



Newsletter No. 48

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EDITORIAL

AIDA is shifting into a higher gear. First, the Association has joined two separate initiatives, i.e., the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development (GFLJD), hosted and led by the World Bank, and *Madre Aqua*, hosted and led by the NGO by that same name. In both, AIDA sits as a partner, alongside IGOs and other NGOs. You will find the details in this issue of *Aquaforum*.

In the same vein, AIDA has, for the first time since the inception of the event series, secured a slot in the programme of the 2012 edition of the World Water Week, convened every year by the Stockholm International Water Institute. In particular, AIDA delivered a dedicated water law side-event, in partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). AIDA will also participate and make an intellectual contribution to the next edition of the Law, Justice and Development Week, convened by the World Bank at their Headquarters in Washington, DC, in December 2012, in connection with the GFLJD initiative mentioned above.

Yet another indication of AIDA's growing visibility is the publication of a Special Issue of the journal *Water International* carrying a selection of the papers presented at the AIDA-led water law track of the XIV World Water Congress of the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), held in Brazil, in September 2011. The Special Issue carries seven papers, all authored by as many AIDA members.

Finally, I am proud to report that we are working on an upgrade of the AIDA website. In particular, the entire website will switch to a Wordpress platform, which will facilitate the update and the look of the contents of www.aida-waterlaw.org.

Let me conclude this Editorial with the very apt Latin maxim *ad majora* (to higher-order things)!

Stefano Burchi
Chairman of the Executive Council

1. NEWS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND OF ITS MEMBERS

In January, 2012, AIDA joined as a founding partner the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development, convened and hosted by the World Bank. Particulars about the Forum can be found at <http://globalforumljd.org/themes/environmental/>. AIDA has thus joined a vast coalition of partners ranging from inter-governmental organizations to NGOs, and from government to academia, which have subscribed to the goals of the initiative and have committed to supporting it. In particular, AIDA has joined the Environment and Natural Resources Thematic Working Group, which is one of six Working Groups established around selected topical clusters. It is expected that the Forum will provide opportunities for AIDA to contribute from its vast pool of expertise, and gain as a result in visibility and relevance. The first such opportunity will be the next edition of the Law, Justice and Development Week, World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC, 10-14 December 2012 (see below under heading #6 for details).

In addition, also in January 2012, AIDA joined “Madre Acqua” (literally, Mother Water), an international NGO registered in Switzerland, with a strong focus on the protection of the human right to water, and with membership from academia, civil society, and industry. Particulars of Madre Acqua are available at www.madreaqua.org. AIDA has been granted consultative status and honorary membership, including membership of the Chairman of the Executive Council in, in particular, the Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects (ELSA) Special Interest Group.

At its Substantive Session on 23 July 2012, the United Nations Economic and Social Council has decided to renew for another three years the Special Consultative status that AIDA has had with them since 1971.

2. MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- The *10th Conference of the ‘EUROPE-INBO’ Group of European Basin Organizations for the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive* took place in Istanbul at the invitation of the Turkish Water Institute (SUEN) on 17-19 October, 2012, in Istanbul, Turkey. To know more on the conference, go to www.inbo-news.org

- The Academy of European Law (ERA) organized its *Annual Conference on EU Water Management Law* at Vienna, on 11-12 October, 2012. The subject of the Conference was ‘*Management of Water, Energies and Soil towards Sustainable Development.*’ Its aim was to provide environmental law practitioners with an analysis of recent legislation and ongoing policy developments at the EU level in the field of water resources management. The topics discussed were: (a) the new proposal for a revised directive on priority substances in the field of water quality; (b) Candidate European Innovation Partnership on Water; (c) renewable energy and water management; (d) instruments of European policy for water conservation; and, Article 9 of the EU Water Framework Directive. More information on this event may be retrieved from <http://www.emwis.net/thematicdirs/events/2012/10/annual-conference-eu-water-management-law-2012>.

