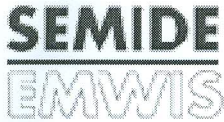
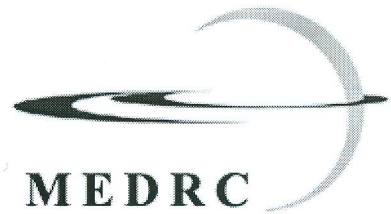


AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN



EURO-MEDITERRANEAN
INFORMATION SYSTEM ON
KNOW-HOW IN THE WATER
SECTOR
(EMWIS/SEMIDE)
AND
MIDDLE EAST DESALINATION
RESEARCH CENTER
(MEDRC)



WHEREAS the Middle East Desalination Research Center (hereinafter referred to as “MEDRC”) is a Center of Excellence in Desalination and Water Reuse Technology established in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, December 1996;

WHEREAS MEDRC contributes to the achievement of peace and stability in the Middle East and North Africa by promoting and supporting the use of desalination to satisfy the needs of the people of this region for available, affordable, clean fresh water for human use and economic development. This is done through the advancement of desalination technology, education in the technology and training in its use, technology transfer, technical assistance, research and building cooperation between nations to form the joint projects and international relationships necessary to meet the needs for fresh water;

WHEREAS the EMWIS/SEMIDE is an initiative launched in the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership at the Ministerial conference on local water management in December 1996; it gathers 43 countries of the Union for the Mediterranean. It aims to gather, certify and disseminate relevant information & know-how (institutional framework, documentation & legislation, research & development programmes, training & capacity building programmes, and data management) for further improving water management in the Mediterranean region.

WHEREAS the EMWIS/SEMIDE prepares pilot experiences based on the lessons learnt from other countries in different water topics (water scarcity & drought, water monitoring, participatory approach in integrated water resources management, Non conventional water resources, local management of sanitation services and the prevention of domestic pollution, etc.)

WHEREAS the EMWIS/SEMIDE is working on strengthening the coordination and the development of National Water Information Systems harmonized at the Mediterranean level, towards a shared Mediterranean water information system as a component of a future Mediterranean Water knowledge hub;

WHEREAS the EMWIS/SEMIDE and MEDRC (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”) believe that they have common principles, complementary objectives and a mutual interest in close cooperation regarding knowledge management, implementing water information systems, transferring and exchanging know-how & information, implementing pilot projects, capacity building, and applied research related to non-conventional water resources (desalination and wastewater reuse) at national & regional level;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Parties shall cooperate, consistent with their respective mandates and interests, in implementing water information systems, capacity building in support of improved water resources management at regional and national level, subject to the availability of programme financing. Such cooperation may include:

- Exchange of water information & data;
 - Exchange links & logos in the websites of each other;
 - Responding to call for tenders/proposals of common interest;
 - Implementing projects on water topics of common interest (water quality, water information systems, non-conventional water resources);
 - Networking of Water Centers of Excellence in the region;
 - Organizing regional and national events to mobilize regional & national water actors;
 - Inviting each other to regional & national events of common interest;
 - Technical and managerial training in all aspects of integrated water resources management;
 - Promoting EMWIS approaches outside of its geographic scope (Mediterranean) and promoting MEDRC approaches in the Mediterranean;
-

ARTICLE II

The Parties shall keep each other informed of ongoing and planned programmes, projects and activities of mutual interest, and shall consult each other regularly on tasks and activities under joint execution. Furthermore, both parties will work together to complement each other in order to build a MENA water information system (EMWIS with its Mediterranean partners and MEDRC with its MENA countries)

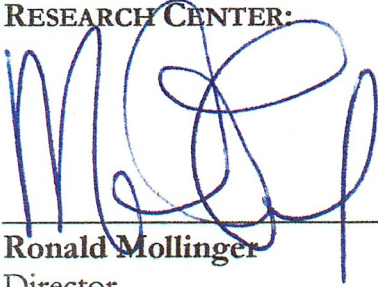
ARTICLE III

This Memorandum shall enter into force upon signature by both parties for a period of two years. The provisions of this Memorandum may be amended at any time by mutual consent in writing. Either party may terminate this Memorandum by giving six month’s written notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized thereto, has signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

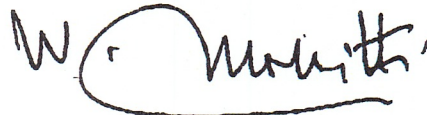
Done the 05 December, 2011, in two equally authentic originals in English language.

**FOR THE MIDDLE EAST DESALINATION
RESEARCH CENTER:**



Ronald Mollinger
Director

**FOR THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN
INFORMATION SYSTEM ON KNOW-HOW
IN THE WATER SECTOR:**



Walter MAZZITTI
President of EMWIS Steering Committee