



## Freshwater Action Network

### **The UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Implementation Processes**

This briefing will attempt to explain the commitments made at the UN Millennium Assembly in 2000 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 and the various implementation processes. Both are tackling water and sanitation simultaneously but this appears to be largely a coincidence. They overlap within the context of commitments (i.e. the CSD launch of a programme of actions for the MDG drinking water commitment) but there is no mention of the two processes or UN departments within which they are both based working together.

#### **MDG and CSD COMMITMENTS**

##### **Drinking Water**

**MDG:** halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015

**WSSD:** states agreed to launch a programme of actions, with financial and technical assistance to achieve the MDG on safe drinking water.

##### **Sanitation**

**MDG:** sanitation was not mentioned as a goal but is seen as part of achieving the 'significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers'.

**WSSD:** all governments agreed to a new target to halve the proportion of people without access to basic adequate sanitation by 2015 which includes actions to:\*

- (a) Develop and implement efficient household sanitation systems
- (b) Improve sanitation in public institutions, especially schools
- (c) Promote safe hygiene practices
- (d) Promote education and outreach focused on children
- (e) Promote affordable and socially and culturally acceptable technologies and practices
- (f) Develop innovative financing and partnership mechanisms
- (g) Integrate sanitation into water resources management strategies.

##### **IWRM**

**WSSD:** All governments confirmed they would develop plans for integrated water resource management and water efficiency by 2005 with support to developing countries.

\*this was agreed at Johannesburg and is now being treated as an MDG

#### **UN-Commission on Sustainable Development Process**

The UN-CSD was created in December 1992 as the UN body to follow-up, monitor and report the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED - also known as the Earth Summit), in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It is housed in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), New York. One of the main outcomes of the Earth Summit was Agenda 21. The 2002 WSSD was a ten-year review process of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. The CSD has recently adopted a new programme of work to include the

commitments made at the WSSD. The table shows the time-line for addressing each issue over the next 15 years.

### Cycle Thematic Cluster

Cycle	Thematic Cluster
2004/2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Sanitation</li> <li>• Human Settlements</li> </ul>
2006/2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy for sustainable development</li> <li>• Industrial Development</li> <li>• Air Pollution/Atmosphere</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> </ul>
2008/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Rural Development</li> <li>• Land</li> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Desertification</li> <li>• Africa</li> </ul>
2010/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Chemicals</li> <li>• Waste Management</li> <li>• Mining</li> <li>• A Ten Year Framework for programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns</li> </ul>
2012/2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Biotechnology</li> <li>• Tourism</li> <li>• Mountains</li> </ul>
2014/2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oceans and Seas</li> <li>• Marine Resources</li> <li>• SIDS</li> <li>• Disaster Management and Vulnerability</li> </ul>
2016/2017	Overall appraisal of implementation of Agenda 21, The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI).

#### **Cross cutting issues to be addressed in every cycle**

Poverty Eradication; Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production; protection and managing the nature resource base of economic and social development; Sustainable Development in a globalising world; Health and sustainable development; Sustainable Development of SIDS; Sustainable Development for Africa; Other regional initiatives; Means of Implementation; Institutions Frameworks for Sustainable Development; Gender Equality; and Education

## **CSD Two Year Implementation Programme**

"Implementation Cycles" last for 2-years and include a Review year and a Policy year. The first cycle, from April 2004 – April 2006 will be known as CSD-12, will focus on water, sanitation and human settlements.

### The Review Year – April/May 2004

The Review Sessions will be held in April/May to undertake an evaluation of progress, identify constraints and obstacles to implementation. It will include a high level segment, an exchange of regional experiences, dialogues with 'experts', sharing of best practices and a partnership fair.

UN Regional commissions can hold CSD regional implementation meetings to contribute to the CSDs Review Session, these should allow for inputs from Major Groups.

The Review Sessions will be based on the Secretary Generals 'State of Implementation Reports' (reviewing A21, Joburg Plan of Implementation), which itself will draw on reports from regions, sub-regions, countries and civil society of their 'results-orientated' activities. It is hoped the Review Sessions will pave the way for policy discussion in Policy year, with a view to strengthening implementation.

