3rd Meeting of OECD Water Governance Initiative

The 3rd Meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative was held from 28 to 29 April 2014, at Casa de América, Madrid, Spain.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Spanish authorities. The meeting gathered more than 90 members, and 80 web-based observers. Delegates peer-reviewed OECD water governance reports in Jordan and Tunisia, discussed post-2015 water related targets and the milestones to the 7th WWF, commented on draft principles and indicators on water governance, and exchanged lessons from water reforms in Spain, Peru, France, Ethiopia, Mozambique, and El Salvador.

Dr. Keizrul bin Abdullah, Chairperson of NARBO, participated and contributed as follows.

NARBO shared some concerns regarding the little attention water governance has received in the SDGs discussions thus far and advised that the Water Governance Initiative help advocate for a water goal as well as contribute to making it applicable outside the water sector.

NARBO shared some lessons from its RBO Performance Benchmarking and presented the 5 critical performance areas that were selected: mission, stakeholders, learning and growth, internal business processes and financing. A set of 14 indicators was developed and has helped building convergence, commitment and co-operation, and facilitating networking across RBOs.

JWA also advised to secure regular evaluation such as yearly peer-reviews of IWRM river basins.

Regarding the development of the Indicators, NARBO committed to improve the accuracy of the suggested water governance indicators by pilot-testing them across Asian RBOs.