

Memorandum for a World Water Protocol

Conference Secretariat

Peace with water

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Introduction

This memorandum exposes the reasoning that justifies the urgency of an initiative in favour of a new *worldwide water policy*, inspired by a new political water paradigm resulting in a global water plan.

In the first instance, this initiative requests the inclusion of water issues as such, in the agenda of agreements which will be defined at the COP15 in Copenhagen in December of this year, within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climatic Change (UNFCCC). It is not about asking the UN to add certain 'water' aspects to a climate change agreement currently focused on energy, it is rather, to acknowledge the basic interdependence between water and life and therefore between water and environmental crisis. This is the reason why we propose a World Water Protocol.

With this objective in mind, it seems important to define the mainstream principles and outline the key contents to what could be a World Water Protocol. It goes without saying that any International protocol is the responsibility of each State and that it is their role to define, elaborate, discuss and approve it. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climatic Change appears to be the necessary overseer of such a Protocol in light of the current situation in international relations.

This memorandum is structured in three parts.

In the first part we will portray the reasons that justify the creation of a new Worldwide Water Policy. In the second part, we will present the recommendations of the Memorandum. In the third section, we will convey the detailed contents that we believe the World Water Protocol could and should contain. In compiling this document we have been fortunate to avail of both written and oral contributions from registered attendees at the "Peace with water" conference.

PART A

Argument for a World Water Protocol

The primary reason is the worldwide water crisis, which, calls for global solutions. The second reason is represented by the limits and insufficiency of the solutions given to this crisis and planned for by the international community.

1. The worldwide water crisis exists and it is serious.

From a quantitative perspective, water shortages are not only a serious problem for regions traditionally considered as lacking in water resources (Arid or Semi-arid areas in the west of the United States, North-eastern Brazil, Sahel countries, Spain and North Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Australia, parts of Central Asia...). Now however, it affects regions that are rich in water resources.

From a qualitative perspective, the decrease in water quality needed for human consumption is now a quasi-universal phenomenon. Not one country has been spared from the pollution and contamination of soil, air, rivers, lakes, rains...

The water crisis is exploding everywhere: China, the United States, and Mediterranean regions, Central Asia... In the last months the alarm calls came with increased frequency. The new World Economic Forum Water Initiative Report, presented on 30 January 2009, refers to a world heading towards water "bankruptcy".

Decreasing water quality together with shortages are deadly: as we know, the lack of access to drinking water and proper sanitation affects, according to UN figures, 1.1 and 2.6 billion human beings respectively. This results in the deaths, *daily*, of five thousand children under the age of 6 from illness caused by the lack of sufficient sanitation and unclean drinking water. A true political scandal let alone a humanitarian one.

The water crisis is well documented. Thanks to the huge efforts made since the 70's by the various specialized agencies of the United Nations, together with other national and international bodies, whether they be public or private, the world now possesses a true GWWL (the "Great World Water Library"), an extraordinary knowledge capital of which the most significant and recent elements are presented in diagram 1. In reading this, one understands to what extent knowledge is a global commons. The research, field work and analyses of tens of thousands of projects and real cases from small civilian organizations and social movements who are active in the area of water have also contributed in a remarkable way in building such a GWWL.

The following acquisitions give sense and depth to the *worldwide* water crisis.

First, since 1987 (the Brundtland report on “Our common future”), the International community had admitted the urgency of rebuilding the economic system (production and consumption trends) in the aim of promoting a new development paradigm, that of sustainable development. The western world, followed by so called developing countries, has not taken the necessary measures required: our economies have continued to exploit, waste and pollute so much, that in 2007, for the first time, the withdrawals of water resources in the world outweighed the capabilities of this resource to renew itself, a structural proof of a non sustainable economy. The bad management of water is intrinsically linked to a “predatory” economic system founded on the idea of a free exploitation of natural resources and on the faith in the ability of technology as an instrument, to resolve the problems caused by human actions.

Second acquisition: the main reason for the lack of access to clean drinking water and proper sanitation for billions of people is not in fact, the lack of water in the regions in which they live, but rather, poverty. It is not about a “physical shortage” but in fact an “economic shortage” (see the UNDP 2006 report dedicated to water). Increasing populations, particularly in poor regions, places significant pressure on availability and water quality, but this increase leads to water scarcity only and especially when the countries affected adopt the same principles and apply the same rules as that of unsustainable economic growth which is the cause of the water “crisis” in developed countries.

In 1995, the international community went from the strategy to eradicate poverty to that of the reduction of poverty. This has clearly not been in favor of the fight for access to clean water and sanitation for all.