- The *Workshop on ‘Water as a human right’*, which was held on 17 September, 2012, within the framework of the IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition, at Busan, Korea (16-21 September, 2012), dealt with the practical implications of the UN Declaration of Water as a Human Right. In particular, it dwelled on the policy and regulatory consequences of the adoption of water as a human right by the United Nations and national governments, and on the role and responsibilities relating to the provision of universal access to water and sanitation. For more information, visit <http://www.iwa2012busan.org/>

- At the 5th International Yellow River Forum, Zhengzhou, China, 24-28 September, 2012, the International Network of Basin Organization (INBO) organized, jointly with the Global Water Partnership (GWP) and the Yellow River Conservation Commission, a *Special Thematic Session on Water Resources Management in Basins, Water Governance and Stewardship*. The Session took place on 27 September and focused on the implementation of IWRM in river basins and on the processes, tools and techniques used to achieve this goals. Particular attention was devoted to the role of the regions/provinces, municipalities and other local authorities, water users and stakeholders, in river basin planning and adaptation to climate change. Issues relating to the funding of river basin management plans, measures and investment

programmes, and the experiences of river basin committees were also analyzed. To know more on this event, visit www.riverforum.cn.

- The Junior Summit ***Water: Unite and Divide. Interdisciplinary approaches for a sustainable future*** was convened by the European Science Foundation (ESF) in Stresa, Italy, on 27-31 August, 2012. Its aim was to invite young researchers from all academic fields to discuss about the challenges and opportunities generated by interdisciplinary research, particularly when the research focus is complex issues. AIDA member Monica Cardillo (Italy) delivered a speech by the title ‘The water issue between European law and African custom in the 20th century’, which dealt with the birth and development of overseas water law during the Second French colonization and the role and influence of colonial technical experts in this respect. Ms Cardillo observed that water legislation is effective when it addresses the real needs of societies, rather than the political and expansion needs of colonial powers. In the latter case it is likely to create social problems and conflicts.

- The ***XIVas Jornadas de derecho de aguas - Escasez, distribucion y nuevas fuentes de agua*** (water scarcity, water distribution and new water sources), were organized by the *Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile* at Santiago, Chile, on 30-31 August 2012, and were coordinated by AIDA member Dr Alejandro Vergara Blanco. The aim of this event was to foster the discussion, from an academic and multidisciplinary viewpoint, of the main aspects of water resources management policies and legislation in Chile, with a particular focus on water scarcity, self-management and the inclusion of new water sources in traditional water management systems. The following topics were discussed: (a) self-management in the implementation of water rights; (b) construction of reservoirs, water markets and energy and irrigation policies; (c) legal regime and management of groundwater; (d) sectoral approaches: water law, mining law, indigenous law and environmental law; (e) new water sources (desalination, artificial recharge of aquifers, wastewater reuse, inter-basin diversions, among others).

- AIDA and the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) jointly convened a ***side-event on ‘Water for food security: what role for water law?’*** at the **2012 World Water Week** held in Stockholm, 26-31 August 2012. The side-event took place on 28 August. AIDA chairman S.Burchi and AIDA member S.Hodgson were responsible for its scientific contents and delivered a presentation covering legal mechanisms for the allocation and re-allocation of water resources, legal mechanisms for water pollution control, and legislation on irrigation, with a focus on Water Users’ Organizations. About twenty persons attended the side-event, including a number of AIDA members. The presentation, which was based on a paper co-authored by Messrs. Burchi and Hodgson, attracted a number of pertinent questions from the floor, which were answered by the presenters. The paper on which the presentation was based is currently under revision, also to reflect the comments received.

