



State of Israel

The Ministry of National Infrastructures

Water Commission

Israeli Concept for Water Resources Management in Dry Regions

Shimon Tal – Water Commissioner

INBO – 6th Assembly

La Martinique 24-28 January 2004

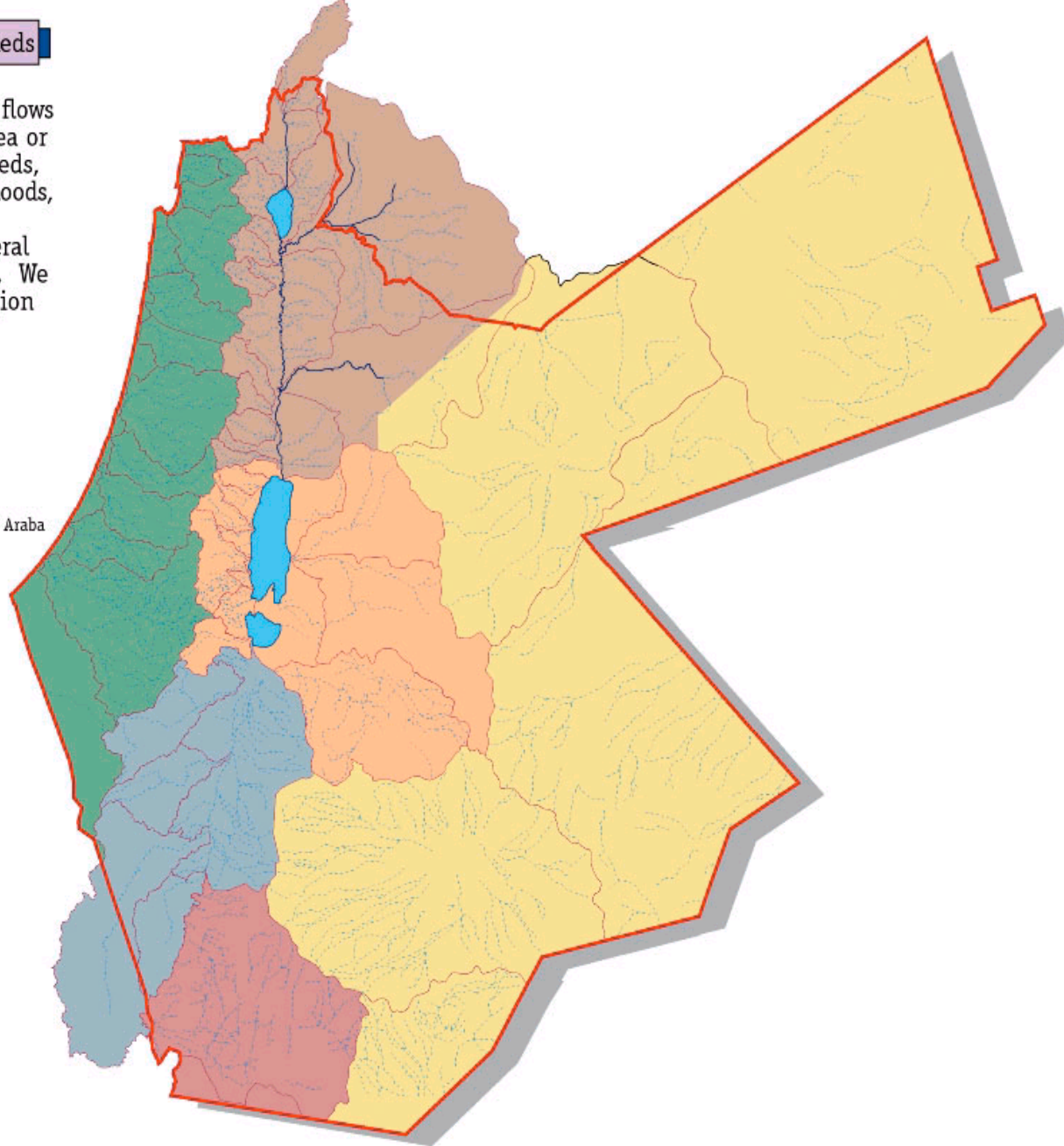


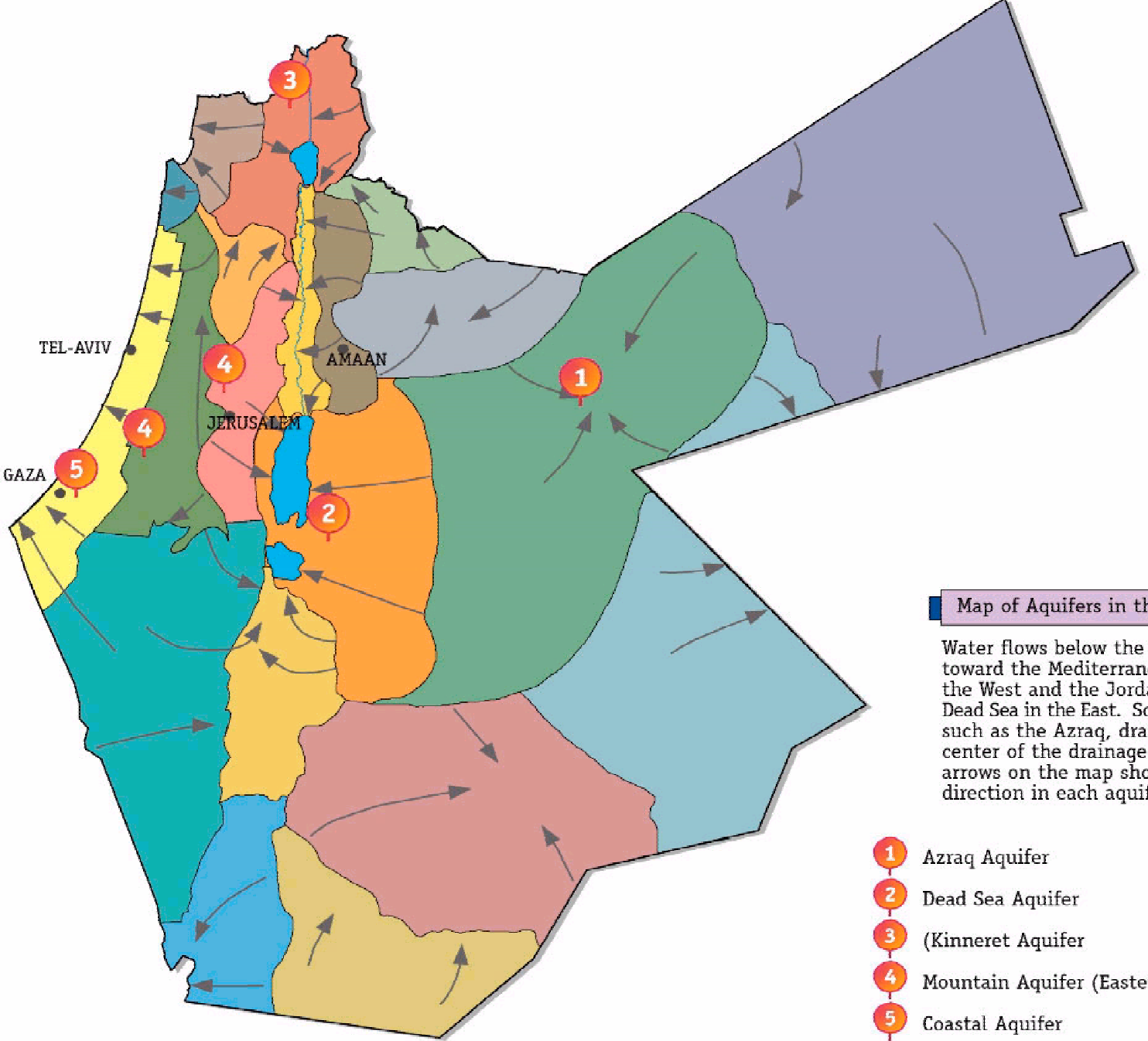
Map of Drainage Basins and Watersheds

Surface water in the region ultimately flows to the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea or the Dead Sea. In the desert watersheds, water flows on rare occasions during floods, and most of the water evaporates or penetrates into the ground. Ephemeral streams are marked by a broken line. We can see that most streams in the region are ephemeral.

- Flow toward the Jordan Valley
- Flow toward the Dead Sea
- Flow toward the Dead Sea through Wadi Araba
- Flow toward the Red Sea
- Flow toward the Mediterranean
- Not drained

0 50 100 km





Map of Aquifers in the Region

Water flows below the surface toward the Mediterranean Sea in the West and the Jordan Rift and Dead Sea in the East. Some aquifers, such as the Azraq, drain into the center of the drainage basin. The arrows on the map show the flow direction in each aquifer.