Third acquisition: climate change, the causes of which are also intrinsically linked to our model of economic growth – contributes only to worsen accessibility and usability of fresh water in the world. This will occur even in the situation described in the least dramatic scenario among those outlined by the IPCC. According to the findings of a report dedicated to water (IPCC 2008), the negative effects of global temperature increase will mostly affect the regions that currently suffer from water shortage and the poorest populations. This way, by 2032, 60% of the global population (almost 8 billion people) runs the risk of living in regions with serious water shortages: an unacceptable situation.

Water in large urban areas will increasingly become the central issue for urban authorities. Already, water availability is one, if not the main preoccupation of Mayors in large towns in the United States, China, Mediterranean countries... to

mention but a few. It is especially the case in the large slums of Africa, Asia and Latin America. The United Nations' Human Settlements Program foresees an increase in the population living in slums to 2,4 billion people in 2030!

Finally, fourth acquisition: In view of the increasing shortages, conflicts between competitive uses and between communities (local authorities, regions, States...) have become more frequent and more serious; they are destined - in the absence of radical preventative measures - to multiply and become more violent in the coming decades. The works of the PCCP of UNESCO ("From Potential Conflict to Cooperation Potential") and that of the Green Cross International, show the preventability of water wars. Two main principles deserve to be redefined: the principle of utter national sovereignty, non shared, of natural resources (including water) and the principle of national water security. Our society is confronted with a water crisis of a global scale. This crisis calls for a Global political response.

Often recognized and affirmed by all the political, economic and social leaders, this need for a global response has not been translated, on an international level, over the last twenty years by appropriate measures. Priority has been given to methods and contents of *soft law*, which does not implicate, on an international level, any common political choices, nor does it impose any restrictive obligations for the parties involved. Therefore, the more the water crisis has taken on a global dimension and has worsened, the more local and national solutions have been affirmed. Of course, there are exceptions, as we can see from the works of the IERPE about the prevention and the solution of conflicts relating to transnational basins, this remains, however, at the scale of bi or multi-dimensional space (diagram 2).

2. The worldwide water crisis requires profound structural changes in the economic system and lifestyles.

The second reason is inherent to responses given and envisaged by the international community, notably since the first world summit on "environment and development" of 1992 in Rio de Janeiro of which, the final document (Agenda 21) dedicates a full chapter to the question of water.

The responses from the international community have gradually been defined and put in place within the framework and around:

- The achievement of the "United Nations Millennium Development Goals";
- The activities of the United Nations on the topic of sustainable development (Commission for Sustainable Development) and, especially,

a multitude of programs from different agencies of the UN on the subject of water (UN-Water is supposed to promote their coordination);

These found a platform for dissemination in the World Water Forum. This has become, in the space of ten years, the most worldwide "public" platform for the analysis, debate and choices concerning the global water policy.

The UN defined the "United Nations Millennium Development Goals" in September 2000. They were inspired by the Poverty Reduction Strategy promoted by the World Bank and approved by the UN World Summit on poverty and social exclusion in Copenhagen in 1995. In this context, the water objectives for 2015 - to reduce, by half, the number of people with no access to drinking water and sanitation - corresponds with the general objectives of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals which aims to reduce, by half, the number of people in "extreme poverty" (namely, those living on less than \$1 per day).

Such a target has become the reference for all activities and programs of UN agencies. The creation, within the secretariat of UNESCO, of the World Water Assessment Program (WWAP) has allowed a better integration of analysis and objectives from agencies more directly responsible for water issues (FAO, OMS, PNUE, PNUD, UNESCO, UNICEF...)²

In the meantime, the political atmosphere has been increasingly shaped by the winds of economic globalization, i.e. liberalization, deregulation, privatization, competitiveness, commodification of every form of life. As a result, we have witnessed the emergence of a wide consensus on ideas, interests, priorities and political choices between the representatives of private companies, the World Bank, the FMI and the OMC, national governments, the academic and technical world, UN agencies and various organizations from civil society. This increasing consensus was consolidated within the World Water Forum, organized by the World Water Council, a private organization created in 1995 with the support of the World Bank at the initiative of several private multinational water companies, some States and representatives of international water associations.