- The ***Second meeting of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Task Force on Public Participation in Decision making*** was held at Geneva, Switzerland, on 6-8 June, 2012. It covered a broad range of issues regarding public participation in environmental decision making, with a special focus on water and health-related matters. The programme addressed matters of concern for stakeholders and explored good practices and innovative tools to address them. Participants discussed (i) new recommendations currently being prepared under the Aarhus Convention on public participation regarding environmental matters and (ii) new guidelines being prepared under the Protocol on Water and Health for involving the public in decision making. Further information may be retrieved from http://www.unece.org/env/pp/meetings/tfppdm2_pwh.html

- The ***Symposium ‘The 1997 UN Watercourses Convention – What Relevance in the 21st Century?’*** was convened by the UNESCO IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science (Dundee, UK) and by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), in Dundee, 5-8 June, 2012. The Symposium was part of a wider initiative led by WWF in order to raise awareness, and deepen knowledge and understanding, regarding the 1997 UN Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses (UN Watercourses Convention – UNWC). AIDA featured among the collaborating institutions alongside UNEP, the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), the Global Water Partnership, the Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), the Water Research Commission of South Africa, the Nile Basin Discourse, the Xiamen (China) Academy of International Law, and King’s College London.

The Symposium was attended by the Chairman of AIDA's Executive Council and by a number of AIDA members, including Prof. S. McCaffrey (USA), Prof. O. McIntyre (Ireland), C. Leb (Austria), Prof. A. Tanzi (Italy), A. Rieu-Clarke (UK), S. Hendry (UK) and M. Musa Abseno (Ethiopia). Prof. McCaffrey opened the Symposium by illustrating the history and content of the UNWC. The principles and rules embodied in the UNWC were then discussed in the light of general international water law and of other complementary international multilateral and bilateral agreements. On the second day, the UNWC was contextualized regionally, with presentations providing the perspective of South Asia, Southern Africa, South-East Asia, Latin America, East Africa, and Central Asia. Further presentations illustrated, respectively, Nigeria's perspective on the UNWC, which includes likely ratification by that country, and China's state practice and (negative) perspective. Attention was also drawn to the importance of functioning domestic legal and institutional frameworks for water resources, in view of the direct role of such frameworks in facilitating compliance with international obligations. At a final wrap-up session the several strands emerging from the discussions were pulled together by the Symposium hosts. Foremost was a belief that there is value-added from the ratification and coming into force of the UNWC, in terms of clarity and strength of a legal mandate for the Parties to the UNWC, and also as a message to non-Parties. These, at any rate, will still be bound by the rules of customary international law embodied in the UNWC.

- The *International Conference 'Advancing Cooperation in the Euphrates Tigris Region - Institutional Development and Multidisciplinary Perspectives'* was jointly organized by the Max-Planck Institute for Comparative Public and International Law, the Okan University of Istanbul and the Euphrates Tigris Initiative for Cooperation (ETIC) in Istanbul, Turkey, 2-4 May, 2012. Its objective was to gather outstanding scholars and practitioners to explore the prospects for cooperation in the Euphrates Tigris Region and to discuss all relevant water related issues. This included topics such as the riparian relations in the Euphrates and Tigris Region, institutional developments, comparative experiences from other river basins, as well as a study of the water laws of Iraq, Syria and Turkey. AIDA member C. Leb (Austria) participated in the event. The conference report is available online at http://www.mpil.de/ww/en/pub/research/details/know_transfer/water/projekte/euphrat_und_tigris.cfm.

- The *Water Sciences for Sound Africa Water Policies and Governance in a Changing Environment Conference* was jointly organized by the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (IHP), the Ministry of Water and Irrigation of Tanzania; the Sub-Saharan Africa IHP National Committees and the UNESCO National Commission for Tanzania in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 23-27 April, 2012. The main themes of the conference were: (a) hydro-hazards, hydrological extremes and water-related disaster; (b) global changes and water resources; (c) water resources in arid and semi-arid areas; (d) river basins management; (e) water quality challenges; (f) groundwater resources in a changing environment; and (g) transboundary waters and water cooperation.