- 1 Azraq Aquifer
- 2 Dead Sea Aquifer
- 3 (Kinneret Aquifer)
- 4 Mountain Aquifer (Eastern and Western)
- 5 Coastal Aquifer





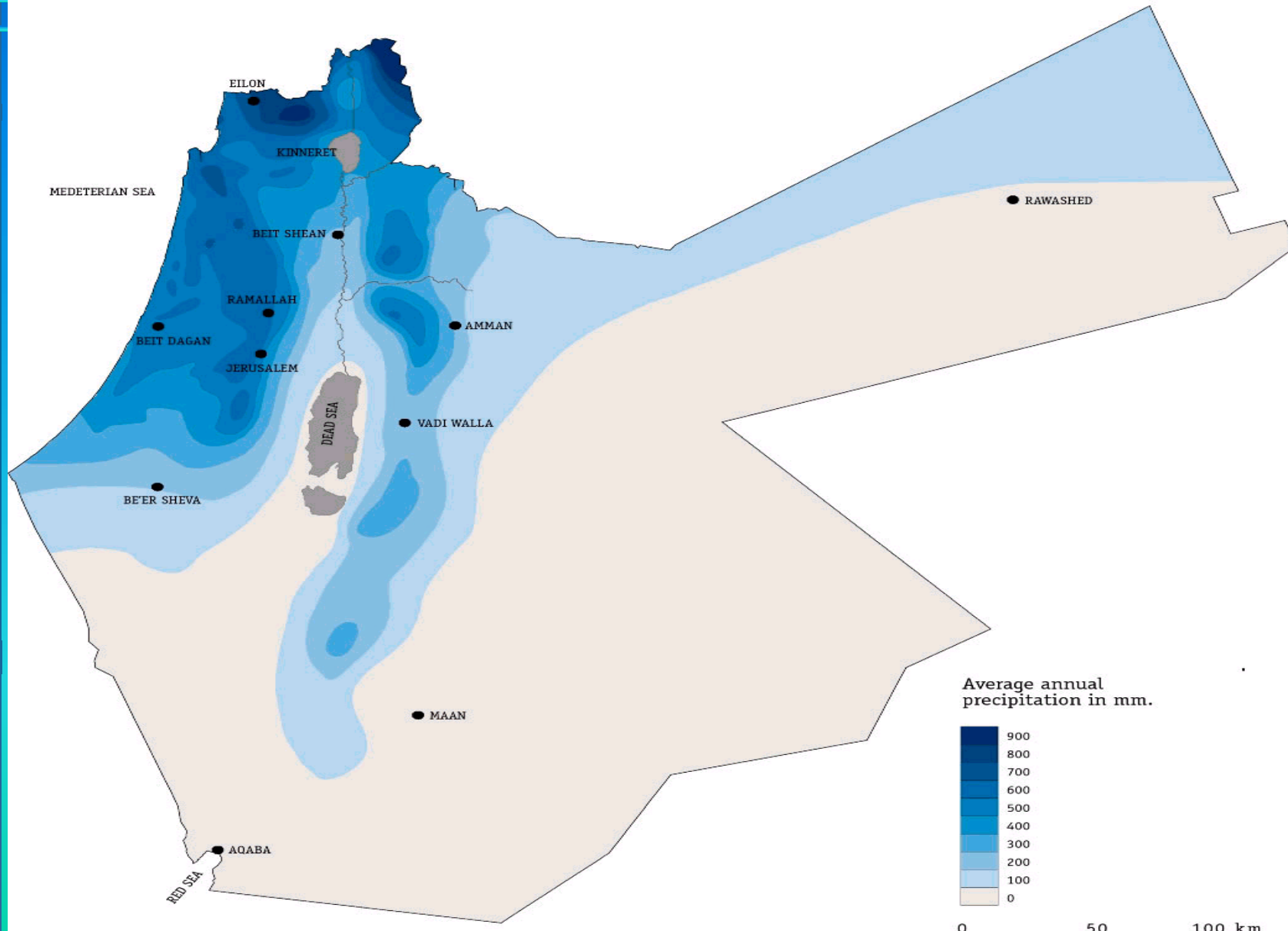
**Treaty of Peace - Jordan and Israel
26, October 1994**

**Israeli - Palestinian Interim Agreement
28, September 1995**

The water issue is an integral part of the whole agreement and is a part of constellation of issues, such as security, borders etc.

