Post Event Report
Summary

Under the Patronage of HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, President of the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan (RSS) and President of the Board of Governors of UN ESCWA Technology Center (UN-ETC), the RSS and UN-ETC in partnership with the International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) and U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF Global), with the support of Nature Middle East, Princess Sumaya University for Technology and the New Zealand Embassy in Ankara, held the 1st Arab Leadership Dialogue on Science Advice to Governments at the Kempinski Hotel Ishtar Dead Sea, Jordan, on December 13-14, 2016.

The meeting which was attended by 47 participants from a number of national, regional and international organizations, focused on means of enhancing the role of science advice in decision making and other issues at the interface of science and policy. Over the two-day period, the meeting addressed a number of topics, that included the science advice landscape in the Arab region, principles of science advice, sustainable development goals and science, the role of science academies, science advice: practice and infrastructure, and science diplomacy. The participants also examined 6 case studies that were designed to gain in-depth insights into the policy dilemmas in different contexts.

The meeting served as a significant step towards a larger dialogue for examining key issues of science advice in the Arab region. It offered an opportunity to exchange views on models and mechanisms of science advice that exist in Arab countries and the challenges it face. It also provided a platform to establish contacts among Arab participants and a group of international experts in the realm of science advice.

The participants emphasized the need to formalize the role of science advice in the Arab countries by developing a clear roadmap with an interactive science advisory ecosystem that entails institutional mechanisms such as national academies and chief science advisors to governments, with the support of the legislative umbrella to ensure good governance. Moreover, the meeting concluded with a set of recommendations for further consideration.
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I. Recommendations and Next Steps:
The dialogue resulted in a number of recommendations:

1. Establish STI parliamentary committees in Arab countries, a few exist at present.
2. Institutionalize in Arab countries position of the “Chief Science Advisor to government.”
3. Launch national academies of science and strengthen the role of existing equivalent bodies.
4. Formalize the science advisory role through legislation/regulation.
5. Align national strategies with the sustainable development goals.
6. Gear scientific research towards more understanding of risk and risk management, as well as, share best practices and learned lessons among Arab countries.
7. Develop a roadmap for science advice in the Arab countries.
8. Develop a science advisory ecosystem.

In terms of next steps, the following are proposed steps:
1. Develop a proposal to create INGSA Middle East chapter.
2. Translate the draft set of “Principles and Guidelines of Science Advice to Governments” to Arabic. This will be followed by national consultations.
3. Develop a discussion paper on the advantageous use of a more complete science advisory system with both a National Science Academy and a Chief Science Adviser needed.
4. A follow up meeting where the focus is more on what is needed to bring evidence-based, science-informed advice to governments in the Arab world.

II. Objectives
The main objectives of the meeting were:

1. To further extend the dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation in the Arab region;
2. To enlarge and strengthen the capacity and network of those interested in the improvement of science advice for policy;
3. To assist institutional development and regional cooperation;
4. To seek regional input into the draft set of Ethics and Principles of Science Advice to Governments.

The event was also an opportunity to seek participants’ input to a draft set of Principles and Guidelines of Science Advice to Governments, which being developed by INGSA through a collaborative process and regional consultations. The principles are being developed in response to the World Science Forum (WSF) Declaration of 2015, with a view to presenting these recommendations at the World Science Forum in Jordan in 2017.

III. Agenda & Discussion Content
The two-day meeting (see Appendix A) covered both formal presentations and factual case studies. The aim was to provide a broad overview of the different types and mechanisms of science advice (e.g. science academies). Moreover, the participants examined principles of science advice and key issues at the science-policy interface. The presentations also placed an emphasis on important issues such as the sustainable development goals and the role of indigenous and local knowledge.
The 6 case studies were developed by the INGSA team & the Science Diplomacy Program at RSS in consultation with the ESCWA Technology Center. The cases were designed to gain insights into the policy dilemmas that illustrate critical questions, obstacles and opportunities for science advice in different contexts and conditions.