3. DEVELOPMENTS AND PROGRAMMES CONCERNING WATER LAW

- **India** - The 2011 Draft Model Bill for the Conservation, Protection and Regulation of Groundwater is now available on the website of the Planning Commission of India, at http://planningcommission.nic.in/aboutus/committee/wrkgrp12/wr/wg_model_bill.pdf

- **Moldova** – A new Water Law was passed by Parliament on 23 December, 2011, to regulate water resources management in line with the principles set forth in the EU Water Framework Directive. The Law, which replaces the 1993 Water Code, provides for water resources management and planning by river basin and for public participation in river basin management, among others. Furthermore, it contains important provisions on groundwater, water pollution control, flood risk management and drought management. The Law, which was published in the Official Monitor of the Republic of Moldova on 26 April, 2012, will enter into force in 18 months from publication. Regulations for its implementation are currently being drafted.

- **New Zealand** - The Whanganui River (North Island) will become an legal entity and have a legal voice under a preliminary agreement signed between Whanganui River iwi and the Crown on 30 August, 2012. The river is given legal status under the name Te Awa Tupua. Two guardians, one appointed by the Crown and the other by the iwi (Maori nation), will protect the river's interests. A river strategy, to be

implemented jointly by the iwi, local government and commercial and recreational users, is currently being decided upon.

- **UN Watercourses Convention** – Benin became the 27th Party to the 1997 UN Watercourses Convention when it submitted its instrument of accession to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 5 July 2012. Chad has become the 28th Party on 26 September. Benin and Chad are the third and fourth country, respectively, to join the Convention this year, following Luxembourg's ratification on 8 June 2012 and Denmark's accession on 30 April 2012. For more details, visit <http://www.internationalwaterlaw.org>.

- **Victoria (Australia)** – The *Water Amendment (Governance and Other Reforms) Act 2012* (the Governance Act) was passed by Parliament on 29 March 2012 and entered into force on 1 July, 2012. The Act establishes a more uniform and improved governance and operational framework for all state-owned water businesses in Victoria. In particular, it converts the three Melbourne water retailers – City West Water Limited, South East Water Limited and Yarra Valley Water Limited - from Corporations Act companies operating under the Water Industry Act 1994, into statutory water corporations that will operate under the *Water Act 1989*. Additional information may be retrieved from <http://www.water.vic.gov.au/governance/water-corporations/water-amendment-governance-and-other-reforms-act-2012>.

4. TRAINING AND RESEARCH CONCERNING WATER LAW

- The UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education offers an online course on Environmental and Water Law and Policy. The aim of the course is to introduce the student to the complexities of the relationship between water, environmental and economic issues; the relationship between law, politics and policymaking at local, national, regional and international level. The course is designed for professionals involved in or affected by policy-making, law-making or negotiations on a national or international level, who do not have the time to undertake a course of study lasting several weeks abroad. The course is to be completed in ten weeks at 8 study hours per week. The online learning environment is used for downloading training material and communication. In case of internet difficulties, materials can be obtained on DVD. To obtain more details and to register for the course, go to <http://www.unesco-ihe.org/Education/Non-degree-Programmes/Online-courses/Water-and-Environmental-Law-and-Policy>.

5. PUBLICATIONS AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO AIDA MEMBERS

- *Water International, Volume 37, No. 6, October 2012, Special Issue: The Future of Adaptive Water Management: Law and Governance: Select Papers from the IWRA XIV World Water Congress*, Taylor & Francis, UK. This special issue, which was edited by S. Burchi, A. D'Andrea, G. Eckstein and M. Nanni, features an introduction by the editors, and the following selected papers by AIDA members: *A Comparative Review of Contemporary Water Resources Legislation: Trends, Developments and an Agenda for Reform* (S. Burchi), *Legislation as a Tool in Support of Adaptive Water Management in Response to Climate Change* (M. Nanni), *The Right to Water in a Transboundary Context: Emergence of Seminal Trends* (C. Leeb), *The Human Right to Water as a Creature of Global Administrative Law* (O. McIntyre), *Are We Killing the Rain? Meditations on the Water Cycle and, More Particularly, on Bioprecipitation* (J. M. Cohen), *Legal Pluralism and Customary Water Resources Management in Guatemala* (A. D'Andrea), and *Why the Western United States' Prior Appropriation Water Rights System should Weather Climate Variability* (J. R. Schutz). These papers were presented at the IWRA XIV World Water Congress, which was held at Porto de Galinhas, Brazil, on 25-29 September, 2011.

