

The Union for the Mediterranean

**Designing regional strategies and promoting
of projects for dealing with Environment and
Water issues in the Med.**

Dr. Rafiq Al-Husseini

DSG Environment & Water, UfM

MISTRALS Workshop

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Rather than Clash and Conflict between Euro-Mediterranean Empires & Civilizations...



UfM aims to achieve Regional Security, Cooperation and Development through Positive Dialogue, Constructive Discourse and Common Projects



UfM is an Opportunity Especially Now!!

- North and South people innate wish is to **cooperate and coordinate** their future together;
- We have to **reject the doom and gloom scenarios leading to clash of civilizations!**
- UfM can be a **win-win situation.**

UfM Secretariat

- **Statutes**

Agreed by 43 members of SOM (March 2010)

- **Structure: SG +6 DSGs (Sep/Oct 2010)**

- SME + Funding (Italy)
- Civil Protection & Social Affairs (Malta)
- Energy (Greece)
- Transport & Urban Development (Turkey)
- Education & Research (Israel)
- Environment & Water (Palestine)
- Still incomplete!

Environmental Challenges in the Mediterranean Region

- Serious environmental threats to *biodiversity*, natural resources, *habitable areas*, health and food security.
- Major challenges of *water scarcity and drought*.
- *Global warming* will increase pressure on water resources already squeezed by escalating demand from growing populations & improved standards of living.

Each Year, Green Areas Larger than Tunisia and Equal to Greece and Portugal together, is **Desertified**