² In 1974, the international community gave itself the target to eradicate "absolute poverty" (less than \$2 per day) by the year 2000. In 2000, the "absolute poor" were almost 2,8 billion and the "extreme poor" 1,3 billion. In truth, the targets related to poverty defined in 2000 are not very ambitious as it is enough that in 2015, the per capita income of 1,3 billion people will increase to \$1,20 per day so that extreme poverty be eradicated completely from the world scene. ("Absolute" and "extreme" poverty are concepts that have been introduced by UN in 1974)

The responses to the crisis, in line with the spirit and essence of this global consensus, revolve around four political axis:

- The promotion and generalization of the “Integrated Water Resources Management” (developed in 1993 and since, widely spread in the world by the World Bank) founded on the hydrographic basin as a reference framework for the management and treatment of water as an economic good and on price set on the basis of the full cost recovery principle (“consumer pays”, “water finances water”).
- The promotion and development of a PPP (Private Public Partnership) notably in the creation of *multi utility* companies, the entrance of water companies on the stock market, the funding of water activities through market financial mechanisms (I.e. “project financing”)
- Promoting water markets within every stage of the economic water cycle, “to regulate” the competition for resources;
- Giving priority to water supply thanks to a full-scale innovative technology policy (groundwater exploitation, irrigation, desalination, large dams, recycling waste water...);

Nobody could deny the importance and value of these aforementioned answers. Likewise, any “new” initiative can only be fueled and enriched by the knowledge that is confounded by multiple experiences, actions, existing solutions and those in progress.

However, the persistence, if not the worsening of the crisis and its globalization, point forcefully to their limits and ineptitudes. Whether it is access to water and sanitation for all or the fight against the scarcity and degradation of this resource or, again, prevention and the eradication of conflicts together with the target of reducing poverty, the facts show that the current responses go round in circles, their recipes often prove inefficient and, as a result, instead of offering solutions, actually appear to add to the problem. This is the case for example among responses that continue to maintain the principles of competitive merchandising and that of entering water services into international financial markets together with the principals of unshared sovereignty and national security. The financial crisis has contributed in highlighting the structural inadequacy of principles that had shaped the global economy over the last 30 years and on which the answers on water related matters had also been shaped.

In short, the climate and economic crises highlight the necessity and urgency for a qualitative political jump, a change in the paradigm regarding life, wealth, global commons, and the way we live together on a global level. Such is the direction we wanted to give and propose in “Peace with water”.

PART B

The recommendations of the Memorandum

According to what is described above, let's submit three propositions

1. A new World Water Political Paradigm

The first relates to the necessity for a new, global political paradigm regarding water leading to the elaboration and organization of a World Water Plan.

Currently, the water policy is influenced, to a large extent, by an economic paradigm centered on the efficiency of water usage through the optimization of the management of a resource/ an economic good in the process of increasing scarcity for profitable use. This paradigm has been enriched, here and there, by humanitarian variants (inspired by the conception of Human rights) and/or by ecological variants (based on the interdependency of natural ecosystems). In this context, "globalization" of water politics results from interactions on national and global markets between stakeholders, national public entities (States, local authorities) and private bodies (companies and consumers). Taking into account the situation described in Part A, this paradigm, has not, so far, allowed the resolution of these problems neither in the fight against scarcity and the qualitative deterioration of water, nor in favor of the internationalization and globalization of sharing access to water and of its uses in a fair, cooperative and peaceful manner.

The "new, global water political paradigm" adheres to the following principles:

- Universal rights to life for each human being, thereby, the universal right to water and sanitation;
- Universal responsibility, individual and collective, for each human being, social group, and human community regarding living species and the safeguard and valorization of natural global commons (such as water) and those essential services which are considered as irreplaceable elements to life, wellbeing and "living together".
- Promotion and conservation of all ecosystems and, in this context, aquatic ecosystems in line with the respect of biodiversity;
- Choice of non violence and peace;
- High qualitative lifestyle, modest and fair, based on taking care of the source of life, i.e. water;
- Treatment of global commons and corresponding services as common patrimony of humanity;

- Support to the social economy (i.e. priority to expand collective wealth and, through taxation, allocate public financial resources to cover the costs of public goods and services). As a complement to public financing, introduction of a public tariff to steer fair and sustainable uses of water;
- Integration of government functions, of management and public controls of the resource to the scale of hydrographic basins;
- Promote and strengthen participative and representative democracy starting from local communities through to global communities, and, in this context, give strong support for public/public partnerships;
- Cultural diversity in water conceptions, management and social practices is an asset;
- Priority towards cooperation and solidarity versus competitiveness and the optimization of individual utility
- Necessity for a shared sovereignty between communities and peoples and for a shared security with regards to essential and irreplaceable elements to life and living founded on the responsibility towards future generations, the functioning of ecosystems and the survival of humanity as a whole;

Inspired by these principles, we propose a World Water Plan of which the process that will lead to a World Water Protocol constitutes the main, but not exhaustive context for development, discussion and decision.

