

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC ON  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUMPING STATION IN THE TERRITORIES  
OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FOR WATER WITHDRAWAL  
FROM THE TIGRIS RIVER**

The Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

- i. In the context of good neighborly and friendly relations, and the ongoing strategic cooperation with a view to develop the cooperation on water issues and strengthen solidarity,
- ii. By taking into consideration the requirement of water for irrigation, food and development of both countries,
- iii. Acknowledging what was agreed upon during the First Ministerial Meeting of the High Level Strategic Cooperation Council between Syria and Turkey which was held in Aleppo and Gaziantep on 13 October 2009.

The Parties have agreed on the following issues;

**ARTICLE 1**

Syria, shall construct a pumping station in the territories of the Syrian Arab Republic at the part of the Tigris River forming a border between Turkey and Syria in order to use the amount of irrigation water stated in Article 4 as according to Syria's requirements.

Syrian side shall submit all the information related with the investigation, planning, project and construction and annual working plans of the aforementioned station to the Turkish side.

**ARTICLE 2**

Syrian side shall not make any intervention that can cause modification in the bed of the Tigris River and the changes in the thalweg line designating Turkey-Syrian border in the region, during the construction of the pumping facility and later on water withdrawal process.

### ARTICLE 3

If creation of water diversion facility or water collection volume through excavation or construction is being considered for pumping, the Syrian side shall submit all information related with the project, construction and possible all environmental effects of this facility to the Turkish side and to coordinate with it.

### ARTICLE 4

Syria shall use maximum 1 billion 250 million m<sup>3</sup> of waters from the Tigris River per annum. The distribution of this total amount according to the months is stated below;

<u>Month</u>	<u>Use (m<sup>3</sup>/s)</u>	<u>Volume (Million m<sup>3</sup>)</u>
October	15	40
November	15	39
December	10	27
January	15	40
February	25	60
March	90	241
April	100	259
May	100	268
June	50	130
July	25	67
August	15	40
September	15	39
<b>Total</b>		<b>1250</b>

Syrian side can use monthly average in accordance with water amounts stated in the above-mentioned table, from the Tigris to the extent that the flow of the river at the pumping place and time permits.

## **ARTICLE 5**

Syrian side pledges to submit information concerning her usage of average amount of water from the Tigris by pumping station per month to the Turkish side during the first week of every month, via diplomatic channels regularly.

## **ARTICLE 6**

Upon reaching a final allocation agreement of the waters of Tigris-Euphrates Rivers among Turkey, Syria and Iraq, the total amount of water assigned to Syria from the said Rivers in accordance with Article 4 of this MoU will be deducted from the Syrian share from the Tigris River.

## **ARTICLE 7**

During the preparation of the project and construction of the pumping facility in the separate and collective works carried out by the Parties, all kinds of data and information as well as geographical materials like maps, plans, photographs and films obtained as a result of all kinds of measurement and investigation works carried out in the Turkish territory shall not be disseminated to a third party, unless agreed to the contrary by both Parties.

The commitments of the Parties mentioned in this Article shall continue regardless of the validity of this MoU.

## **ARTICLE 8**

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Turkey, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry-the General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works, and on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic, the Ministry of Irrigation-the General Commission for Water Resources, will be responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding related with the above-mentioned pumping station and will provide necessary coordination.

## **ARTICLE 9**

Both Parties shall complete their respective internal procedures for entry into force accordingly.

## **ARTICLE 10**

The conflicts, which may arise from implementing this Memorandum of Understanding, shall be settled friendly through consultations and negotiations between the two Parties without resorting to a third Party.

## **ARTICLE 11**

Any Party can present, if it deems necessary, a proposal for amendments or additions to this MoU, and in case the Parties agreed to these amendments or additions, they shall be included in a protocol annex to this MoU, and shall enter into force in accordance with the mechanism provided for in Article 9 of this MoU.

Done in Damascus on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, on two original copies each in the Turkish, Arabic and English languages, all the texts are being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

**H.E. Veysel Eroğlu  
Minister of Environment and Forestry**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

**H.E. Nader Al Bounni  
Minister of Irrigation**