### The Policy Year – 2005

The second year of the cycle will convene with an intergovernmental preparatory meeting. Policy options and possible actions to address the constraints and obstacles as identified during the review year will be discussed. The Chair will prepare a draft negotiating document for consideration. This session will take policy decisions on practical measures and options for implementation related to the thematic cluster.

### Regional meetings

For this year, since time is limited, the Regional Commissions will use existing and planned regional meetings, such as the Pan-African Conference on Water, as opportunities for regional inputs. Regional commissions are also investigating other means of obtaining inputs from a range of regional stakeholders in the preparation of the regional reports on progress in implementation that they plan to provide to CSD-12 process.

### Reporting

Countries will be asked to submit voluntary reports to focus on concrete progress in implementing the water and sanitation targets from Johannesburg. Reports should consider the social, environmental and economic aspects of sustainable development. Inputs should come from all levels: national, sub-regional and global. The reports together with contributions of UN agencies, programmes and funds, the Global Environment Facility, Major Groups, regions and sub-regions and international financial and trade institutions will form the basis of the Secretary-General's State of Implementation Report.

### Major Group Decisions

Contributions of Major Groups to the CSD will be enhanced; through their involvement in the interactive dialogue during the high-level segments; making multi-stakeholder dialogues more action and implementation orientated; striving for a better balance and better representation of Major Groups from all regions at the Commission; as well as through their active involvement in partnership related and capacity-building activities organised as part of the CSD.

### Partnerships

The government of Italy will host, in cooperation with the CSD Secretariat, an international forum on partnerships, to be held in Rome Spring 2004.

### High-Level Segment

Many countries highlighted the importance of regional Implementation Forums, to offer opportunity for building relevant partnerships that could be replicated and monitored to deliver JPOI and the MDGs. Cote d'Ivoire and Libya both underscored the NEPAD priorities and termed it an appropriate framework for regional implementation.

### **UN Millennium Project - Implementation**

The Millennium Development Goals are an ambitious agenda for reducing poverty that world leaders agreed on at the Millennium Summit in September 2000 and outlined in the Millennium Declaration. For each goal one or more targets have been set, most for 2015, using 1990 as a benchmark.

### Task Forces

The United Nations Millennium Project, launched in 2002, identifies the best strategies for meeting the MDGs. The Task Forces are being managed by the UNDP. The core of the Millennium Project's work will be by Task Force; one of these – the Millennium Project Task Force on Water and Sanitation (Task Force 7) -- will focus on water and sanitation.

The Task Force will identify strategies and actions needed to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. It will also work with other Task Forces of the Millennium Project to identify and communicate the actions and strategies required to help achieve the other Millennium Development goals and targets.

Initially the main roles of the Task Force are to prepare a background issues paper and operational proposals. An interim report will be available by mid-to-late 2003. The Final Report, which will be published alongside the background studies and completed during 2004 or early 2005, this will be integrated into the Millennium Project's Final Report, and in turn presented to the Secretary General for his review and public circulation.

Other Task Forces are looking at other MDGs, some have relevance for water and sanitation: TF1 Poverty; TF2 Hunger/agriculture; TF3 Gender and education; TF4 and TF5 Health; TF6 Environment; and TF8 Improving the lives of slum dwellers.

### Participation

The Task Force consists of UN and international agency representatives with a small number of other organisations. FAN member WaterAid has been invited to be an NGO representative on Task Force 7, other civil society groups are Gender and Water Alliance and the Earth Institute at Columbia University. Members of Task Force 7 are outlined below:

### Membership of Task Force 7

Roberto Lenton [Co-Chair]  
The Earth Institute at Columbia University

Albert Wright [Co-Chair]  
Chair, Africa Water Task Force

Margaret Catley-Carlson  
Global Water Partnership (GWP)

Ivan Cheret  
Consultant

Kamla Chowdry  
Vikram Sarabhai Foundation (VSF)

Jennifer Davis  
Professor, Department of Urban Studies & Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Mi Hua  
Water Action Unit, World Water Council

Richard Jolly

Mike Muller  
Director General, South Africa Department of Water Affairs

David Seckler

Michel Camdessus  
Chair, Panel on Water Infrastructure Financing

William J. Cosgrove  
Vice President, Programs, World Water Vision/World Water Council

Gourisankar Ghosh  
Executive Director, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

Torkil Jonch-Clausen  
Chair, Global Water Partnership Technical Committee

Dennis Mwanza  
Director, Water Utilities Partnership (WUP)