One of the focal objectives of the initiative proposed here is to contribute in putting together, from water, fundamental elements towards a new world political architecture (NEWPA). This is notably the goal of the World Political Forum: to constitute a meeting platform for debate and proposals in view of the development and materialization of a new global political structure living up to conditions and expectations in the global 21st century.

We cannot “save the water” without political institutional engineering and promoting the global shared responsibility towards our common source of life; water. .

2. Integrating action for a World Water Plan into the United Nations Agenda.

The second proposal, is regarding the inclusion of issues into the agenda of agreements that will be defined at the COP 15 in Copenhagen in December of this year in the context of the convention on climatic change (“post-Kyoto”). For now, the agenda’s focus of work in progress for the climate convention is on the energy problematic (and on forests, as they are considered to play an important

role in the fight for the reduction in CO² emissions). Water does not appear. It is only considered as a domain in which the negative effects of climatic change are of the most serious. Obviously, energy is a central point for consideration and that, in all policies relating to the world and its future. It is just as obvious that solutions addressed to energy issues are insufficient to assure the restructuring of the global economy towards true sustainable development. The great complexities of human destiny and that of the planet demand multidimensional solutions.

The introduction of water in the agenda of post-Kyoto negotiations is necessary and urgent for two reasons. Upholding its exclusion would signify, in the first place, that we would have to wait until at least 2018 before even thinking of discussing and defining a global public policy on water, the international public agenda remaining strongly devoted to the energy question and will remain “monopolized” by the problems of its enforcement and of the revision of a post-Kyoto treaty. Secondly, we must not “miss the boat”. 2009 is destined to be a critical year in relation to efforts that the international community carries out in fixing new international and worldwide rules in fields that are essential for the future of humanity and the future of the planet.

In effect, this year among other events:

- A new administration has taken office in the USA;
- End January, at the World Social Forum of Belém, *indigenous tribes/peoples* of America claimed their “sovereignty” and their right to participate in the conception of the future of the world;
- This year, is expected to conclude, after 17 years, the trade negotiations of the Doha Round which are currently at a standstill – the stakes are high: to define new rules for international/world trade;
- At the end of March, the G20 will take place, which is expected to bring solutions to the *global financial and economic crisis*;
- End of April, it will be all about a new Global summit concerning *food security* which will aim to put an end to food crisis’.

In other words, the 2009 public agenda threatens to be a deciding year for the future of the world. And the year ends with the December Conference in Copenhagen where the international community will try to reach an agreement on the global climate/environment.

The urgency and necessity of a global water plan have also been recognized by a group of private multinational companies who themselves are big water users, referred to as *The CEO Water Mandate*. This water mandate was approved in July 2007 in the context of the Global Compact, a global alliance signed in 2000 between the Secretary General of the United Nations and large private

multinationals, together with the participation of Non Governmental Organizations and Unions. The Global Compact decided to entrust a group of CEO's from Coca Cola, Nestlé, Levi Strauss, Suez, Läkheby Water and SABMiller, the task of reflecting upon and proposing an action plan for water. The *CEO Water Mandate* sent a letter in May 2008 to members of the G8 (signed by 19 CEO's from large multinational companies) asking them to take urgent actions to resolve the water crisis. We do not know of the follow-up that was given to this initiative. Certainly, this initiative does reflect a worry fueled by opportunistic interests; the majority of these companies is involved in the water business or is heavily dependant on it. The fact remains that it is important that the water crisis and the urgency of global solutions become, nonetheless part of the agenda of actors as powerful on the economic and political scene as the 19 aforementioned companies. Besides the proposals of the CEO Water Mandate will, in all likelihood, be one of the highpoints of the World Water Forum taking place in Istanbul this March.

3. A World Water Protocol

The third proposal concerns the **World Water Protocol** that should be included in the agreements that come from the negotiations held over the years 2010-2012 before the expiry of the Kyoto treaty in 2013 and the beginning of the new treaty. As explained in the beginning of this document, the discussion of pivotal elements of a World Water Protocol by the "Peace with Water" conference is instrumental in supporting the proposal of a World Water Protocol and the inclusion of water in the agenda for post-Kyoto negotiations. It is about defining the key contents to what could and should be a World Water Protocol as an integral part of a "post-Kyoto" treaty.

We must consider this exercise as an interesting and innovative example of encouraging citizen involvement and contribution to the definition of an international legal act in the field of water. Obviously, it is in the hands of States to decide on Protocols, Conventions and International treaties. Under no condition does our initiative intend, or is a substitution or an alternative to actions piloted by States and the international community. In launching the conference "Peace with water", one of the hopes expressed was that the United Nations strengthens their capabilities of worldwide coordination where water is concerned and become the formal open forum for global water politics. Thus, the United Nations is the primary recipient of our proposals towards a World Water Protocol.

