



**Under the patronage the representative of His Majesty  
King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein  
His Royal Highness Prince Hashem Bin Al Hussein**

**Ministerial Conference on Water**

speech of His Excellency Engineer Raed Abu Saud,  
Minister of Water and Irrigation  
At the opening of the  
Monday, 22/12/2008 at nine thirty - morning

**In The name of God the Merciful**

**Sir Representative of His Majesty the Hashemite King  
Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein sponsor of the conference,  
His Royal Highness Prince Hashem Bin Al Hussein**

*Excellencies Minister*   
*Ladies and Gentlemen*  
*Greetings Jordanian Hashemite*

**Today I have the honor to welcome you of the conference, on behalf of the representative of His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein HRH Prince Hashem Bin Al Hussein, as we meet today in Jordan, hope and peace, filled with great hope and determination to achieve the aspirations of the people of our region of safe water which we are taking steps to outline a water strategy for long-term of the Mediterranean basin, a region which is the beating heart of the civilization throughout history, and as all of you must know, the challenges we are facing in our region in general and Jordan in particular, the disruption of Water equation between demand and supply by forced migrations over the past years, especially drinking water, in other hand, climate change, sharp drop in precipitation and increased demand as a natural result of developments in the region.**

Up to the moment, water budget deficit in Jordan over the (500) million m<sup>3</sup> / year and did not exceed the per capita share of the (150 m<sup>3</sup> / year), while the global water poverty line is (1000 m<sup>3</sup> / year).

**Let please bring to your attention the differences in water conditions between the North and South in our region, we must strengthen cooperation and development of the appropriate frameworks for the sustainable management of water resources, and find appropriate solutions to bridge the gap between the water availability in the North countries, and resources scarcity in the south.**

**We (the people here in Jordan) believe that the needs to concentrate efforts and integrate development to have solutions at the regional level, and we are working hard to promote this cooperation to reach better results and cooperation with all countries in the region, that has come a long way in providing non-traditional water sources, and the pace of Jordan has taken great to make use of water form wastewater treatment plant where the major source of budget in Jordan, as well desalination of brackish groundwater wells to be used for drinking water, also promote private sector participation in the management of water facilities, BOT, and to provide Services, where the water strategy is consider as the implementation the vision of the Royal Commissioner in the projects implementation, which confirms the government's firm resolve to implement the important**

**strategic projects such as the drawing of water from Disi to Amman, and Red Dead Sea Canal, which we hope to achieve the foundation stone for water security in the kingdom in the long run.**

**All thanks to God before and after. Your Highness the gratitude appreciation for your participation-today.**