- *Le droit international de l'eau douce au Moyen-orient entre souverainete et cooperation*, by AIDA member R. Kharouf-Gaudig, Editions Bruylant, Bruxelles, 2012. The book illustrates the international law rules governing the allocation and protection of the water resources of shared watercourses in the Middle East region, by reference in particular to the Tigris/Euphrates, the Jordan, and the Nile river basins. Shared groundwater resources are also canvassed by the analysis. The book is based on a Master's thesis by the

author, which was awarded the Aguirre-Basualdo prize of the Council of the Paris Universities, and the Law Faculty prize of the Paris-Descartes University.

- *UN Watercourses Convention – User’s Guide*, by AIDA members A. Rieu-Clarke and B. Oliver-Magsig, and R. Moynihan, published by the UNESCO IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, Dundee, Scotland, 2012. The publication provides a detailed article by article explanation of the text of the Convention. Copies can be obtained by emailing to water@dundee.ac.uk.

- *The Management of the Guarani Aquifer System: An Example of Cooperation*, *Boletín Geológico y Minero* Vol. 123, No. 3, July-September 2012, Special Issue, edited by Ricardo Hirata, Gerencio Rocha, Javier Heredia and Francesco Sindico, Instituto Geológico y Minero de España, Madrid, Spain. This special issue features some of the papers presented at the Conference ‘The Management of the Guarani Aquifer System: An Example of Cooperation’ held at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, in September 2011 (http://www.cepas.net.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3&Itemid=103). All papers are in Spanish and Portuguese, but they all include a long summary in English making them accessible to those who do not speak Spanish or Portuguese. The conference was organised jointly by the University of Sao Paulo, the Environment Department of the State of Sao Paulo and the University of Surrey, UK. The special issue includes papers that look at the management of the Guarani Aquifer System from a triple perspective: legal, hydrogeological and socio-economic, and it also includes the *Sao Paulo Declaration*, which was adopted at the Conference. This publication is available online, at <http://www.igme.es/internet/boletin/ultimoNum.htm>.

- *La protection juridique des cours d’eau (the legal protection of watercourses)*, by A. Farinetti, Editions Johanet, Paris, 2012. This publication deals with the historical evolution of legal rules on water resources management, starting from their traditional fragmentation to the integration which is required by the unity of the river basin ecosystem. It further highlights the ever-increasing involvement of water users and stakeholders in planning and decisionmaking. The book may be ordered online at <http://www.editions-johanet.net/ouvrage/?ajout=ok&id=57>.

- *Groundwater, Towards a new Legal and Institutional Framework*, by P. Cullet, in: P. Cullet et al., *Water Conflicts in India - Towards a New Legal and Institutional Framework* (Pune: Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India, 2012), p. 58-71. Available online at <http://www.ielrc.org/content/w1201.pdf>

- *Is Water Policy the New Water Law? – Rethinking the Place of Law in Water Sector Reforms*, by P. Cullet, *43/2 IDS Bulletin* (2012), p. 69-78, is available online at <http://www.ielrc.org/content/a1201.pdf>

- *O Regime jurídico das águas internacionais. O caso das Regiões Hidrográficas Luso-Espanholas*, doctoral thesis by AIDA member Amparo Sereno, Ed. ‘Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian’ (FCG) and ‘Fundação para a Ciência e para a Tecnologia’ (FCT), Lisbon, July, 2012.

