



## International Round Table

# The Nile: Sharing Experiences, Sharing Visions

Convened by the DSE-Forum in co-operation with Nile-TAC  
on behalf of the German Government and the World Bank

Petersberg Guesthouse, Bonn, Germany  
28 May - 1 June 2000

## Programme

Entwicklungspolitisches Forum  
Development Policy Forum  
Villa Borsig, Berlin

EF



Deutsche Stiftung für internationale Entwicklung	German Foundation for International Development	Fondation Allemande pour le Développement International	Fundación Alemana para el Desarrollo Internacional
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on behalf of the German Government:

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)  
Foreign Office (AA)

and the World Bank

**Petersberg Guesthouse, Bonn, Germany**

**28 May - 1 June 2000**

## **Programme**



## Preface

Together, we warmly welcome you to the International Round Table: "The Nile: Sharing Experiences, Sharing Visions." We are delighted to have this opportunity to bring together officials from the Nile Basin countries and German and European institutions to foster an exchange of experience on international waters.

The focus of our Round Table is transboundary river basin development and regional cooperation as an engine for national and regional economic growth. The object of our consideration will be the Rhine River, a mighty artery in the heart of Europe, one of Germany's main international rivers, and a major axis of economic development. The Round Table should enable us to become familiar with the socio-economic benefits from, and the instruments for, cross-border cooperation on international waters in the Rhine basin; and to consider lessons relevant for the Nile Basin, focusing on the major transboundary themes:

- sharing benefits and costs of joint projects/initiatives/activities;
- institutional approaches for co-operation, including confidence
- building;
- public-private partnership, including cross-border private financing; and
- balancing economic development and environmental management.

We very much look forward to getting to know one another and to a lively and open exchange of experiences to identify development opportunities associated with transboundary river basin management. We hope that the institutional system of cooperation between Rhine riparian countries will serve as an example of the potentials and challenges of integrated river management, and that this might promote and catalyze partnerships in the Nile Basin.

Dr. Gudrun Kochendörfer-Lucius  
Director  
Development Policy Forum  
DSE

Hon. Shiferaw Jarso  
Chairman of the Nile Council of  
Ministers  
Minister of Water Resources, Ethiopia

Dr. Heinz Bühler  
Director General  
German Foundation for International Development (DSE)

## **International Round Table**

### **The Nile: Sharing Experiences, Sharing Visions**

Convened by the DSE-Forum in co-operation with  
Nile-TAC (Technical Advisory Committee)  
on behalf of the German Government and the World Bank

Petersberg Guesthouse, Bonn, Germany  
28 May - 1 June 2000

## **Programme**

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*Conference languages will be English, French and German with simultaneous interpretation services.*

**Sunday, 28 May 2000 (Mainz)**

Until 17:00 *Arrival of Participants at Frankfurt Airport,  
Transfer to Hotel Hilton in Mainz (about 1 hour)*

19:00 **Welcome and Introduction**

*Opening, welcome and introduction to the programme.*

**Gudrun Kochendörfer-Lucius**, Director, Development Policy  
Forum of the German Foundation for International  
Development (DSE)

**Manfred Konukiewicz**, Head of Division, Infrastructure,  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and  
Development (BMZ)

**Dagmara Berbalk (Ms)**, Head of Division, National and  
International Water Policy, Federal Ministry for the  
Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)

