

XVth World Water Congress, Edinburgh Special Session 7 - 26 May 2015

Mock Parliamentary Debate

Transboundary Groundwater Resources of Africa: the engine to stimulate human development and environmental sustainability

UNESCO – International Hydrology Programme

International Association of Hydrogeologists

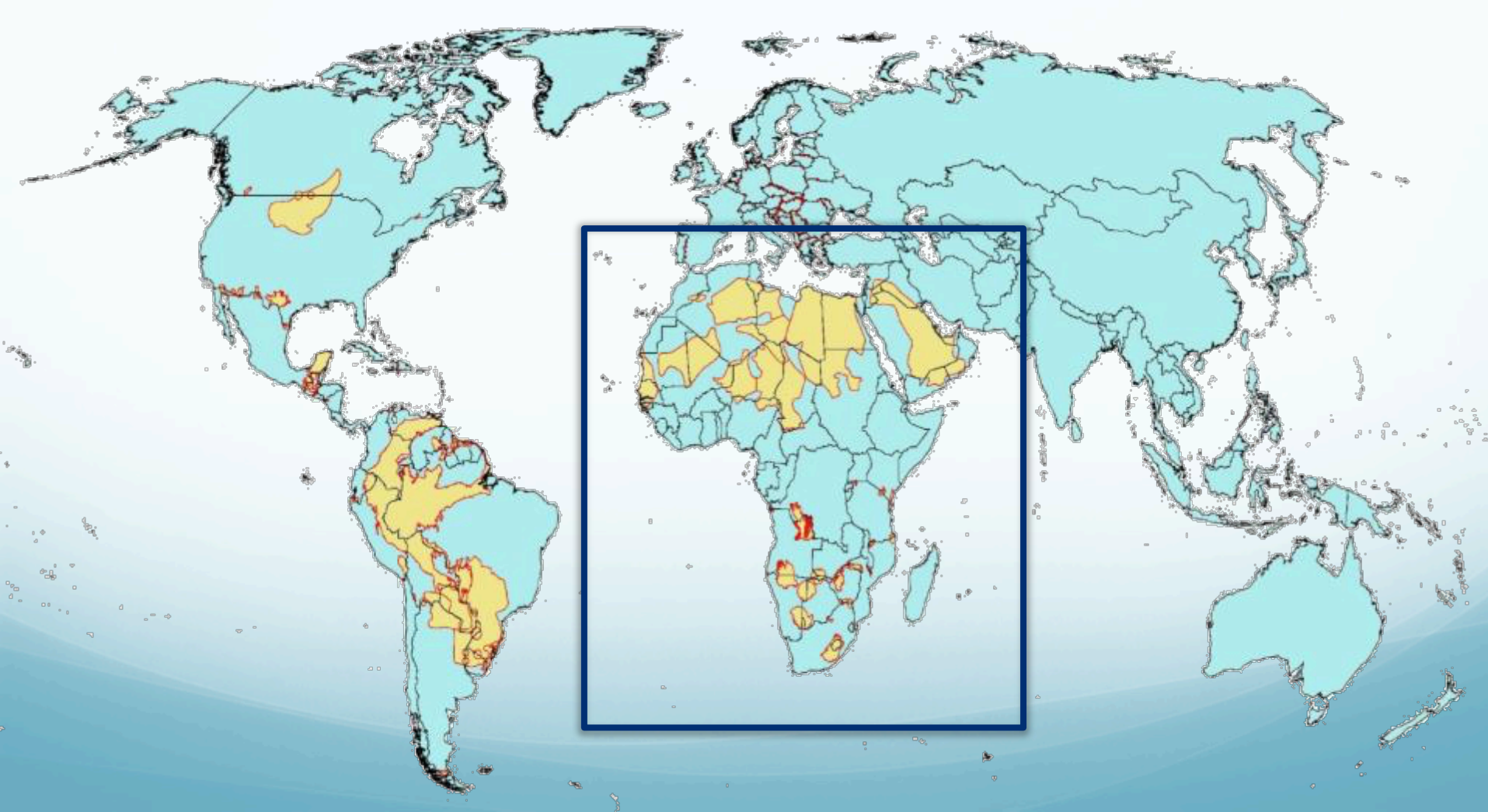
University of Strathclyde

University of Dundee

International Water Management Institute

International Association for Water Law

Transboundary Groundwater Resources of Africa: the engine to stimulate human development and environmental sustainability



Debate Panel

- **Moderator: Richard Owen, African Groundwater Network, University of Zimbabwe**
- **Alice Aureli, Chief of Section on Groundwater Systems, UNESCO**
- **Guy Howard, WASH Policy Team Leader, UK Department for International Development**
- **Robert Kalin, Professor of Environmental Engineering for Sustainability, University of Strathclyde**
- **Shammy Puri, Secretary General, International Association of Hydrogeologists**
- **Kate Harawa, Malawi Country Director, Water For People**
- **Karen G. Villholth, PhD, Principal Researcher, Groundwater Management, IWMI, International Water Management Institute**
- **Stefano Burchi, Consultant on water law, policy and administration; Chairman, AIDA**
- **Marcella Nanni, Consultant on water law, policy and administration; Executive Council Vice Chair, AIDA**

Debating issue: The Relationship between Groundwater & Development

Over the past decade many proponents of groundwater development make claims that, if this resource was accessible to people in Africa, it would immediately stimulate huge developmental benefits. However, by 2015 this claim is being met with some (justified?) scepticism.

This House believes that.....

*“The Eureka moment,
for groundwater as a stimulus for
development,
has not yet arrived in Africa.”*

Speaking for the motion ...

Speaking against the motion

Speeches from the floor of the House....

Questions from the Floor

Summary by the Moderator

VOTE on the Motion

Debating issue: Sound Groundwater Governance

Assuming that the “point” on sound groundwater governance involves an inseparable combination of hydrogeological science, socio-economics, community participation and appropriate regulations, then some claim that agencies involved in governance still focus on only one or two aspects, hoping that the remaining will somehow evolve and appear spontaneously.

This House believes that.....

“Agencies across Africa are missing the point on sound groundwater governance.”

Speaking for the motion....

Speaking against the motion...

Speeches from the floor of the House....

Questions from the Floor

Summary by the Moderator

VOTE on the Motion