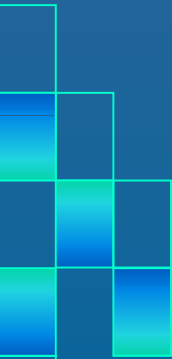
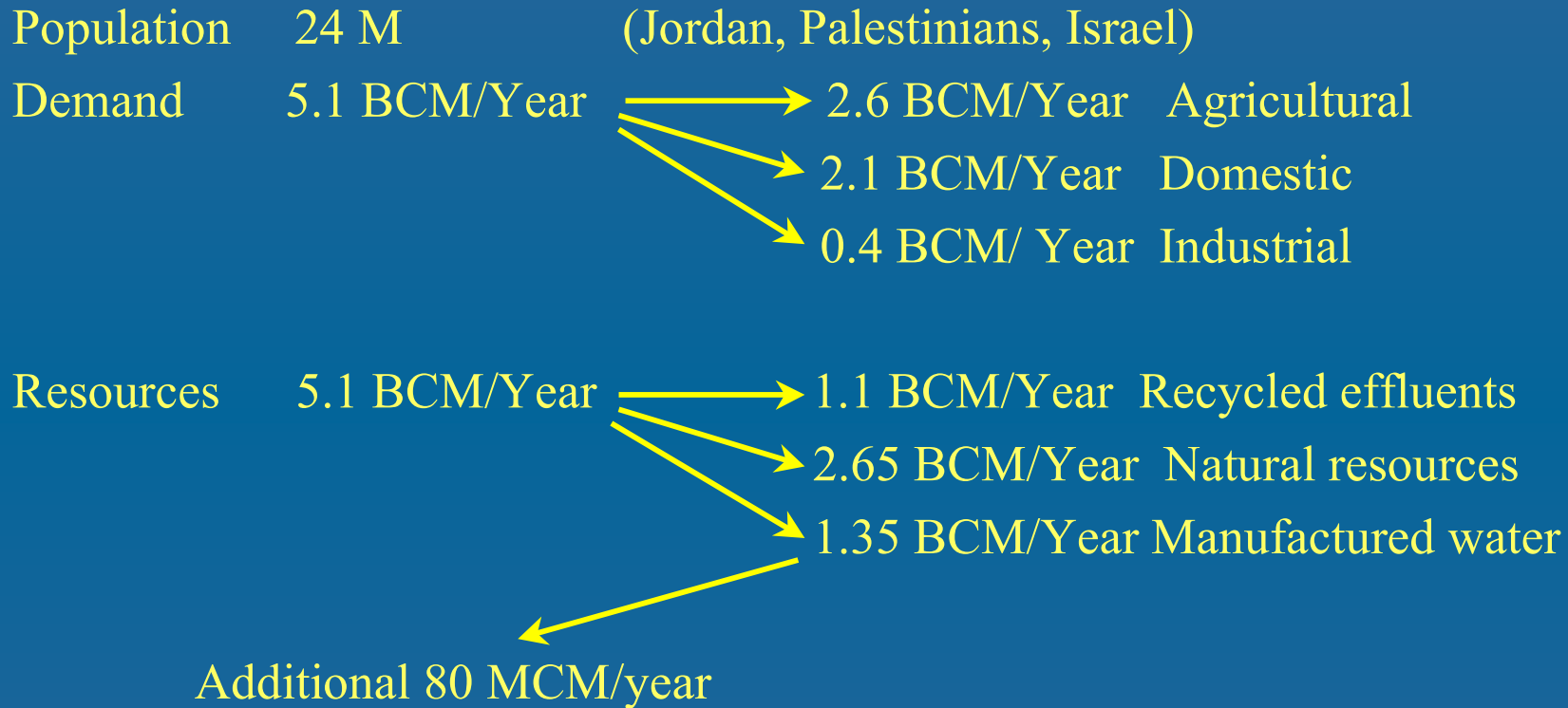


Quantity of rain in region decreases as we travel eastward and southward. In fact, 70% of the region is defined as a desert, receiving a meager 50 mm to 200 mm of rain per year. In the rest of the region, precipitation is 300 mm to 750 mm per year and only on mountaintops in the northwestern areas is there more rainfall.



