



EUROPEAN UNION WATER INITIATIVE

MULTISTAKEHOLDER FORUM

Thursday 20th of August 2009, from 14.00 to 17.30
Room T4, Stockholm International Fairs, Älvsjö

WHY EUWI?

Conscious that water supply is a global concern, and willing to achieve the water and sanitation Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the European Commission, the EU Member States, partner countries and other stakeholders (civil society, the private sector, local governments...), decided to bring their strength and goodwill all together. The European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) was launched in Johannesburg at the 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD). The EUWI is working to reinforce political commitment to water and sanitation, and to create a strong and integrated framework for EU action.

WHY A FORUM?

Organised by the European Commission, the annual EU Water Initiative (EUWI) Multistakeholder Forum is a half-day session to:

1. debate the EU Water Initiative,
2. comment on its performance,
3. discuss its strategic choices.

Participants are invited to review progress during 2008, to discuss and to endorse proposals on strategy and work programmes at regional level.

The first part of the meeting will present and discuss the results achieved. The Initiative comprises 4 regional components: Africa, Eastern Europe Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), Latin America and the Mediterranean and the two thematic components of Research and Finance. What did they do? How did they succeed? What is the room for improvement?

The second part of the meeting will be round table discussions to exchange experiences, and to gather participants' inputs to ensure the future successful development of EUWI. What can be learned and applied from failures and successes? How to reinforce commitments? How to accelerate progress?

AGENDA

- Convenors: European Commission with support from the Swedish Water House
- Chair: Mr. Antonio Garcia Fragio, European Commission

14:00: EU Water Initiative Achievements and Plans

1. Welcome & Introduction by Chair, Antonio Garcia Fragio, Head of Unit, European Commission
2. Opening words, Anders Berntell, SIWI
3. Activities of the EUWI and the Way Forward
 - ✓ Highlights by Regional Stakeholders on EUWI outcomes
 - Mr. Gagik Khachatryan, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee of Water System from the Armenian Ministry of Territorial Administration**
 - Mr Bai-Mass Taal, Executive Secretary, AMCOW – African Minister Council of Water**
 - Prof. Edward N. Kairu, ANEW – Africa Civil Society Network on Water & Sanitation**
 - ✓ Highlights by the leads of the components of the EUWI on lessons learnt and the way forward: Africa (T. Zipper), EECCA (A. Drapa) , Mediterranean (Prof. Michael Scoullos) , Research (A. Blenkinsopp) and Finance (J. Holmberg)
 - ✓ The way forward, Maria Vink, the EUWI Secretariat

15:00: Coffee break

15.30: EU Water Initiative Round Table Discussions

One topic per table, (each participant will be able to join discussions at three different tables). Topics (preliminary):

How can the EU Water Initiative best contribute to:

- Improvement of aid effectiveness in the water sector?
- Get water and sanitation higher on the political agenda and sustain interest?
- More effectively link water to other sectors, i.e. health, education and agriculture?
- Climate change adaptation?
- Stimulate transboundary cooperation?
- Better link research and policy?
- Increase accessibility of information?
- Increase involvement of stakeholders?
- How could the EUWI improve its performance?

17.00: Conclusions & Wrap-up by EU Presidency, Mia Horn af Rantzien, Deputy Director-General, Sida

17.30: Close of Seminar