

“Minister calls for Korea’s assistance in resolving water shortage problem in Jordan”

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Minister El-Nasser attends the World Water Forum… “With annual average precipitation of 90mm… Jordan is among the world’s four major water-scarce countries distributing water weekly due to an influx of Syrian refugees”



“Jordan is one of the world’s four major water-scarce countries. I hope that Korea will come forward with its economic growth model and technology to help Jordan overcome its water shortage problem.”

Jordan’s Minister of Water and Irrigation Hazim El-Nasser (picture) strongly called for the expansion of Korean water-related cooperative projects during the interview with Dong-A Ilbo in a hotel in downtown Seoul Friday (Apr. 17). He visited Korea to attend the 2015 World Water Forum in Daegu from 12-17 April.

Jordan’s annual average precipitation is 90mm, less than one tenth of that of Korea which amounts to 1200 to 1500mm. Jordan has been suffering from a daily water scarcity because 92% of rain evaporates. Furthermore, demand of water has increased by 21% due to 1.3 million of Syrian refugees entering Jordan to flee from the conflict in their homeland. Considering the population of Jordan (approximately 6.5 million), it can be learned how serious the refugee problem is. Minister El-Nasser voiced concern that “The current situation is likely to get worse even though we are enforcing a weekly system for provision of water.” He said, “Developing a partnership with Jordan will offer Korea an opportunity to extend its operations into Middle East, including an entry into the halal (Muslim ingredients) food market for Korean companies.”

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