

A WORLD POLITICAL FORUM INITIATIVE

Water into the agenda of Copenhagen negotiations on climatic change

A proposal for a global agreement for effective sustainability

- Today unsustainability is a result of both raising scarcity of natural resources - water included - and growing uneven access to goods and services that are essential and irreplaceable for life among human beings, social groups, communities and countries.
- It is also an issue of regional and global security, as scarcity of water resources increasingly leads to tensions and potentially to major conflicts between us. Today unsustainability is basically linked to unbearable, unjust, unreasonable ownership and use of resources, especially water.
- Together with air, sun and land, water is a basic essential element of life. No life without water. No water for life. The right for life means the right and de facto access to water.

Under these conditions,

WE DEMAND THAT

1. The water problematic is included as such into the agenda of the negotiations of the Copenhagen Conference (COP 15).

We consider that today greatest global negotiations of the future of and life on the planet Earth cannot be exclusively devoted to climate change and energy problems. To more than 3 billions people, the most critical problems are food, access to water and health. A new world treaty on climate, environment and development agenda must include water as a key item.

2. The Copenhagen Conference agrees on the decision to open a multilateral UN based process for the period 2010-2012 for the definition and approval of a World Protocol on Water.

The international community disposes of all needed political, economic, social, scientific and technical knowledge and expertise for adapting such a protocol, thanks in particular to the highly valuable work carried out by UN agencies during the last 30 years in terms of analysis, problems identification and selections, good experiences, initiatives, measurement techniques, assessment and scenarios building.

3. The Copenhagen Conference recognize the need and urgency of a World Pact for Water, the outcome of which will be the World Protocol on Water. To this end the Conference should endorse the creation of an effective instrument for a world-based participative cooperation in the field of water such as “United Nations Water Authority” (UNWA).

The UNWA would monitor the situation regarding the use and consumption of water and settle disputes among us with regard to these issues. The UNWA should be based on a real autonomy vis-à-vis the economic, financial and commercial private interest as well as the interests of the powerful countries.

Any subscription from citizens, organizations or institutions willing to support this initiative will be most welcome: please send it to secretariat@theworldpoliticalforum.org.