PART C

The World Water Protocol: proposed content.

1. Introductory comments

According to the basic principles of the new water political paradigm, the protocol is aimed towards four “driving forces”:

- Responsibility: human right(s) - hydrological cycle - life - future generations - climatic change;
- The common good: water as a common heritage of humanity and all living species - provision - usages- sustainability - security;
- Citizens: participation - communities - democracy - economy/finance - management;
- Peace: ownership - sharing - sovereignty - cooperation - conflicts - trans-boundary institutional engineering;

In placing importance on these concepts – that can slice or overlap or be similar to other ideas presented in the Protocol as “objectives” or action areas – we want to underline the basic ethical and political views that inspire this protocol

The Protocol is not a closed box in regards to the objectives and areas taken into consideration. Considering the ins and outs of the global water crisis, it has the ambition to cover all the problems that have made and will make water the most critical human, social, environmental and economic issue of the first quarter of this century.

Numerous proposals put forward in the ‘Objectives’ make up more contract specifications or action points rather than articles of an international treaty. As a matter of fact, in this new version, we have abandoned the drafting of the propositions in terms of articles. We have preferred to pay attention to the content. The drafting of a full project of the Protocol as such will be worked upon after the conference. At this stage, ideas are the priority. The form will follow.

2. Proposals

Object

The object of the Protocol is:

- Affirm common responsibility by the inhabitants of the planet, on individual and collective base, towards the respect of the integrity of the hydrological cycle and monitoring its variability.
- Promote the value, use and safeguarding of fresh water as a shared common heritage of humanity that it is essential to life and ecosystems;
- Guarantee access to water to every human as a human right implementing UN principles and the universal declaration of human rights, protecting the health and wellbeing of all human beings, on an individual and collective base;
- Develop a participative public management of safe water, financially responsible toward the collectivity and founded on the sharing and sustainable use of available resources, ensuring the security of provisions, preventing and resolving possible conflicts.

Areas of application

The rules of the Protocol apply to all the components of the hydrological cycle, notably:

- a) Surface fresh water
- b) Underground water
- c) Coastal and maritime waters used for the production of desalination, for fishing, aquaculture, for recreational means;
- d) Waste water

Guiding Principles

The arrangements of the Protocol are guided by the following principles:

- a) The principle of life: water is an irreplaceable source of life and essential to human, social and economic development;
- b) The principle of global responsibility: water is a common heritage of humanity and life on which the State and its local authorities enforce their power of withdraw and usage as fiduciaries of humanity and other living species; hence, the principle of "global collective responsibility of respect" of water and life;
- c) The principal of prevention and precaution, in virtue of which an efficient water policy passes, on the one hand, through the conservation and systematic protection of soils and the integrity of ecosystems and, on the

other hand, through a permanent, effective and transparent system of impact assessment;

- d) *The principle of "sustainability"*: water resources are valorized, protected and used in such a way so as to guarantee present generations the right to water and a safe environment without undermining the right of future generations to the same right.
- e) Human rights as a ~~gift~~ 'given': the monetary and non monetary costs associated with the necessary activities to make human rights accessible to all are undertaken by the collectivity through general and specific taxes - free access to water does not mean an absence of costs but rather a collective sharing of such costs. In respect to water disposal beyond the guaranteed quantity of liters per person - per day, costs are covered by a public and progressive fee at the charge of the user up to a volume of water per day and per person whereby excessive usage higher than the fixed limit becomes unsustainable and therefore unacceptable.
- f) *The principal of democracy* according to which, citizen participation in the decision process must be at the forefront of direction taken by institutions and politicians; effective citizen participation demands true transparency with regard to information and access to it, the means and content of communication together with an open and innovation education system.
- g) *The principal of subsidiarity: the hydrographic basin as the relevant territorial level of integration of the water policy.* Water resources must be managed, in every possible way, at the hydrographic level (transnational or not) in order to ensure the integration of human development (social and economic), the protection of natural ecosystems, participative democracy and solidarity between local communities and countries;
- h) *The principal of cooperation*, in virtue of which water policies must be the instrument of advanced methods of transnational cooperation between all involved and concerned to warn and prevent conflicts due to unfair sharing and usage of water resources.