**Stephen Lintner**, Senior Environmental Advisor,  
World Bank

20:00 **Dinner**

**Monday, 29 May 2000 (Mainz, Koblenz and Bonn)**

- 9:00      **Excursion on the Rhine River** (from Mainz to Koblenz by boat)  
*For your comfort we suggest that you wear casual clothes on the boat. Walk to boat 'Eurostar' at pier right in front of the Hotel Hilton.*
- 10:00      **Exchange of Experience: an introduction to the Rhine**  
*An introduction for the Nile visitors to the general historical and geographical background of the Rhine Basin (social, demographic, economic, political) and a brief overview of Rhine co-operation, within a broader European context.*
- Veit Burger**, DSE-Forum: Introduction to the day's program.
- Prof. Karl Hofius**, Secretary of the German IHP/OHP National Committee, Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG), gives an introduction to the history of the Rhine and cooperation, and comments on the river as we pass through.
- Monique de Vries (Ms)**, State Secretary of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, Netherlands: *'Living with the River'*, a multimedia presentation on the Dutch vision and experience with the Rhine.
- Discussion
- 12:00      *Adjourn*
- 12:30      Lunch
- 14:00      **Exchange of Experience: an introduction to the Nile**  
*An introduction to the River Nile and to the Nile Basin Initiative, to set the stage for the Rhine hosts.*
- Meraji O.Y. Msuya**, Secretary of the Nile-Basin Initiative Secretariat (Nile-SEC): A comprehensive presentation of the Nile Basin and the Nile Basin Initiative.
- David Grey**, World Bank, Lead Specialist for Water Resources, Africa Region, a reflection on international waters in Africa, recognising the differences and considering possible parallels with the Rhine.
- Discussion

**Monday, 29 May 2000 (continued)**

- 15:30      **Visit to the Rhine Commission in Koblenz**  
*An introduction to the work of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR) and the Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG)*
- Harm Oterdoom**, Secretary General, the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine (ICPR)
- Manfred Tippner**, Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG)
- Discussion
- 17:00      Departure by bus to Bonn
- 18:30      Arrival at Petersberg Guesthouse  
*Check-in at Hotel*
- 20:00      **Reception and Dinner at the invitation of the BMZ**
- Welcome of Guests and Introduction of Dinner Speaker by **Uschi Eid (Ms)**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Dinner Speech by **Ernst Ullrich von Weizsäcker** (Member of Parliament)
- 'Rivers: A wonderful Pretext for International Co-operation'**

**Tuesday, 30 May 2000 (Petersberg, Bonn)**

9:00

**Opening Session**

Chair: **Hon. Shiferaw Jarso**, Chair of the Nile Council of Ministers, and Minister of Water Resources, Ethiopia

Welcome: **Heinz Bühler**, Director General, German Foundation for International Development (DSE)

Introduction: **Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

Keynote Address: **Uschi Eid (Ms)**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

10:00

Coffee break

10:45

**Background to Session 1-4** **Stephen Lintner and Veit Burger**  
'Background and Format of Round Table'

*Sessions 1-4 are devoted to four major sectors: water resources management, infrastructure, trade, and environment; the exchange of experience and the discussion in each session will touch upon the following transboundary themes:*

- *Sharing benefits and costs for joint projects/initiatives/activities;*
- *Institutional approaches for co-operation, including confidence building;*
- *Public-Private partnership, including cross-border private financing;*
- *Balancing economic development with environmental management.*

10:45

**Session 1**

**Water Resources Management: managing the river together**

*This session will examine experience in the joint management of the River Rhine itself, including issues such as:*

- *The political history of co-operation (and non-co-operation);*
- *The development of institutional structures;*
- *The costs and benefits of co-operation;*
- *The main management challenges of today (pollution, flood, river regulation, navigation, etc);*
- *Lessons learned.*



**Tuesday, 30 May 2000 (continued)**

**Co-Chair: Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

**Inputs by: Jean Marie Woehrling, Secretary General,  
Zentralkommission fuer die Rheinschiffahrt  
(ZKR), (Central Commission for Rhine  
Navigation)**

**Fritz Guercke, President, Wasser- und  
Schiffahrtsdirektion Südwest, (Regional  
Waterways Authority South-West)**

**Wolfgang Abel, Division Chief, North Africa I,  
Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau (KfW)  
(German Development Bank)**

Discussant from the Nile Basin

Dialogue

12:00 *Adjourn*

12:30 Lunch

14:15 **Session 2**

**Infrastructure: the river, infrastructure and joint development**

*This session will examine:*

- *Links between the river and energy, transport, water supply and sewerage, and other infrastructure;*
- *The development of transboundary co-operation in infrastructure development;*
- *Institutional frameworks;*
- *Infrastructure financing (public and private).*

