

Developing an International Water Agreement in the UN Context: Possibilities and Obstacles

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Abstract:

The UN has been involved in many aspects of education since its inception. Many of these objectives are implemented through UNESCO - the UN Education, Science and Cultural Organization. Through the years UNESCO has tried to respond to priority needs in education having a direct impact on the quality of life for the world's poor. One of its cutting edge programs is in educating the next generation of water managers, planners, engineers and scientists at the post graduate level at the UNESCO Institute for Water Education in Delft, The Netherlands. Why did UNESCO select water as a focus for their efforts? How do political decisions, scientific advancement and the need to generate funds affect the ability to meet the mandates of the Member States? What is the institutional context of operating an educational institution that serves the world really like? These questions will be presented and discussed during this lecture.