

Official outcomes from the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico

During the closing plenary of the Forum, Alejandro Encinas, Mayor of Mexico City, expressed hope that the forum's outcomes would make water a national priority and noted the important role of public participation and local authorities in Mexico's water governance. He concluded by stressing that water should be seen as a common public good and not as a commodity.

Initiatives Announced

- 2008 International Year of Sanitation, UN Sanitation Prize, and 2015 global sanitation conference (recommendations of the UN Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation)
- France's commitment to doubling its efforts in water and sanitation
- Asia-Pacific Water Forum, established by ministers from the Asia-Pacific region
- WWC's Water for Schools initiative providing water to 1,000 schools in ten countries, and the creation of schools for training higher-level technicians
- Memorandum of Understanding between UN-HABITAT and the African Development Bank to release US\$550 million for meeting the MDG water target in Africa.
- [Water Integrity Network](#)
- [The Water Dialogues](#)

Ministerial Declaration

The Ministerial Declaration was predictably disappointing and failed to recognise water as a human right. Read it [here](#) (PDF, 78 Kb)

Bolivia, Cuba, Venezuela and Uruguay issued an additional statement recognising water as a human right and the need to protect water from free trade agreements. These declarations are obviously crucial advances for the campaign to get water out of the WTO.

Session Reports

World Water Council session reports are posted on their [website](#). The official final report of the 4th World Water Forum includes a summary of financial commitments, agreements and initiatives launched, documents and reports, bilateral meetings, declarations and awards. Read it [here...](#)

Voices from the Forum

The World Water Council prepared a daily synthesis report at the Forum asking participants for their views and messages, lessons learnt, and recommendations for action through questionnaires submitted in every session.

[Read a summary of the key messages](#)

Database of Local Actions

A new database was launched containing information compiled during the 2003-2005 CDS cycle. Local actions will be added to the [Water Action and Networking Database \(WAND\)](#) maintained by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)

Other Reports

The International Institute for Sustainable Development Reporting Services is recognized for its objectivity and expertise. They sent a team of reporters to Mexico City to report on the big plenary sessions and other discussions. However there is no reporting of our own meetings. [Read it here](#)

[The United Nations World Water Development Report 2006](#) focuses on governance and political corruption which costs the water sector millions of dollars every year and especially affects the poor.