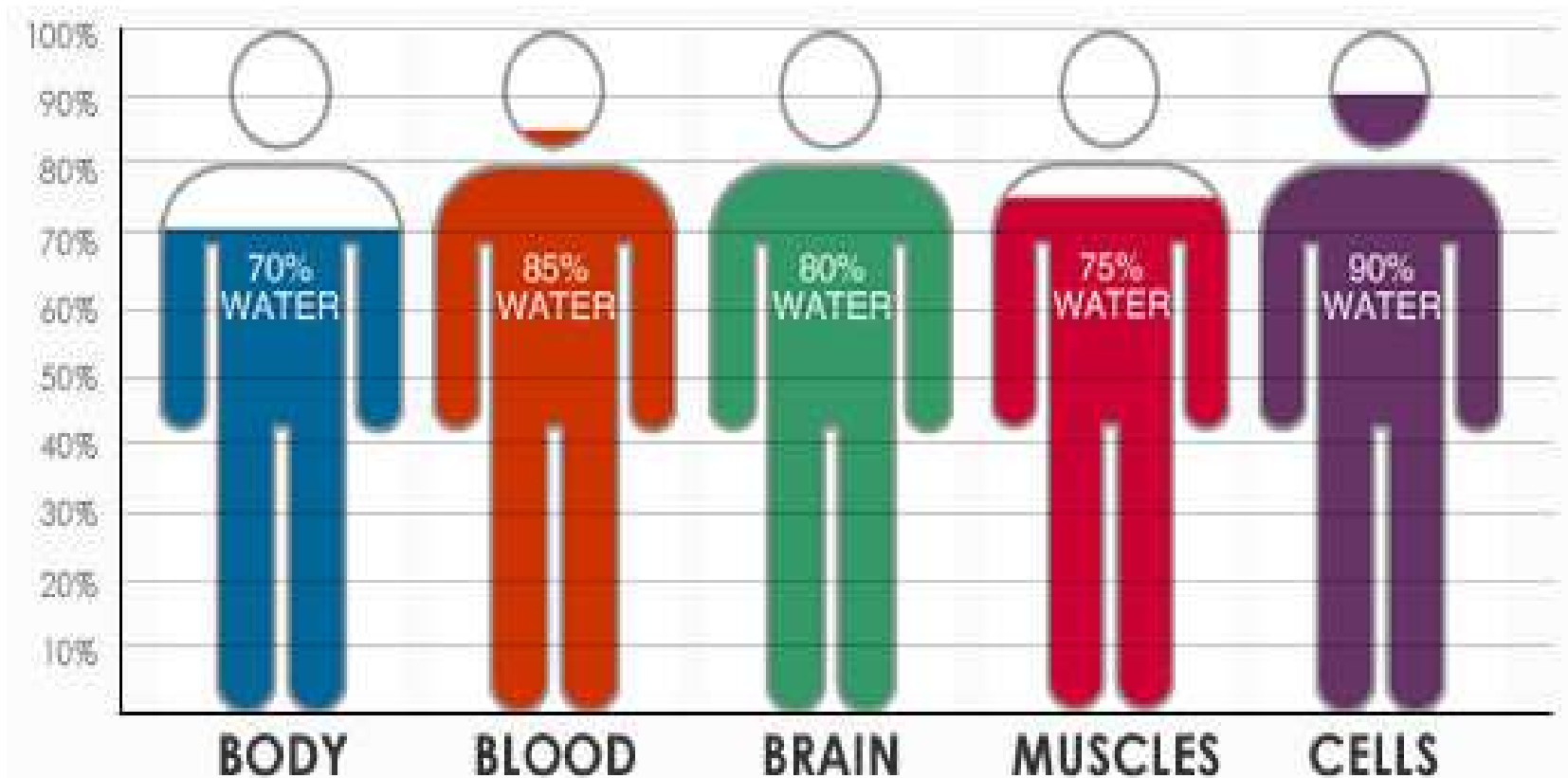


In Past, Wars Were Fought Over Land

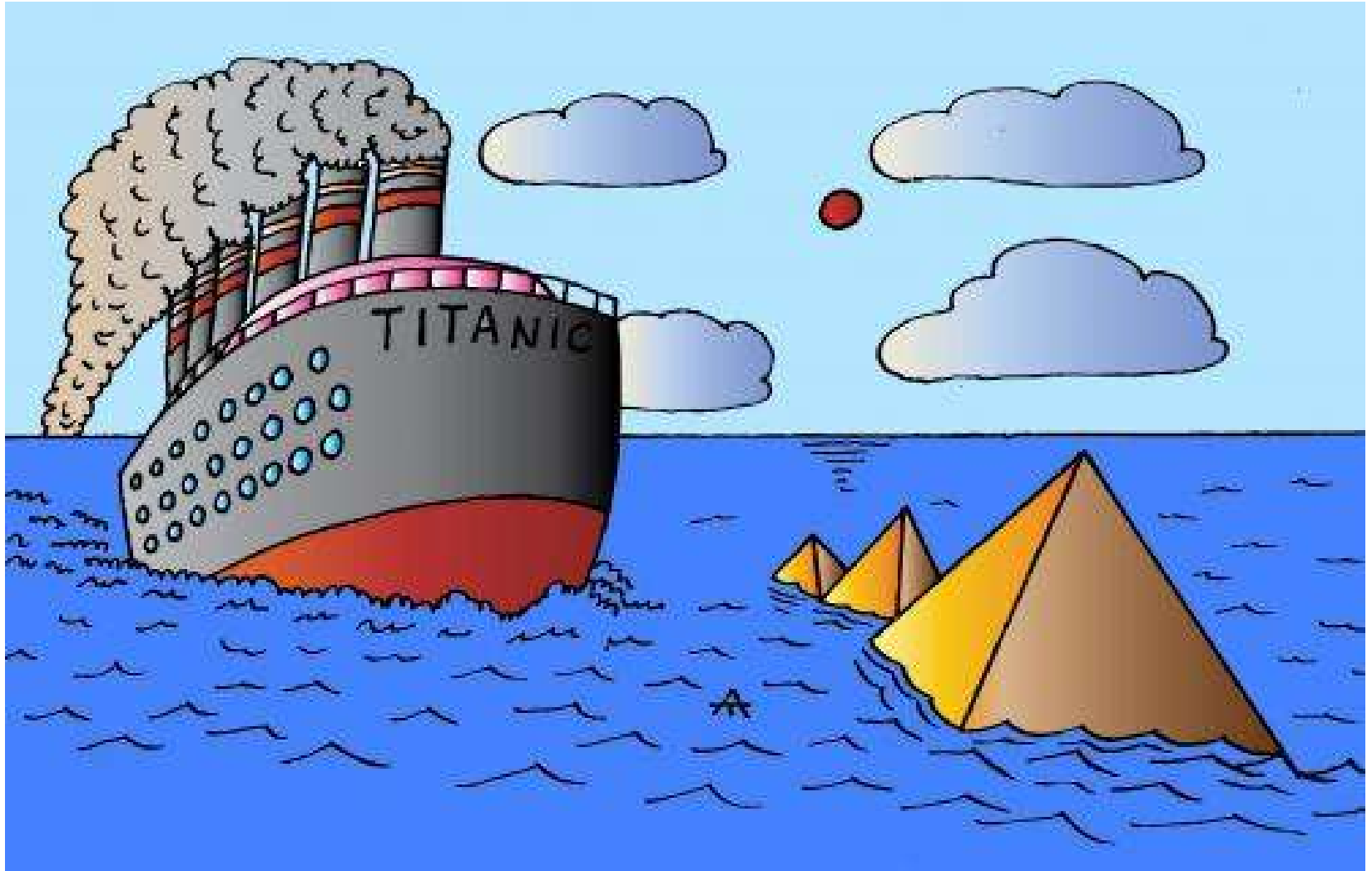


**IN THE FUTURE, WARS WILL
BE FOUGHT OVER WATER**

Remember: All scientists (good and bad) are full of water!



