right is recognized as such under international law. AIDA members S. Burchi, Chairman of the Executive Council, and R. Stephan (France) will attend.

- The conference *‘Toward Sustainable Groundwater in Agriculture: An International Conference Linking Science and Policy’* will be sponsored by the Water Education Foundation jointly with the University of California Davis at Burlingame, California, USA, on 15-17 June, 2010. Several topics feature on the agenda, including conjunctive use, agricultural water use and groundwater management, policy and regulation, agricultural groundwater quality and contamination, climate, energy and agricultural groundwater, socio-economic aspects, groundwater at the agricultural-urban interface and groundwater linkages to surface water and estuaries. This conference intends to provide scientists, policymakers, agricultural and environmental stakeholders, local, state and federal governmental officials and consultants with the latest scientific, management, legal and policy advances for sustaining groundwater resources in agricultural regions around the world. For more details, visit [www.ag-groundwater.org](http://www.ag-groundwater.org)

- The ERRG project team of the University of Surrey (see above, at Section 3) is planning to organize an international seminar at the University of Surrey on the *law and policy of transboundary aquifers* on 30-31 August, 2010. More information on the project's activities and outcomes will be posted at <http://www2.surrey.ac.uk/errg/projects/aquifer/#project>.

- The *2010 World Water Week in Stockholm* will be organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) in Stockholm, Sweden, on 5-11 September, 2010. The theme for discussion will be ‘The Water Quality Challenge – Prevention, Wise Use and Abatement’. Further information on this event may be retrieved at [www.worldwaterweek.org](http://www.worldwaterweek.org).

## **6. COMMUNICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND E-MAIL**

Please communicate any change of address and e-mail address to the Association and, possibly, provide us with information on what is happening in your part of the world in the field of water law and administration. *AquaForum* should continue to be a product of the Association as a whole.

**AIDA is reachable via e-mail at: [aida-waterlaw@gmail.com](mailto:aida-waterlaw@gmail.com).**

## **7. PAYMENT OF ASSOCIATION DUES**

**THE ANNUAL ASSOCIATION DUES, AMOUNTING TO 30 EURO OR THE EQUIVALENT IN US\$, ARE PAYABLE**

either by personal cheque, net of commission charges, written out to Stefano Burchi, and mailed to:  
Stefano Burchi,  
Via E. Faà di Bruno 52  
00195 Rome, Italy

or by direct bank transfer: Bank coordinates available at <http://www.aida-waterlaw.org/payments.php>

To ensure better record keeping by the Secretariat, please inform the Chairman of the Executive Council of payments made, by e-mailing to [stefano.burchi@gmail.com](mailto:stefano.burchi@gmail.com)

### Annex 1: IWRA Congress –Overview of topics

Adaptive water management	Water resources and global change	Governance and water law	Knowledge systems
AM1. TRANSITION TO AWM: BARRIERS AND DRIVERS (Influence of entrenched paradigms, climate change, etc.)	GC1. DRIVERS OF CHANGE: CONTEXTUALIZATION (What is global change, key parameters)	GL1. EMERGING CHALLENGES IN WATER LAW AND ADMINISTRATION	KS1. DISCURSIVE SCIENCE, INNOVATIVE POLICIES AND STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION
AM2. AWM, IWRM, AND CO-MANAGEMENT	GC2. AWM AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES (population growth and dynamics)	GL2. WATER GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS (including territorial, RBOs, etc.)	KS2. BUILDING SCIENCE-POLICY-STAKEHOLDER INTERFACES
AM3. ADAPTIVE AND MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE FOR AWM (add river/aquifer basin as a unit of administration, and user-based organizations and public participation).	GC3. AWM AND FOOD SECURITY (incl. virtual water, planning)	GL3. WATER ALLOCATION AND RE-ALLOCATION: PLANNING, REGULATION, EFFICIENCY & EQUITY	KS3. ROLE & INTERACTION OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF KNOWLEDGE IN AWM (scientific, lay, practical, indigenous, etc.)
AM4. COMPARATIVE ANALYSES IN AWM (how to share lessons learned)	GC4. AWM AND ENERGY SECURITY (water for energy and vice versa)	GL4. TOWARDS A “GREENING” OF WATER LAWS?	KS4. IMPACT PATHWAYS AND THE ADOPTION OF INNOVATION (by water managers and other stakeholders)
AM5. AWM AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (including MDGs and health)	GC5. AWM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (especially in emerging countries)	GL5. CUSTOMARY RIGHTS	KS5. KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS, SOCIAL LEARNING AND LEARNING ALLIANCES IN AWM (increasing adaptive capacity and resilience building)
AM6. ROLE OF MODELS IN ADAPTIVE WATER MANAGEMENT	GC6. AWM AND CLIMATE CHANGE (cross-cutting with other themes)	GL6. THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER	KS6. WATER MANAGEMENT IMPACTS FROM OUTSIDE THE WATER SECTOR (energy, food, etc.)
AM7. AWM IN OVERCOMING TRADE-OFF BETWEEN HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL WATER NEEDS	GC7. AWM AND ALTERED HYDROLOGIC SYSTEMS	GL7. WATER POLLUTION - REGULATION AND OTHER APPROACHES	KS7. SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENTS AND THE SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE (where next for global water assessments?)
AM8. THE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES CONCEPT IN AWM	GC8. AWM AND MANAGING UNCERTAINTY AND EXTREMES (scarcity, floods, droughts)	GL8. LAND-FORESTS-FRESHWATER-MARINE COSTAL ECOSYSTEM INTERFACE	KS8. FUTURE OUTLOOK PLENARY
AM9. AWM AND FLOODS (“living with water”)	GC9. EMERGING TECHNOLOGY AND	GL9. INTERNATIONAL WATER LAW AND	

	INFRASTRUCTURE	INSTITUTIONS (States, "soft law")	
AM10. AWM, WATER SCARCITY AND DROUGHTS (including adaptation to climate change, water demand management)		GL10. TRANSBOUNDARY WATER GOVERNANCE (groundwater and surface waters)	