

Arab countries approve roadmap on water security

05 July 2010

Arab countries have agreed upon a draft collective strategy to promote water security in the region.

Speaking to Bahrain News Agency following a meeting of the second session of the Arab Water Council at the Cairo-based headquarters of the Arab League yesterday, Minister of Works and Head of the Electricity and Water Authority Dr. Fahmi Al Jowder, stated: "The blueprint includes five basic projects aimed at meeting pan Arab goals."

He added that the roadmap aims to optimize water consumption in the Arab region, promoting non-conventional water resources, enhancing integrative water management techniques, in addition to protecting the rights of Arab countries when it comes to fair use of water resources.

Under the same plan, the Arab countries have also agreed to develop water resources institutions, promote human resources in this sector and enhance community partnership.

Delegates from Arab countries also discussed during the meeting the financial resources needed to implement the roadmap and ways of strengthening negotiations with non-Arab countries on joint water resources. Discussions also focused on problems related to water security being faced by Palestinians in the occupied territories.

During the meeting, Bahrain also submitted a report to the Council detailing its achievements.