

# **SECOND SOUTHEAST ASIA WATER FORUM**

**Bali, Indonesia**

## **FORUM CALL FOR ACTION**

**The Forum recognizes the need for the implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management through public participation including managing water for sustainable development, improving water security for people, food and environment, developing capacity of the stakeholders, financing the water service, empowering civil society for water reform and strengthening water governance.**

The Forum, comprising stakeholders from all sectors, recognizes also the strength of the Southeast Asia Regional frameworks to drive the development and recommends to representatives the Southeast Asia countries to advance better practices for water management through public participation in the region.

Recalling the commitment of the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the goal to develop plans for Integrated Water Resources Management, the 4<sup>th</sup> Worlds Water Forum, we, the participants to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Southeast Asia Water Forum, recommend the following actions:

### **I. Water for Sustainable Development :**

1. Enhance attainment of the understanding of the contribution of water related service, i.e., domestic and industrial water supply, irrigation and drainage, energy generation, flood protection, navigation and recreation, etc to national, regional and local economic and social development;

2. Encourage government to provide at least minimum level of service investment in water infrastructure needed to trigger and sustain social and economic development;
3. Promote environmental and conservation concerns in decision making and implementation of water related projects;
4. Encourage actions aimed at convincing politicians, parliamentarians and local authorities to prioritize investments in water related services; and
5. Encourage support for local initiatives aimed at the efficient and sustainable water resources management especially exploitation of groundwater.

## **II. Implementation of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM):**

1. Advance progressive implementation of IWRM by using “learning by doing” approach and best practices including providing mechanism to implement them, among others, in parallel with technical and institutional capacity building efforts, taking into account country specific conditions and national objectives.
2. Recognizing that the 2005 target on IWRM will not be met by many countries, therefore accelerating the provision of technical and financial assistance to developing countries in preparing IWRM and water efficiency plans tailored to country –specific needs, and their subsequent implementation, with a focus on technical and institutional capacity building, we suggest the following approaches :
  - (a) Improving water governance through strengthening of institutional capacity and innovation;
  - (b) Forging public-public and public-private partnership;
  - (c) Facilitating information exchange and knowledge sharing, including indigenous and local knowledge;
  - (d) Mitigating risk and water related disasters (floods, landslide, drought, etc) reduction;
  - (e) Protection and rehabilitation of catchments areas and critical ecosystems;

- (f) Supporting the use of education to increase awareness of the importance of water use efficiency and conservation;
  - (g) Involving women, youth and local communities in water management, and
  - (h) Promote better understanding of environmental flows tools and implement them using multi-stakeholder processes.
3. Promote strengthening the capacities of developing countries for controlling and monitoring, on a voluntary basis, the quantity, quality and use of surface and groundwater resources and for measuring progress toward internationally agreed goals and targets.
  4. Support and promote understanding that the upstream-downstream issues should be treated not as conflicts, but opportunities for win-win solution to achieve the equitable and reasonable water utilization through IWRM process. The IWRM process includes public participation for the equitable water use and application of site-oriented principle for reasonable water use based on appropriate combination of development, cooperation and regulation.
  5. Support and promote understanding that River Basin Organization (RBO) plays an important role in the implementation of IWRM in the river basin level, therefore it is necessary for the RBO's to develop their capacity to enhance and reinforce of their networks.

### **III. Water Supply and Sanitation:**

1. Supporting implementation programs to improve water quality and expanding access to safe drinking water supply and adequate sanitation facilities for the urban and rural population with pro-poor approach, and adoption of enabling strategies and mechanisms for central and local governments;
2. Encourage establishment of financing and governance instruments for meeting the MDGs in the provision of water supply and sanitation facilities (i.e., innovative financing, decentralization, community based approaches, private sector participation in water and sanitation utilities, public-private partnership, small-scale

providers and civil society organizations, regulation, benchmarking, monitoring and information schemes);

3. Encourage the establishment of the assurance of sufficient quantity and quality of raw water to meet the minimum standard for water supply and sanitation;
4. Encourage development of measures to evolve the role of national and local government, the lending agencies, the private sector and other stakeholders in the governance of water supply and sanitation provision;
5. Support development of measures that impact the provision of water and sanitation facilities on local, regional and national development and poverty alleviation strategies and goals;
6. Encourage development measures voices of end users' perspective regarding the underlying causes of deficiencies and inefficiencies in water supply and sanitation provision in urban and rural areas;
7. Encourage measures to establish complementarities in supply and demand-side management strategies (tariff setting, cross and direct subsidies, awareness campaigns and education, etc);
8. Promote initiatives to confront the challenges for water supply and sanitation in urban area and the peri-urban interface;
9. Encourage implementation of measures to protect surface and groundwater as a source of drinking water from over-exploitation and pollution, and
10. Promote development of sustainable sanitation system that requires less water and generates less wastewater in an environmental friendly and cost effective manner. In this light, decentralized sanitation options can be an effective alternative provided that policy, institutional and public acceptance are available.

#### **IV. Water Management for Food and the Environment:**

1. Support development and promotion of innovative financing to support more efficient irrigation scheme, including small scale farming and marginal groups, and community-based actions;
2. Support development and promotion of initiatives facing the challenges and opportunities in operating and maintaining irrigation system in participatory manner for farmer and water user associations;
3. Support development of measures to strengthen synergies and to lessen contradictions between agricultural and environmental practices and policies;
4. Encourage promotion of understanding the complementarities in supply and demand-side management strategies (cost recovery, cross and direct subsidies, awareness campaigns and educations, etc.);
6. Support development and promotion of initiatives addressing the challenges and opportunities for reliable water supply for food production;
7. Recognize that improved irrigation services are essential to support farmers facing increased competition for water. This requires investment for improvements in infrastructure and management;
8. Encourage the multiple roles agricultural water management systems be properly valued and recognized in IWRM;
9. Encourage the development and implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) processes to ensure sustainable use of coastal areas and their protection from all forms of disaster, including tsunami; and

10. Encourage establishment of adequate, effective policies for sustainable surface and groundwater management for food production.

## **V. Water Security:**

1. Encourage development and implementation of strategies for local adaptation to climate change and variability, as well as other extreme natural phenomena;
2. Support implementation of programs for capacity-building and financial support schemes for participative forecasting technologies for early warning system and predictive capacities, risk assessment, risk mitigation, risk sharing strategies and adaptation strategies;
3. Support development and implementation of strategies to deal with social conflict and warfare threats (e.g. protection and security schemes for water supply and wastewater facilities, rapid response strategies to toxins and bio-hazards; surveillance techniques and institutional development of water security responsibilities; water security implementation plans and inter-agency coordination in the event of complex emergencies, etc); and
4. Encourage promotion of crafting local water ethics and hydro-solidarity for implementing good water governance.