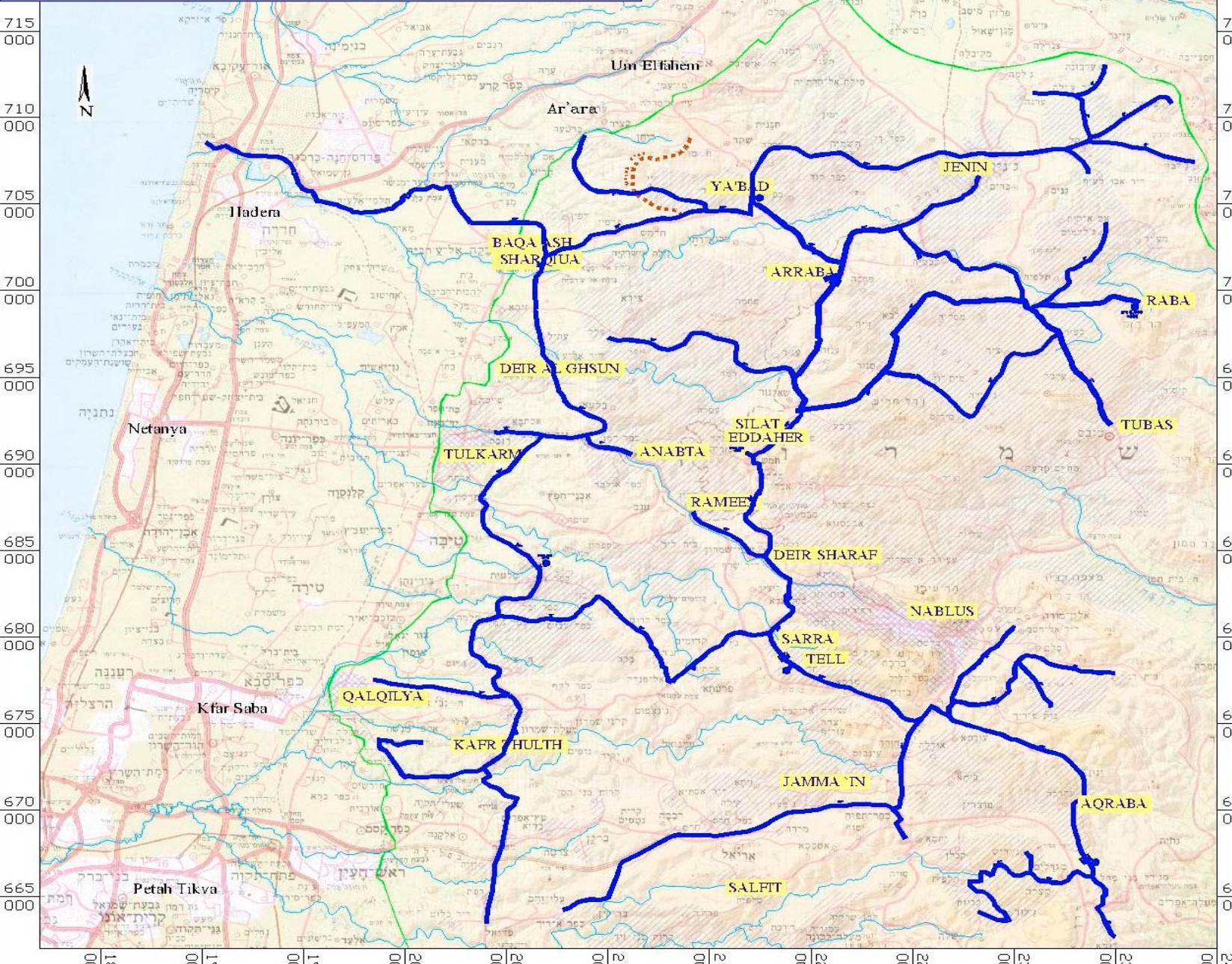


Water Demand in the Region 2020





Water supply to the Palestinian Authority From Hadera desalination plant. Alt - A



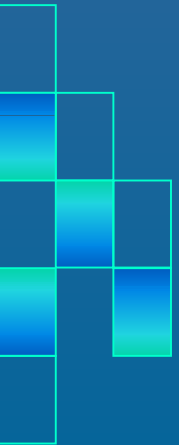
La Martinique 24-28 January 2004

INBO - 6th Assembly



- **Water supply is out of the conflict even during fighting.**

Commitment not to harm water resources of the other side and the preservation of existing resources.