- *Le Droit à l’eau: une urgence humanitaire* (the right to water: a humanitarian emergency), 2nd Edition, by AIDA member B. Drobenko (France), Editions Johanet, Paris, 2012. This book dwells on the need to consider the right to water as a fundamental right, in accordance with the Resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly in July, 2010. While analyzing constraints to the implementation of this right, the book calls for its formal recognition, by the heads of state and government, and for the introduction of legal and institutional tools for turning it into reality. It may be ordered at <http://www.editions-johanet.net/ouvrage/?id=48>

- *Le droit à l’eau et à l’assainissement en Europe*, by AIDA member H. Smets, Editions Johanet, Paris, 2012. Regional treaties have been concluded in Europe in order to render it obligatory for states to provide all with access to drinking water and sanitation. Henri Smets, member of the French Water Academy, has compiled in this book the essays of 25 authors, which show the way in which the right to water and sanitation is being dealt with in European countries and, in particular, in France. The book

highlights shortcomings in the domestic legislation of these countries and suggests possible corrective actions. To order this book, visit <http://www.editions-johanet.net/ouvrage/?id=54>.

- ***Meeting the water reform challenge***, OECD Publishing, Paris, 2012. Building on the water challenges identified by the OECD Environment Outlook to 2050, this report examines three fundamental areas that need to be addressed whatever reform agendas are pursued by governments: financing of the water sector; the governance and institutional arrangements that are in place; and coherence between water policies and policies in place in other sectors of the economy. The report, which is available online at http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/environment/meeting-the-water-reform-challenge_9789264170001-en provides governments with practical advice and policy tools to pursue urgent reform in the water sector.

- ***A Savoir n° 3, Toward a Joint Management of Transboundary Aquifer Systems, Methodological Guidebook***, which was co-authored by Hubert Machard de Gramont & Didier Pennequin (BRGM), Coralie Noel (International Office for Water), Jean-Louis Oliver & Martina Rama (Académie de l'eau) and AIDA member Raya Marina Stephan (UNESCO-IHP), and was first published by the French Development Agency in 2010, is now available in English. It may be downloaded at <http://www.afd.fr/webdav/site/afd/shared/PUBLICATIONS/RECHERCHE/Scientifiques/A-savoir/03-VA-A-Savoir.pdf>

- ***Geopolitique de l'eau***, Report of the French National Assembly, 2011, is the result of work carried out by an information mission which was formed in 2010 for the purpose of investigating the state-of-the-art of initiatives aimed at improving water resources management in the world, including domestic legislation and international agreements. The report, which features, among other, an interview to AIDA member Raya Marina Stephan, may be downloaded freely from <http://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/13/pdf/rap-info/i4070.pdf>.

- ***Water Law in India - An Introduction to Legal Instruments***, by P. Cullet & S. Koonan (eds.), New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2011. This book discusses the policy framework for the use of water in India. It also brings out the complexity in the structure of laws due to variations at the international, national, state, municipal, and panchayat levels. It covers a wide range of issues, such as centre/state relations, management, appropriation, pollution control, groundwater and water-dependent activities such as water supply and sanitation, irrigation, power generation and fisheries. It further explores water-related environmental and health concerns. The work also examines the importance of various water conflict resolution processes. The book may be ordered online, at http://oup.co.in/search_detail.php?id=145969

- ***Water Law for the Twenty-first Century: National and International Aspects of Water Law Reforms in India***, Paperback edition by P. Cullet, A. Gowlland-Gualtieri, R. Madhav & U. Ramanathan (eds.), Abingdon: Routledge, 2011. The contributions to this book critically analyse legal issues arising under international law, such as environment and human rights provisions and the economic, environmental and social consequences of proposed legal reform and its implementation at the national level. The book examines the situation in India, which is currently in the midst of implementing several World Bank led water restructuring projects that will have significant impacts on the realisation of the right to water and all other aspects of water regulation for decades to come. This book highlights the interaction between international national water law, as well as matters relating to compliance with international law at the national level. For information as to how to order the book, click on <http://www.ielrc.org/books/b0902%20flyer.pdf>