**Co-Chair: Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

**Inputs by: Norbert Frece, Managing Director,  
Ruhrverband (association of waterworks in  
the Ruhr-region)**

**Walter Jülich, Managing Director,  
International Association of Waterworks in  
the Rhine Catchment Area**

Discussant from Nile Basin

Dialogue

**Tuesday, 30 May 2000 (continued)**

- 15:45      **Coffee break**
- 16:30      **Departure for Beethoven House, Market Place and Town Hall  
in Bonn**
- 17:00      **Reception at the Bonn Town Hall**  
             **Welcome:      Mayor of Bonn**  
             **Vote of Thanks: Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**
- 18:00      **Departure for brief tour of Bonn's surroundings on the way to**
- 19:30      **Dinner in scenic Restaurant Hohenzollern  
in Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler, outside Bonn**

**Wednesday, 31 May 2000 (Petersberg, Bonn)**

9:00

**Session 3**

**Trade and Industry: the influence of the river on business links**

*This session will examine:*

- *the Rhine Basin as an 'engine' of Europe's economy;*
- *the explicit role of the river in cross-border trade and industrial co-operation;*
- *the implicit consequences of the communications links and open borders arising from the shared river basin on trade and industrial cooperation;*
- *promotion of and incentives for cross-border trade;*
- *examples of private sector initiatives;*
- *lessons learned.*

**Co-Chair: Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

**Inputs by: Klaus J. Rudhardt, Director, Strategy and Communications, Deutsche Investitions und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG)  
(German Investment and Development Company)**

**Donal T. O'Leary, Senior Power Advisor,  
Siemens AG, Power Generation (KWU)**

Discussant from Nile Basin

Dialogue

10:30

Coffee break

11:00

**Session 4**

**Environment: sustainability, a common goal**

*This session will examine co-operation in the environmental management in the Rhine Basin, including consideration of such issues as:*

- *The evolution of environmental awareness;*
- *The trade-offs between economic activity and environmental risk; public perceptions and participation;*
- *Guidelines, standards and goals;*
- *Legislation and regulation;*
- *Costs and financing of environmental protection, monitoring and clean up;*
- *Lessons learned.*

**Wednesday, 31 May 2000 (continued)**

**Co-Chair: Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

**Inputs by: Christiane Markard (Ms), Head of Water Protection Division, Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environmental Agency)**

**Stefan Hill, State Ministry for Environment, Rhineland-Palatinate**

**Rainer Durth, Corporate Policy Section, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), (German Development Bank)**

Discussant from Nile Basin

Dialogue

12:30 *Adjourn*

13:00 Lunch

14:30 **Session 5**

**From Shared Vision to Co-operative Action**

*This session will take a regional perspective, examining Rhine cooperation within a European context, and tell the broader story of the progressive development of European cooperation and integration post World War II.*

**Co-Chair: Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

**Inputs by: André Liebaert, European Commission, DG Development, Infrastructure sector policies (Water)**

**NN, French-German Cooperation**

Discussant from Nile Basin

Dialogue

16:00 Coffee break

**Wednesday, 31 May 2000 (continued)**

**16:30      Closing Session**

Chair:            **Michael Hofmann**, Director General,  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation  
and Development (BMZ)

Report by:      **Rapporteurs** (World Bank)

Remarks by:   **Representatives of DSE-Forum,**  
**Environment Ministry (BMU) and**  
**Foreign Office (AA)**

Reflections:    **Member of the Nile Council of Ministers**

**18:00      *Adjourn***

**19:30      Reception and Dinner**

At the invitation of German Foundation for International  
Development (DSE)

**Thursday, 1 June 2000 (Petersberg, Bonn)**

**9:00      Meeting of the Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM)**

*Programme to be determined by Nile-COM, as required*

**12:30      Lunch**

**15:00      Meeting of the Nile Council of Ministers (continued)**

**19:30      Dinner**

*(Early departures)*

**Friday, 2 June 2000**

***Transfer to Frankfurt Airport***  
***Departure of participants***