IAH Commission on Transboundary Aquifers

***QUESTIONNAIRE***

***Your views on***

***Past & Future of Transboundary Aquifers:
Research, Management, and Policy Directions***

In order to facilitate the discussion at a forthcoming workshop, we would be grateful to have your views on the points below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NAME |  |
| AFFILIATION |  |
| EMAIL |  |
| If you are basing your replies on a specific TBA, or country / countries – please indicate them here |  |

Please reply by 15th July 2019.

**QUESTIONNAIRE / COMMENTS**

**A Regarding the recognition of the topic of transboundary aquifers (TBAs) in the global ‘water agenda’**

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| --- |
| *They are very well recognised*  **Yes / no…………..** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand) |
| *They are recognised by some ‘international water specialists’ – but disregarded at the national level*  **Yes / no ………………** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand)  |

**B Regarding the progress achieved on understanding the ‘the physical and social science’ for evaluation of transboundary aquifers**

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| --- |
| *Since 2000 (the launch of ISARM) – good progress has been made* **Yes / no ………………** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand) |
| *There is not much difference in evaluating national vs transboundary aquifers* **Agree / do not agree** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand)  |

**C On the maturation and adoption of legal frameworks relating to TBAs by Member States of the UN**

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| --- |
| *The UN International Law Commission’s Draft Articles on the Law of Transboundary Aquifer have made an important impact* (see <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/68/118>) for background) **Agree / do not agree**  |
| Comment (if you wish to expand)  |
| *The UN 1997 Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses adequately covers TBA’s*. **Agree / do not agree** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand)  |
| *The UN ECE 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes with Model Rules for TBAs is better suited for TBAs than either of the above* **Agree / do not agree** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand)  |

**D Have TBA Agreements negotiated between ‘aquifer system states’ taken full account of the relevant hydrogeology / socio economics**

|  |
| --- |
| *There is significant recognition of these factors* **Agree / do not agree** |
|  Comment (if you wish to expand) |
| *These factors have limited relevance to the preparation of Agreements* **Agree / do not agree** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand) |

**E Considering the ‘global water agenda’ up to 2030, what specific efforts must national institutions make, so that their shared transboundary aquifer resources can be managed sustainably?**

|  |
| --- |
| *No specific effort is required – as they are included in ‘basin agreements’* **Agree / do not agree** |
| Comment (if you wish to expand) |
| Specific efforts are required, for the following reasons: |
| 1. *Transboundary aquifer management is very ‘complicated’* **Agree / do not agree**
 |
| 1. *Institutions charged with groundwater regulation have insufficient capacity (human resources / technical resources, etc.)* **Agree / do not agree**
 |
| 1. *Institutions operate in silos – specifically in relation to foreign policy, which determines the scale inter country collaboration over TBA’s* **Agree / do not agree**
 |
| 1. *Other reasons (please explain)*
 |

**F With regard to the future role of the IAH Commission on Transboundary Aquifers (2020 to 2030), please give your views on the following:**

1. Purpose/role of the Commission ……………………………………………………………….
2. How the Commission can better serve IAH and non-IAH TBAs audience ………………
3. What should be on the Commission’s agenda (e.g., priorities, tasks, schedule, etc.) ………….
4. What should be the Commission’s targeted work product …………………………………..

**Thank you very much for the time taken to complete the questionnaire. Your contributions will inform the discussion and the future work plan of the Commission.**

**Please respond to this questionnaire by 15th July 2019.**

**CONTACT:** Please reply to the following email: TransboundaryAquifers@gmail.com