- ***Law, policy and dryland ecosystems in the People's Republic of China***, IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper No. 80, edited by Du Qun & Ian Hannam, published by IUCN, Gland, Switzerland in collaboration with ADB, Metro Manila, Philippines and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre, Bonn, Germany, 2011. This report summarizes the numerous activities implemented and documents prepared by national and local-level expert groups, and presents valuable lessons learned. It will provide an excellent reference for all stakeholders involved in the development of legal and policy frameworks to combat land degradation. The PDF version of the report may be downloaded from http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/EPLP-080.pdf?utm_campaign=1110155863&utm_content=1010730490447&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Emailvision.

- *Climate Change Effects on Groundwater Resources: A Global Synthesis of Findings and Recommendations*, by Holger Treidel, Jose Luis Martin-Bordes and Jason J. Gurdak (eds.), International Contributions to Hydrogeology Series No. 27, CRC Press, UK, 2011. This book contains case studies from diverse aquifer systems, scientific methods, and climatic settings that have been conducted globally under the framework of the UNESCO-IHP project Groundwater Resources Assessment under the Pressures of Humanity and Climate Change (GRAPHIC). It presents a global synthesis of scientific findings and policy recommendations for scientists, water managers and policy makers towards adaptive management of groundwater sustainability under future climate change and variability. The book may be ordered online, from http://www.crcpress.com/ecommerce_product/book_series.jsf?series_id=2792.

6. FUTURE EVENTS

- The *Law, Justice and Development Week* will be convened by the World Bank within the framework of the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development (GFLJD), and will be hosted at the Bank's Headquarters in Washington, DC, on 10-14 December, 2012. AIDA will be represented by Mr. J. Schutz (USA), who will participate and be a speaker in one or both sessions given over to the *Environment and Natural Resources Law Thematic Working Group* of which AIDA is a member, scheduled on 10 and 12 December. It will also participate in the formation and launch of a Natural Resources Governance Community of Practice, also scheduled on 12 December. More information is available at <http://globalforumljd.org/events/index.htm>

- The *International Conference on Freshwater Governance for Sustainable Development* will be jointly organized by the Water Research Commission (WRC) and the Department of Water Affairs, South Africa and the UNESCO Chair in Water Economics and Transboundary Water Governance at the Australian National University, at Drakensberg, South Africa, on 5-7 November, 2012. Its objective is to favour the sharing of new knowledge on sustainable freshwater governance and multi-stakeholder panel discussions between researchers and policy makers, as well as civil society. A wide range of topics will be covered, including the analysis of water management policies, laws and institutions – national and international – of their effectiveness and implementation gaps. Further information may be retrieved at http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/sc_hyd_governance_conf_south_africa_nov2012.pdf

- A *Symposium on Securing Water Supplies for the Future: Risks, Challenges & Opportunities* will be organized by The Journal of Property Law at the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law in Fort Worth, Texas, USA, on 9 November, 2012. The Symposium will focus on legal and policy issues related to local, regional, and national water scarcity challenges, including: the legal versus physical availability of water; mechanisms for insuring and ensuring water rights and supplies; the role of the market in managing freshwater resources; investment risks related to water-dependent projects; the impact of environmental regulations on water rights and supplies; and state water planning mechanisms for securing water supplies. Speakers include G. Eckstein (USA), member of the Executive Council of AIDA, and AIDA member J. M. Cohen (USA). For details, and to register, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/twuwaterlaw/>

7. 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.

8. PAYMENT OF ASSOCIATION DUES

To pay the annual association dues, which now amount to 30 EURO or the equivalent in US\$, follow the instructions provided on the Association's website, 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.