

Meeting on the Post-2015 Development Agenda Consultation on Water : Water Resources Management and Wastewater Management & Water Quality

27-28 February 2013

Palais des Nation, Geneva, Switzerland

Report on Governance

1. I come to you from the Global Water Partnership. We are gratified by the fact that with our partners we have assiduously contributed, over the past two decades, to elevate water as a global communal concern.
2. A change in thinking and action in water management is steadily taking place. Our group acknowledged the need to consolidate and build on this positive momentum.
3. Delivering the required water management improvements requires a long-term strategic engagement of governments with partners to address usage and wastage, pollution and retention, balancing today's needs with those of future generation.
4. Water, as stated in the Rio+20 Declaration, is a central plank of sustainable development. Implicit in this is integration. This was the overarching principle which guided the discussions in the group.

5. Objective:

Integrated water governance system at all appropriate levels applying the principles of

- transparency
- participation (putting participation into practice requires strengthening and/or creating institutions and mechanisms that can transcend the traditional boundaries between sectors and involve effectively a variety of stakeholders)
- accountability
- fairness/equity
- information based
- sustainable (including financial sustainability)
- empowerment
- cooperation

These principles should be considered with some degree of differentiation and contextualization taking into account the water resources endowment and the transitions taking place in the country/region (demographic, economic, social..) as well as the country's governance and service provision tradition

6. Actions/indicators:

- Participation: by 2030 stakeholders including marginalized groups and representing different interests (sectors) within a basin context are organized all levels
- Financial sustainability: by 2030 viable financial systems are established, applying the 3 ts principles, to support programs and investments
- Monitoring: baseline monitoring systems are established (in support of monitoring progress on other indicators proposed by other groups)
- Inequalities: systems are in place to eliminate inequalities in the water sector
- Transboundary management: number of basins with plans in place and governing institutions to manage them
- Flood and drought: reduce effect of flood and drought on deaths and GDP
- Good quality of water bodies and sustainable and equitable use

7. Managing water resources requires fundamental changes in values, beliefs, perceptions and political positions not just in water management institutions but in the stakeholders themselves

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