Principles of regulation

The parties agree to adopt the following prescriptions:

- a) Because water is an essential and irreplaceable element for life and a shared common heritage of humanity, it is recognized as being undisposable to market; this in view to guarantee the right to drinking water and sanitation to all, and to ensure that water usage priorities are democratically determined by national and international public authorities;
- b) To guarantee that any investment in infrastructure and all plans to use water resources are subject to a rigorous study of ex ante impact assessment;

- c) To apply the principle of banning water pollution where a degradation in aquatic ecosystems caused by production (in agriculture, industry...) and considered to be harmful to human health and the correct functioning of ecosystems by country legislation/international law, cannot be corrected (in the case of non treatable pollution)

Objectives

Parties uphold, by priority, the following common objectives:

- Water, a human right;
- Water, a common heritage of humanity;
- Water and citizens;
- Water, source of peace;

These arrangements should not affect the rights of parties to maintain, adopt or follow even more ambitious objectives and to apply more rigorous measures than those found in the Protocol.

Objectives regarding water as a human right

- a) Declare water and sanitation as a human right in each State constitution or through a national law. Men and women are equally entitled to the right to water and sanitation.
- b) Establish emergency measures to ensure the right to water for children and girls.
- c) Take water into consideration as a guide during bilateral and multilateral commercial, economic and financial negotiations.
- d) Guarantee, by 2023 at the latest, access for all to water and sanitation by collective systems.
- e) Guarantee availability and access to public toilets to every human and to establish waste management systems by 2022 at the latest.
- f) Increase rain water collection by “regional” collectors, available to several local/transnational authorities so that this will account for up to 25-30% of provisions in drinking water and sanitation.
- g) Reduce by 50% in 10 years water loss in existing drinking water distribution networks in large towns.

Objectives regarding water as a common good

- a) To ensure the appropriate instruments to analyze, measure and assess the ratio between levels of water withdrawals and levels of natural renewal in the provision of water, by establishing a national and international plan

- with binding rules with regard to ways of fixing and evaluating this ratio by large sectors of usage and the characteristics of basins.
- b) Promote production processes, modes of consumption and water saving technologies in view of considerably reducing the volumes of water used for irrigation, domestic appliances and water needed for energy production.
 - c) Strengthen the ability to conserve water.
 - d) Evolve towards a clear separation between rainwater and black and grey water.
 - e) Establish, notably in slums, wastewater networks to achieve, in 15 years, a basic level of wastewater treatment. In wealthier and more dispersed zones, impose rules for building permission to ensure that a lagoon system for wastewater treatment is in place before being dispersing into nature.
 - f) Replace the use of drinkable water in toilets – a more and more damaging factor for the quality of surface and underground water due to increasing microbial contamination from wastewaters. With this in mind, introduce the obligation for any new construction in urban areas to gradually replace water toilets by dry toilets.
 - g) Reduce the production of waste treatment mud by upstream interventions. Eliminate or promote the re-use of water treatment mud according to the norms defined by WHO and UNEP.
 - h) Gradually replace, within 15 years, agricultural productions that are not adapted to local soil and ecosystem conditions and, thereby, are big consumers of water and energy.
 - i) Promote agriculture and animal production for the production and consumption of local food processing by drastically reducing, by 2022, the production and use of packaging of every sort, by supporting innovative socio-economic technologies in support to a “zero distance” and low level of water consumption agriculture; this will also contribute to a reduction in waste and energy use.
 - j) In addition to the measures aiming to reduce consumption/water loss in agricultural production, promote major changes in food practices in developed countries that are at the root of exorbitant losses in water, up to half of the water used to grow food.
 - k) Establish according to proposals made by the new policy, prescriptions with regard to dam construction, UN Independent World Commission on Dams.
 - l) Introduce the obligation for re-usable recipients for natural mineral and spring water and to limit to a maximum of 10% the export of bottled mineral water over a distance that would cost more to transport than the cost of bottling the water itself.

- m) Introduce rigorous standards regarding the installation of golf courses and other high water consuming recreational activities
- n) Better ensure the upholding of existing regulations with respect to: mining and quarries, the opening of waste disposal areas for highly toxic materials, de-contaminated grounds that either have, or could have detrimental effects on water, which risk being the cause of serious illness.
- o) Put in place adaptive and mitigation measures towards climatic change that have been detailed and proposed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climatic Change (IPCC).

Nota bene: the “Peace with Water” conference could contribute in proposing priorities between multiple measures contained in the IPCC reports.

