

Mechanics of Conflict Resolution

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on

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Water Conflict

“Conflict between countries, states, or groups over the access to water resources for drinking, fishing, agriculture, food production, industry , trade , energy, health and etc”

Some of major water conflicts

- In the Middle east Turkey, Syria , Iraq over the Rivers of Euphrates and Tigris
- Israel, Lebanon and Jordan over Jordan river
- Egypt, Ethiopia, and Sudan over the Nile river

Issues in South Asia

- There are around 20 major rivers and river basin systems which cut across and flowing through South Asian countries namely Afghanistan, Bhutan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and Nepal
- Between Sri Lanka and India over fishing rights in the Indian Ocean etc

How to resolve conflict due to water

- The conflicts should be resolved
 - At local and National levels
 - At regional level
 - At international or global level

How conflicts could be resolved

- Through cooperation and commitment of all the related stakeholders
- It should have political will
- It should have benefits to all the stakeholders
- It should have climate of accountability and transparency for cooperation
- It should have consultation, commitment and consensus by all the parties

Approaches to resolve Water conflict should be

- A multilevel inclusive approach for water cooperation
- Should be Innovative
- It should have benefits of water cooperation for all stakeholders
- For co-operation for peace and security
- Directed towards sustainable development and environmental sustainability
- For poverty alleviation and universal water access

Some International action taken to resolve conflicts

- There had been 37 major reported cases of conflicts due to water
- Over 200 global, international treaties on water cooperation throughout the world have been agreed upon
- Water cooperation and MDGs
- Jordan River water agreement almost 40 years
- Capacity to cooperation on water for Nile river
- In this South Asia region
 - Indus basin treaty India and Pakistan for 10 years

Some International action taken

- International Year of Water Cooperation : UN Resolution 65/154 ; Proclamation of 2013 as the International year of water
- World Water co-operation day 22nd march 2013
- 8-10 Jan 2013 Annual Water Conference , preparing for 2013 International Year for water cooperation
- 19th June 2012 ,UNESCO and UN water side event at Rio+ 20 Water Conference
- Convention on the Protection and Use of Trans-boundary Water Courses and International Lakes

Some International action taken

Actions taken under other International conventions such as

- UN Convention to combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

Our Role

What we can do

- Intergovernmental Organizations
 - South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP)
 - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- Government
- Other organizations
- Private Sector
- NGO and Civil Society

Thank You