

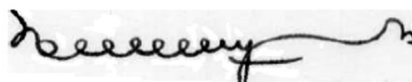
APWF Foreword

The Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) seeks to encourage collaborative efforts on water resources management and accelerate the effective integration of water resources management into the socioeconomic development process of the Asia and Pacific region. This *Asian Water Development Outlook 2007* report marks an early milestone in the Forum's progress. Established only in September 2006, the APWF is a result of the Joint Declaration issued by the Water Ministers of the Asia-Pacific Region at the Fourth World Water Forum, Mexico City six months earlier.

It is remarkable that so much information needed for the future management of the water and sanitation sectors in the Asia and Pacific region has already been assembled, analyzed, and made available through this timely report. These experiences and analyses, and the recommendations that can be drawn from them contribute directly to the First Asia-Pacific Water Summit, held in December 2007.

The APWF Governing Council expresses its deep appreciation to Asian Development Bank and partner institutions for bringing the region's water supply and sanitation sector issues together in this report.

APWF sincerely hopes that this contribution to meeting the present and coming challenges in the water supply and sanitation sector will be found useful to the many public, private, nongovernment, and community-based organizations and interested individuals who share its vision of bringing safe water and sanitation to everyone in the region.



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