Objectives regarding citizens and democracy

The parties concede to:

- a) Recognize water as an unalienable common right under the responsibility of citizens through direct or representative courses, from local community level to the level of the international community.
- b) With this in mind, create the institutions and ensure the means, notably financial to:
 - Promote the most pertinent and rigorous information and make it available regarding water resources, the uses, the wastage, the losses, the management of water services, the cost of water, the investments and financing, the available technology
 - Support all educative activities and programs in the field of water, in and outside formal education systems through participative modules (seminars, open universities, awareness campaigns, local project promotion, partnerships with other communities, regions and countries...);
- c) Introduce, in higher level secondary schools the water problems as a distinct education subject;
- d) Place particular emphasis on the participation, especially those groups of citizens that are under privileged, notably, women, young people and workers/peasants;
- e) Use information technology and communication media to promote the creation of the “platforms” of debate, proposals and decisions by main categories of profession (networks between local collectivities, between Mayors, between farmers, teachers...);
- f) Multiply cooperation and partnership networks between public water operators at basin level, and promote effective workers participation

- g) Promote efficient and transparent financial management by limiting financial recourse to private capital market and strengthen “local” public financing and the intervention of new social, cooperative financial operators;
- h) Include all water users in participative processes so that they have a voice in the management of water and share their experience and know-how with other protagonists.

Objectives regarding peace

Parties cooperate in a spirit of combined effort and seeking the common interests in the aim of promoting and ensuring the well being of populations and all citizens regarding access to water, the safe guarding of ecosystems and water security.

To successfully achieve such cooperation, they agree to:

- a) Define mutual priorities in water policy according to plans and programs set down by law through participative, democratic decisions;
- b) Establish political institutions empowered with sufficient autonomy to express mutual choices, promoting shared interests and ensuring the respect of decisions taken;
- c) Set up useful indicators for the measurement of objectives in regards to:
 - Sharing water
 - Access to water and health
 - Safe guarding water and aquatic ecosystems
 - Prevention and resolution of conflicts
- d) Set up adequate information and communication systems between parties supporting common decisional process
- e) Promote the development of a cooperative and peaceful culture in relation to water in academic circles (supporting the creation, all over the world, of “University Water Chairs”, international schools of water...) in media circles and among political leaders (Parliamentarians, Mayors...)
- f) Support international twinning cooperation between towns and local collectivities north-south, south-south and north-north, directly involving local communities around long term projects in the context of permanent cooperation between public institutions and public-private partnerships by non-state and non-governmental players;
- g) Extend the forms of solidarity cooperation founded on the allocation of one centime per m³ of drinking water billed or per bottle of mineral water under the authority and control of independent institutions of the countries concerned.

The Parties agree to the creation - through treaties, conventions and multilateral trans-border agreements- of transnational institutions with the necessary political authority to promote, maintain and put into effect the mutually agreed decisions.

With this in mind, they agree to:

- a) Review the application of the principle of absolute national sovereignty on water resources, transforming this principle into shared sovereignty, responsible for a common human heritage, to avoid conflicts on water sharing, ownership and use;
- b) Establish mechanisms which would overtake blockages at a trans-boundary level due to the fragmentation and diversity of responsibilities and competencies and power between agencies and institutions;
- c) Multiply efficient inter and transnational institutions for the prevention and the resolution of conflict, legally and politically empowered to decide and where necessary to take sanctions.

