

Abdin Salih

Mr. Abdin Salih serves as a full Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Khartoum since 1982 and is currently a Member of its Governing Council. He is currently a member the Executive Board of UNESCO and the Governing Board of UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education based in Delft/the Netherlands. His education included a first class honor degree in Civil Engineering from Khartoum University and DIC and Ph.D from Imperial College in London in 1973. He held various academic positions at many universities in Africa, Middle East, Europe and USA and served as the Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum in 1991/2. He worked for UNESCO from 1993 to 2008 as regional hydrologist in Cairo, deputy secretary of the International Hydrological Program of UNESCO (IHP) in Paris and Director of UNESCO regional offices in Cairo and Tehran. UNESCO called him again in September 2011 from retirement, as the secretary of the UNESCO/IHP and the Director of the Water Sciences Division in Paris for one year; and in May 2014 as the interim Director of UNESCO Regional Office in Cairo till February 2015. Prior to that he was elected in 2008 as the President of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP of UNESCO for two years. He published over 90 scientific contributions in refereed journals and specialized conferences. His research interest includes areas related to water resources management in arid zones. He has been a member/fellow of many scientific organizations such as IAHR, IWRA, ICID, and is currently a member of the governing council of the Arab Water Council. He is a Fellow of TWAS, African Academy of Sciences and awarded ISESCO AWARD for excellence in Sciences.

He served as a consultant for many regional and international organizations including: UNESCO, WMO, FAO, WB, UN-ESCWA, AOAD, ACSAD, ALECSO, ISESCO. He provided consulting services to many countries in the region and abroad. Most important of these is leading various international teams for finding solution for the rising groundwater beneath the city of Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. He is one of the founders of many regional and global networks including: The African Division of the IAHR; the Wadi Hydrology and Groundwater Networks in the Arab region; The MAB network of the Arab region; the IHP global G-WADI network; the World Water ASSESSMENT Program(WWAP); the UNESCO-IHE, the regional G-WADI networks in Asia, Africa and the Arab regions.