The participants took keen interest in the discussions and understanding of the dynamics, implications, challenges and good practices of science advice. In addition, some of the key questions that arose from the dialogue included:

1. How can science advice function in the Arab countries with different political and democracy systems?
2. What are the minimum requirements to establish a successful science advisory ecosystem in the Arab world?

Moreover, some of the participants highlighted challenges facing science advice in the region:

1. In many instances, science advice in the Arab world is only sought at times of crisis.
2. Lack of communication among science advisory bodies, policy makers and governments (i.e. ecosystem).
3. National security is generally overlooked when science advice is given.
4. Lack of data and access to information.

I. Participants

There were 47 participants (Appendix A-2). 19 participants from 8 Arab countries: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Palestine. The remaining 27 participants were facilitators and observers from regional and international organizations: League of Arab States (LAS), Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS), The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), UN-ESCWA Technology Center, UNESCO. Moreover, out of the 47 attendees, 16 were female and 31 were male.

The leadership dialogue was formally inaugurated by HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, President of the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan. Professor Fouad Mrad, Executive Director, UN-ESCWA Technology Center. Professor Sir Peter Gluckman, Chair of INGSA and Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister of New Zealand. Mr Mike Dignam, CEO and President, CRDF Global. The opening session was chaired by Mr Nart Dohjoka, Program Manager of the Science Diplomacy Program at the RSS.
## Meeting Programme

### Day One: Tuesday 13th December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00 – 08:30</td>
<td>Coffee and Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30 – 09:00</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Dr Fouad Mrad, Executive Director, UN-ESCWA Technology Center (5’)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Professor Sir Peter Gluckman, Chair of INGSA / Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister of New Zealand (5’)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Mr Mike Dignam, CEO and President, CRDF Global (5’)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan, President, the Royal Scientific Society (15’)</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:15</td>
<td>Mr Nart Dohjoka, Program Manager, Science Diplomacy Program, RSS Introductions</td>
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<td>09:15 – 09:45</td>
<td>Dr Moneef Zoubi, Director General, Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS)</td>
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<td>Overview: Arab Region’s Science Advice Landscape</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:45 – 10:45</td>
<td>Prof Sir Peter Gluckman, Chair of INGSA / Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister of New Zealand</td>
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<td>Principles of Science Advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 – 10:55</td>
<td>Group photo session</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:55 – 11:15</td>
<td>MORNING BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 – 11:35</td>
<td>Dr Flavia Schlegel, Assistant DG, Natural Sciences UNESCO</td>
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<td>Sustainable Development Goals and Science</td>
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<td>11:35 – 12:05</td>
<td>Dr Fouad Mrad, Executive Director, UN-ESCWA Technology Center</td>
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<td>Deploying National STI towards Jordan’s National Priorities in Sustainable Development Goals</td>
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<td>12:05 – 12:25</td>
<td>Ms Abier Amarin, Director, CRDF Global – MENA Office</td>
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<td>A Recap of the Recommendations from the 2015 Science Diplomacy Forum</td>
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<td>12:25 – 12:45</td>
<td>Dr Julie Maxton, Executive Director of the Royal Society London</td>
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<td>The Role of Academies</td>
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12:45 – 13:05   **Professor Zakri Abdul Hamid**, Science Advisor, Office of the Prime Minister of Malaysia  
*Indigenous and Local Knowledge*

13:05 – 14:05   **LUNCH at Obelisk Restaurant**

14:10 – 14:50   **Professor Sir Peter Gluckman**, Chair of INGSA / Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister of New Zealand  
Case Study 1: “Roundup ready”? Regulating glyphosate amidst health, economic, and public concerns about GM.

