

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Declare The Press Release in the Occasion of the World Water Day, 22/03/2006

Daily Water Supply for Domestic Sector per Capita was 111.4 (liter/capita/day) in 2005

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics declare a press release in the occasion of the World Water Day which encounter in March 22. The press is focusing on the main statistical water indicators in the Palestinian Territory.

Water is considered as one of the most important and sensitive issues in the Middle East, where increasing water deficiency and deterioration of the available water are imminent. A major issue is that water resources are very limited and do not meet the needs of the existing population and coming generations.

This is a more obvious and acute problem in the Palestinian Territory, which suffers from water deficiency, and has no control on the limited resources which controlled by the Israeli authority, as Palestinians are deprived from legal share of water. Therefore the importance of providing accurate statistical data about this subject become a nessicity issue.

The Quantity of Water Purchased from Israeli Water Company (Mekorot) Amounted to 46 million m³ in 2005

Water resources in the Palestinian Territory are restricted mainly to ground water that abstracted from wells and springs and water purchased from Israeli Water Company (Mekorot), where the water purchased from Israeli Water Company (Mekorot) was 46.22 million m³ in 2005.

Data show that the number of wells in the Palestinian Territory was 4,392 in 2004, of them 287 wells were found in the West Bank and 4,150 in Gaza Strip. The quantity of water pumped from these wells reached to 196.08 million m³ for domestic and agricultural uses. Data show that the average annual discharge of springs was 53.64 million m³ in 2005, and its important to know that springs existence is restricted in the West Bank governorates.

Water Supply for Domestic Use:

In 2005 Daily Water Supply for Domestic Sector per Capita was 111.4 (liter/capita/day)

Data show that the quantity of water supplied for domestic use in the Palestinian Territory was 153.03 million m³ in 2005, and that the quantity of supplied water for domestic use per capita was 111.4 liter/capita/day in the Palestinian Territory (of which 27.4% were purchased from Israeli Water Company (Mekorot)) distributed as 86.4 liter/capita/day in the West Bank and 154 liter/capita/day in Gaza Strip.

In Israel, the supplied water quantity for domestic use was 815 million m³ in 2003 with 330.9 liter/capita/day the quantity of supplied water for domestic use per capita for the same year, These figure show the big gap between the per capita between the Palestinian and the Israelis.

Conection to Public Water Network:

**184 localities in the Palestinian Territory do not Have Public Water Network (31%)
with 220,763 Projected Persons
90.5% of Households in the Palestinian Territory are living in Housing Units Connected
to Public Water Network**

The results of 2005 showe that 184 localities in the Palestinian Territory do not have public water network (31%) with 220,763 projected persons, of which 183 in the West Bank. The results reveal also that 58 localities were connected to public water network after 1998, of which 52 in the West Bank.

Regarding the main source of water, data show that 117 of the connected localities to public water networks in the Palestinian Territory in 2005 get water through Israeli Water Company (Mekorot), while 109 of the connected localities to the public network in the West Bank get water through the West Bank Water Department. However in Gaza Strip, 24 of the connected localities to the public network get water through Wells, and only 4 localities get water through Israeli Water Company (Mekorot).

Household Environmental Survey 2005 Results show that 90.5% of households in the Palestinian Territory are living in housing units connected to water public network, and this percentage distributed into 86.7% of households in the West Bank, against 97.9% of households in Gaza Strip. Results also show that 6.9% of households in the Palestinian Territory depend on water tanks.

**13.2% of households in the Palestinian Territory consider the Public water network
quality as bad**

Household Environmental Survey Results of 2005 show that 54.0% of households in the Palestinian Territory consider the water quality as good, and this percentage was 81.3% of households in the West Bank compared with 6.2% of households in Gaza Strip. where 13.2% of households in Palestinian Territory consider it as bad quality, where it reaches 32.1% in Gaza Strip.

**As a Result to The Construction of the Expantion and Annexation Wall 95% of the
Western Basin Water will be Confiscated**

The construction of the Expantion and Annexation Wall is considered to be a unilateral fixation of borders, and it aimed to isolates Palestinians from their own water resources, where 95% of water will be taken. In addition it will isolate farmers from their water wells, more than 36 water wells will be lost. The construction of the Expantion and Annexation Wall will guarantee confiscate 12 million m³ of the Western Basin where its water capacity reaches more than 400 million m³, which are a Palestinian water that totally formulated inside the West Bank borders.