

MANAGING TRANSBORDER OF GROUNDWATER BASIN IN GREAT MAN MADE RIVER AUTHORITY - LIBYA

Abdallah Mohamed Benidris¹ and Mohamed Omar Kumati²

¹Director of the Data, Studies & Researches Centre,
Great Man-Made River Authority, Benghazi, Libya
Email: abenidris@yahoo.com

²Data, Studies and Researches Head Section,
Great Man-Made River Authority, Benghazi, Libya
Email: kumati1974@yahoo.com

Abstract: *This paper is an attempt to pinpoint the progress in managing trans border groundwater basins in North Africa, namely the Nubian Aquifer System (NAS) that is shared by Egypt, Libya, Sudan and Chad and the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System (NWSAS) which stretches across an area of more than one million square kilometres, is shared by Algeria, Tunisia and Libya. The success in managing these water resources systems hinges on unified corporation of the states sharing these groundwater systems. The framework of this unified corporation is the establishment of a joint authority to study the resources system and monitor their piezometric development. The creation of a unified management strategy can be achieved by the establishment of a unified data base and calibrated hydro-geological model in addition to consultation scheme among the states sharing the groundwater resources. This paper introduces the trans-border cooperation in the framework of the Great Man Made River Project. In this case, the trans-border cooperation is strictly applicable to Jaghbub (in Libya)/Siwa (in Egypt) region and Ghadames (in Libya)/Algerian development where joint cooperation of the two neighbouring states will result in a sound and sustainable resources development strategy on both sides of the boundaries.*

Keywords: GMRA, GMRP, Groundwater, Hydro-Geological, Modeling.