14:50 – 15:30   **Dr Wadid Erian**, Senior Advisor, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk  
Case Study 2: *Flood Risk Management in Lebanon (El-Qaa area)*

15:30 – 16:00   **AFTERNOON BREAK**

16:00 – 16:40   **Professor James Wilsdon**, Co-Chair of INGSA  
Case Study 3: *Fukushima – the triple disaster and its triple lessons: What can be learned about regulation, planning, and communication in an unfolding emergency?*

16:40 – 17:20   **Dr Sameh Soror**, Member of Steering Committee, INGSA-Africa  
Case Study 4: *Water Across borders: Negotiating Politics, Environmentalism and the Economy in the Case of Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros Dam*

17:20 – 17:30   **Wrap-up**

20:00   Dinner hosted by **HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan**, President of the Royal Scientific Society at Kempinski Ishtar Hotel, Dead Sea.

**Venue:**
*Codes restaurant*
*Kempinski Ishtar Hotel, Dead Sea.*
Day Two: Wednesday 14th December 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:30 – 09:00</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:10</td>
<td>Welcome back&lt;br&gt;Recap of day one and looking ahead to day two</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:10 – 09:40</td>
<td><strong>Dr Muhammad Saidam</strong>, Chief Science Officer, the Royal Scientific Society&lt;br&gt;Case Study 5: <em>RSS as Science Adviser to the Jordanian Government</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>09:40 – 10:20</td>
<td><strong>Dr Khaled Toukan</strong>, Chairman, Jordan Atomic Energy Commission&lt;br&gt;Case Study 6: <em>Nuclear Energy in the Middle East: A Quandary for Technology Policy Making</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20 – 10:50</td>
<td>MORNING BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50 – 11:30</td>
<td><strong>Dr William Colglazier</strong>, Co-Chair of the 10 Member Group of the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism&lt;br&gt;<em>Science Advice: Practice and Infrastructure</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
<td><strong>Ms Cathy Campbell</strong>, CEO Emeritus, CRDF Global&lt;br&gt;<em>Science Diplomacy &amp; Regional Cooperation</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:30</td>
<td><strong>Dr Vaughan Turekian</strong>, Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary, U.S. Department of State&lt;br&gt;<em>Reflections on Science Diplomacy</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:35 – 13:45</td>
<td>LUNCH at Obelisk Restaurant</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:50 – 15:50</td>
<td>Regional consultation on the Principles and Guidelines for Science Advice to Governments&lt;br&gt;Chaired by <strong>Professor James Wilsdon</strong>, Co-Chair of INGSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:50 – 16:20</td>
<td>AFTERNOON BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:20 – 17:20</td>
<td>Closing session: <em>Summary, Lessons and Principles</em>&lt;br&gt;<em>What Next?</em>&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Professor Sir Peter Gluckman</strong>, Chair of INGSA / Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister of New Zealand&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Professor James Wilsdon</strong>, Co-Chair of INGSA&lt;br&gt;• <strong>HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan</strong>, President, the Royal Scientific Society&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Mr Mike Dignam</strong>, CEO and President, CRDF Global</td>
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</table>
17:20  Meeting ends

20:00  Dinner hosted by **Ambassador Jonathan Curr**, New Zealand Embassy – Ankara

**Venue:**
*Steak House Restaurant*
*Marriot Hotel, Dead Sea*
APPENDIX A-2

List of Participants

1. HRH Princess Sumaya bint El Hassan
   President
   The Royal Scientific Society, Jordan

2. Professor Zakri Abdul Hamid
   Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia

3. Ms Abier Amarin
   Director of MENA Office
   CRDF Global, Jordan

4. Ms Farrah Al Mufleh
   Business Development and Communications Manager, MENA Office
   CRDF Global, Jordan

5. Ms Pakinam Amer
   Deputy Chief Editor
   Nature Middle East

6. Mr Gergely Bőhm
   Head of the Department of International Relations
   Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

7. Mr Ryan Bowles
   First Secretary
   U.S. Embassy, Jordan

8. Ms Cathy Campbell
   CEO Emeritus
   CRDF Global, USA

9. Dr William Colglazier
   Co-Chair
   The 10 Member Group of the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism, USA