ISRAELI – PALESTINIAN JOINT WATER COMMITTEE

Joint Statement in Support of USAID Water and Wastewater Projects

The Israeli and Palestinian delegates to the Joint Water Committee reaffirm our commitment to cooperate in order to maintain and improve the water and wastewater infrastructure in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. We recognize that the provision of water and treatment of wastewater satisfy basic humanitarian needs, and we renew the call made in January of 2001 that all those involved in the current crisis as well as the public in general not purposefully damage the water and wastewater infrastructure.

We also make special recognition of the water and wastewater infrastructure projects funded by the U.S. Government through USAID that currently are providing services, as well as those in the planning stage. We note that these projects are of concrete, long-term benefit to the people of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The fundamental services the currently operating facilities now provide are of critical importance, and the projects now in the planning and design phase, when completed, will fulfill additional critical water and wastewater infrastructure needs that will provide vital services into the future long after the current crisis is resolved.

Due to the length of time needed to complete water and wastewater infrastructure projects, the Joint Water Committee urges the U.S. Government and USAID to continue all of the water and wastewater infrastructure projects currently underway in the planning or implementation stage. We pledge to do all within our capabilities to see that these projects are carried out with a minimum of disruption due to the current crisis, and we agree to encourage the relevant authorities to facilitate the movement of personnel and goods necessary for the completion of the projects, as well as provide adequate security for all personnel involved in these projects.

Done at Tel Aviv, 17 June of 2002

Shimon Tal
Israeli Water Commissioner

Nabil El-Sharif
Chairman, Palestinian Water
Authority

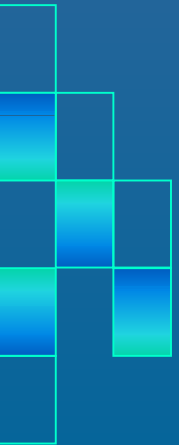


Operation of special “Jset’s”- Joint Supervision and Enforcement Teams.

Multilateral activity – informal, assisting the bilateral activity

Enhancement of data availability, Water resources management and preservation, principals of regional cooperation.

Joint Water Committee (JWC), Joint Technical Committee and sub-committees, operating on a regular basis.





Bilateral activity – Israel – P.A.

Type of Meetings	No. of Meetings
Joint Water Committee	4
Joint Technical Committee	3
Joint Technical Sub-Committees Water, Wastewater, Wells, Supervision and Enforcement, Special Projects, Emergency and Coordination	8
Trilateral Meetings	1
Heads of JWC with the Israeli Minister of National Infrastructures	1
Total:	17

Other – during that period were held at least 10 joint meetings of Israeli and Palestinian teams in frame of routine work with Mekorot Co. and Coordinator Officer for Water Affairs



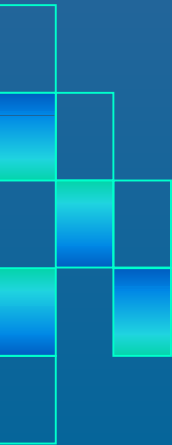
Principals stipulations

Current Water resources are not sufficient to meet all the needs.

Redistribution of the existing water resources is not a solution.

Development of additional water resources is essential.

Exploitation of all water resources, including recycled effluents is needed, in adequate quality.





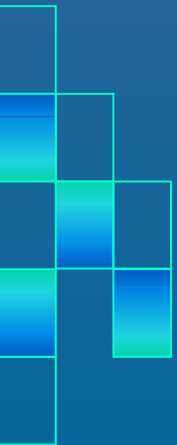
Water resource can be managed only by one party. The other parties have the right for water allocations independently from the hydrology situation.

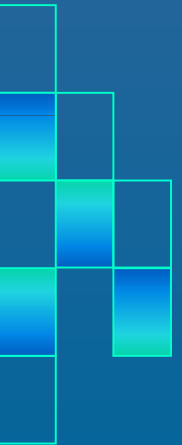
Agreement to mutually recognize “rightful allocations” from shared water resources.

Maintenance of existing usage.

Mutual assistant in alleviating water shortages.

Israel recognizes the Palestinian “water rights” in the West Bank (to be discussed in the final agreement).





Each party operates facilities on the sovereign territory of the other side.

Explicit reference to future water.