Climate Change and the Mediterranean



Carbon Emissions in the Environment



Specific Objectives for UfM Secretariat Environment & Water Division

1. Identify and promote concrete UfM branded projects and explore funding mechanisms
2. Promote dynamic implementation of Environment H2020 agenda and other major considerations (climate change).
3. Secure wide and meaningful stakeholder participation, including private sector and NGO participation.
4. Ensure completion of strategic action planning for Water and promote collaborations for projects' development.
5. Prepare Studies and establish/develop networks

Water Strategy for the Mediterranean

- Ministerial Meeting on Water, Dead Sea, Jordan 2008.
- Promote projects that directly contribute to the implementation of “Water Strategy for the Mediterranean” once endorsed.
- Currently awaiting political endorsement by the 43 countries

H2020 Initiative

- Cairo Ministerial Conference in 2006.
- Promote projects that will contribute to implementation of Horizon 2020 Initiative to De-Pollute the Mediterranean through tackling, by 2020, sources accounting for around 80% of pollution loading.
- Mainly municipal solid and liquid waste and industrial emissions.

Climate Change

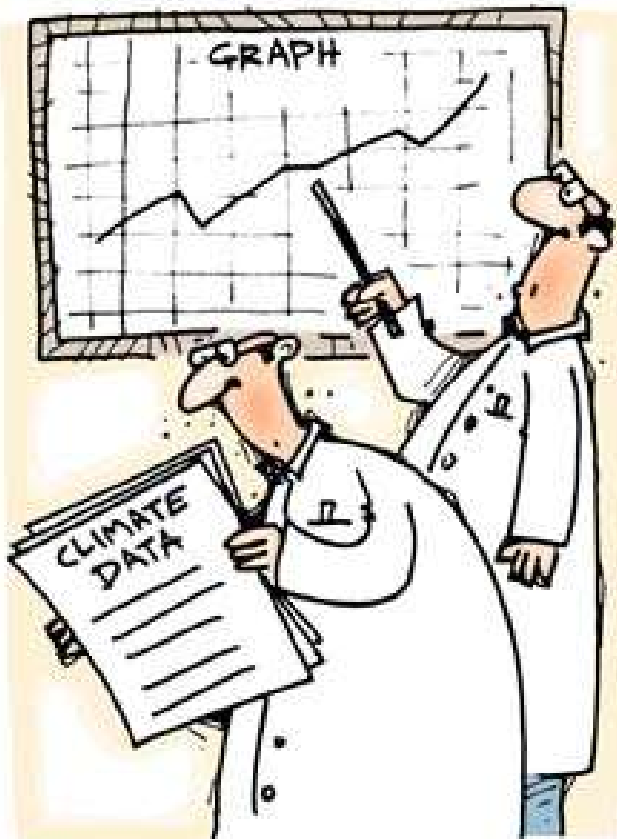
SUfM Short/Medium-Term Strategies

- Promote/market longstanding universal climate change policies and projects by adopting innovative approaches.
- Reach parts others have not been able to reach.
- Involve women and youth in the battle; they have proved themselves in being catalysts for revolution and change.
- Think big but hail even the tiniest step forward!

Guiding Principles for UfM-Branded Projects

- **Regional/Sub-Regional/transnational**
- **Innovative**
- **Cost- Beneficial/Effective**
- **Piloting Cutting-Edge Technology**
- **Applying as much "Green", "Clean" and "Renewable Energy" as possible in project development**

ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ...



THE SCIENTISTS

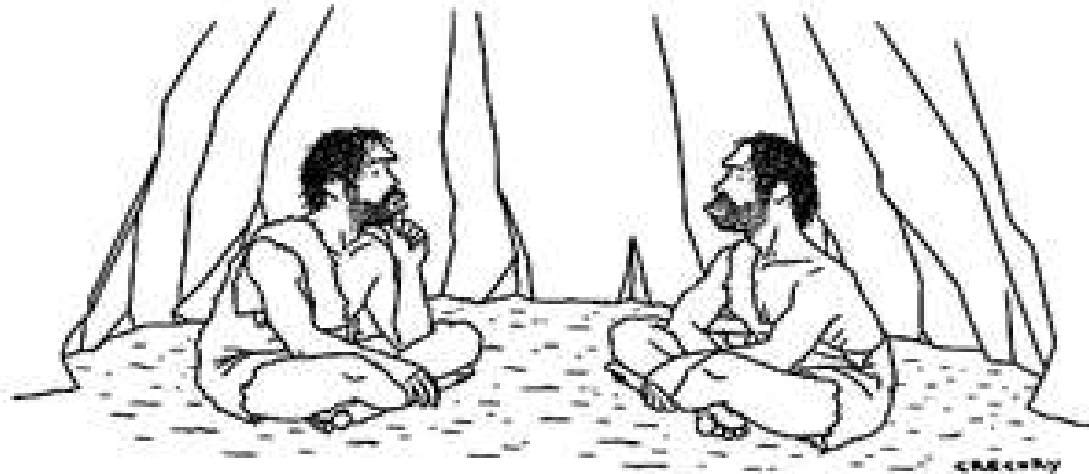


THE POLITICIANS

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As researchers, you understand that the answer is never obvious!

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“Something’s just not right—our air is clean, our water is pure, we all get plenty of exercise, everything we eat is organic and free-range, and yet nobody lives past thirty.”