10. Mr Jonathan Curr
    Ambassador
1. Mr Conor de Lion
   Adviser to President on External Relations
   The Royal Scientific Society, Jordan

2. Mr Mike Dignam
   CEO
   CRDF Global, USA

3. Mr Nart Dohjoka
   Science Diplomacy Program Manager
   The Royal Scientific Society, Jordan

4. Ms Dana El Emam
   Journalist
   Jordan Times, Jordan

5. Dr Abbas Elawad
   Secretary General
   National Council for Strategic Planning, Sudan

6. Dr Wadid Eiran
   Senior Advisor, Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk
   League of Arab States

7. Ms Costanza Farina
   Head of Office and Representative
   UNESCO, Jordan

8. Dr Ghaith Fariz
   Director
   UNESCO Regional Office for Science in the Arab States, Egypt

9. Ms Katalin Fodor
   Department of International Relations
   Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

10. Dr Ernesto Fernandez-Polcuch
    Chief of Section, Division of Science Policy & Capacity Building
    UNESCO, France
1. Dr Kamiel Gabriel  
   Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science  
   University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada

2. Professor Sir Peter Gluckman  
   Chair of INGSA  
   Chief Science Advisor to Prime Minister of New Zealand

3. Dr Erica Harper  
   Executive Director  
   WANA Institute, Jordan

4. Professor Mohamed Hassan  
   Executive Director  
   The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Italy

5. Dr Saif Al Hiddabi  
   Assistant Secretary General for Research & Programs  
   Research Council of Oman

6. Ms Brenna Hill  
   Director, Marketing and Client Relations  
   CRDF Global, USA

7. Professor Fouad Mrad  
   Executive Director  
   UN-ESCWA Technology Centre

8. Dr Julie Maxton  
   Executive Director  
   Royal Society of London, UK

9. Al-Sharif Nasser bin Nasser  
   Director  
   Middle East Scientific Institute for Security (MESIS), Jordan

10. Professor Mashhour Refai  
    President  
    Princess Sumaya University for Technology, Jordan
1. Eng Adnan Samara  
   President  
   Higher Council for Innovation & Excellence, Palestine

2. Mohammad Said  
   Director General, Regional and Local Development Directorate  
   Ministry of Planning, Iraq

3. Dr Mohammad Saidam  
   Chief Science Officer  
   The Royal Scientific Society, Jordan

4. Dr Flavia Schlegel  
   Assistant Director General for Nature Sciences  
   UNESCO, France

5. Ms Suha Shouqar  
   Science Policy Analysis & Research Director  
   The Royal Scientific Society, Jordan

6. Dr Sameh Sorour  
   Member of Steering Committee  
   INGSA-Africa

7. Mr Phill Starling  
   Director, Science Engagement  
   CRDF Global, USA

8. Dr Ibrahim Teka  
   Director of General Administration of Science & Technology  
   Libyan Authority for Research and Science and Technology, Ministry of Planning, Libya

9. Professor Khaled Toukan  
   Chairman  
   Jordan Atomic Energy Commission

10. Ms Ashly Truxon  
    Communications Manager  
    CRDF Global, USA
41. Dr Vaughan Turekian  
Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State, USA

42. Dr Tom Wang  
Chief International Officer  
American Association for the Advancement of Science, USA

43. Professor James Wilsdon  
Co-Chair INGSA  
Director, Impact, Policy and Engagement and Chair of Research Policy, Sheffield University, UK

44. Dr Faiza Yamani  
Executive Director of Environment and Life Sciences Research Center  
Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait

45. Mrs Hala Zawati  
CEO  
Jordan Strategy Forum (JSF), Jordan

46. Dr Moneef Zoubi  
Director General  
Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS), Jordan

47. Mr Nael AlMulki  
National officer  
UN-ESCWA Technology Centre