Ravi Narayanan  
Director, WaterAid

Noma Nyoni  
Deputy Director, Gender and Water Alliance, Institute of Water and Sanitation Development (IWSD), Harare ZIMBABWE

Dr. Rita de Cassia Rego, Director, Epidemiology Division, Department of Health, Salvador, Bahia BRAZIL

Frank Rijsberman  
Director General, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)  
Colombo SRI LANKA

Gordon Young  
Coordinator, World Water Assessment Program (WWAP)

Ingvar Andersson  
Senior Water Advisor, Environmentally Sustainable Development Group, United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Manuel Dengo  
Chief, Natural Resources, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Halifa Drammeh  
Deputy Director, Division for Policy Development and Law, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Kalyan Ray  
Chief, Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch, United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Jamal Saghir  
Director, Energy and Water & Chair, Water and Sanitation Sector Board, World Bank  
Andras Szollosi-Nagy  
Deputy Assistant Director-General, Science Sector & Director, Division of Water Sciences, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Vanessa Tobin  
Chief, Water, Environment and Sanitation, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

#### Subgroups

Integrated Water Resource Management

The human values approach

Sanitation Typologies of situations where water and sanitation are inadequate  
Recommendations regarding global institutions

Financing Monitoring

The Task Force will work through a series of subgroups, each with their own Terms of Reference, these are still being developed. The subgroups have been asked to produce a situation report on what is currently being done, what are the gaps and recommendations on bridging the two. Inputs into the subgroups will be by presentation of case-studies and email discussions.

#### Timetable

Early 2003: Background issues papers completed

Early 2003: Task Force Co-Coordinator work with the Project Director and the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) team in the preparation of the MDG-focused HDR 2003, published in mid-2003 (this is out now).

Throughout 2003: Commissioned papers written and circulated

End 2003: Interim Reports of the Task Forces completed

Mid-2004: The Millennium Project consolidates the findings included in the Task Forces' Interim Reports to produce an overall Millennium Project Interim Report that will be presented to the UN Secretary General and UN Administrator.

Mid 2005: The Millennium Project issues its final recommendations in a Final Millennium Project Report to the UN Secretary General and UN Administrator.

The Water & Sanitation Task Force is likely to meet twice a year with the next scheduled meetings being in New York in 21 – 22 October 2003 and in India March 2004. Drafts of the subgroups' situational papers will be reviewed by the Task Force at their October 2003 meeting.

#### **SUMMARY**

WSSD implementation is being managed by the Commission on Sustainable Development, which is part of UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and reports to the Secretary General.

The Millennium Development Goals implementation process is being managed by the UN Development Programme and reports to the Secretary General.

It is clear that over the next few years there is going to be a focus on water and sanitation by the United Nations. Disappointingly, despite these two processes being similar in their goals, the evidence seems to suggest that they are going to work side by side instead of together. FAN will be following both processes and will provide further updates as the processes develop.

## **ANNEX**

### **Useful Web links**

Freshwater Action Network [www.freshwateraction.net](http://www.freshwateraction.net)

UN Commission on Sustainable Development website:

<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd.htm>

WSSD Plan of Implementation [Johannesburg Plan of Implementation]:

[http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD\\_POI\\_PD/English/POIToc.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POIToc.htm)

Partnerships for Sustainable Development and Summary:

[http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/partnerships/list\\_partnerships.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/partnerships/list_partnerships.htm)

Sustainable Development Issues Network <http://www.sdissues.net/SDIN/>

Earth Negotiations Bulletin Briefing Note

[http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/csd/csd11/CSD\\_Briefing\\_Note\\_march\\_2003.html](http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/csd/csd11/CSD_Briefing_Note_march_2003.html)

International Institute for Sustainable Development <http://www.iisd.ca/linkages/csd/csd11/>

Details of the MDGs can be found on: <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/index.html>

[http://www.developmentgoals.org/About\\_the\\_goals.htm](http://www.developmentgoals.org/About_the_goals.htm)

United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service [www.unsystem.org/ngls](http://www.unsystem.org/ngls)

United Nations Development Programme <http://www.undp.org/mdg/>

Millennium Summit <http://www.un.org/millennium/summit.htm>

Human Development Report <http://hdr.undp.org/>

### **Contact Details**

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