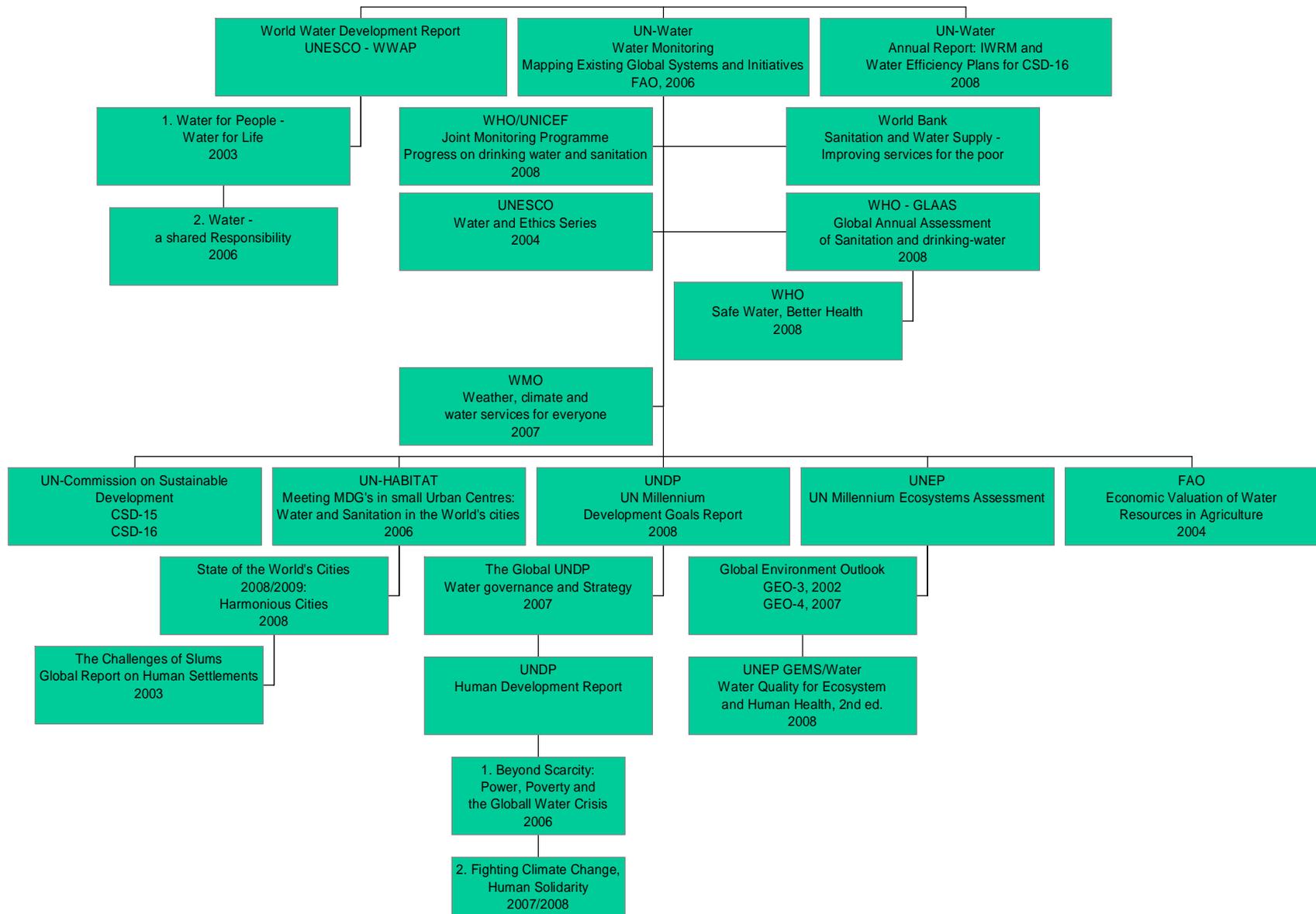
In order to promote and consolidate an efficient and true cooperation at world level, the Parties decide to create a World Water Authority, starting by reinforcing existing mechanisms of coordination (UN Water) between all specialized agencies either directly or indirectly concerned with water issues.

The World Water Authority would have a triple functionality:

- Normative (establish and decide the framework towards an international and global plan for public water policies in line with defined objectives under the current Protocol)
- Legal and punitive (arbitrary authority for resolving differences between parties by applying the arrangements of the Protocol...) according to the World Trade Organizations model for resolving conflicts
- Informative (monitoring, assessment, alert,)

Nota bene: The conference could help to develop proposals regarding international institutional mechanisms and their enforcement.

Annex 1/Diagram 1: The Great World Water Library - global knowledge capital on water (work by members of the UN Water network)



Annex 2: Elements for a list of resources on conflicts and cooperation related to water

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Diagram 3: Institutional and Political engineering of cooperation concerning the water “management” of trans-national basins

CURRENT SITUATION			« POSSIBLE PATTERNS »
FOUNDING PRINCIPLES	INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF COOPERATION	MECHANISMS OF COOPERATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Sovereignty over water (principle of common resource is rare) • Fair Use (principle vague, without restraints) • Established property rights (durability of divides, upstream vs. downstream states) • Voluntary Cooperation (above all isolated projects) • Balance between the maximum exploitation of the water resources and the durability of ecosystems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supranational integration (rare) • International Cooperation with autonomous common institutions more or less strong (minority modality) • Dialogue, coordination (majority modality) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predominance of bilateral Agreements-Treaties over multilateral ones • Rules on sharing of resources • Obligation of information and notification • Consent of the parties concerning water use • Shared Financing of the essential infrastructure costs and the maintenance of activities • Disputes Settlements • Common Systems of information, communication and assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority to human rights and to the protection, promotion, and improvement of the water quality (right to a safe environment) • Water, Common public good • Supranational responsibility and common public financing • Effective participation of citizens – democratic inventions • Supranational institutions with real powers of decision, control, judicial and sanction • Transparent and modifiable programming and management • Policy of savings and reduction of withdrawals.
	<p style="text-align: center;">FUNCTIONS OF THE INSTITUTIONS IN CASE OF DISPUTES</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council (majority) • Remand to third institutions • Arbitration and sanctions (very rare) • Nothing 		