



PEACE WITH WATER

Faire la Paix avec l'Eau - Fare Pace con l'Acqua - Frieden mit Wasser

Brussels, 12-13 February 2009

European Parliament

Event co-organised by and/or with the MEP's political contribution of the following EP Political Groups and of the federal and regional authorities of Belgium



1. General presentation

The international conference “**Peace with Water**” is organised by the World Political Forum, based on a proposal by the European Research Institute on Water Policy (IERPE) (Belgium), and co-organized and/or with the participation of European deputies of the main Political Groups of the European Parliament and of the federal and regional authorities of Belgium.

“**Peace with water**” has two different meanings here:

- To stop all aggressions and predations targeted against water resources;
- To prevent and avoid conflicts surrounding propriety and access to water.

The problem of water has entered strongly at the top of the UN institutions' political agenda, particularly in connection with the world programme of strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

“**Peace with water**” follows the objectives and overall spirit of the *World Water Assembly for Elected Representatives and Citizens (AMECE)*, held for the first time at the European Parliament (18-20 March 2007), and finds its roots in the frame of perspectives opened by the propositions and resolutions adopted by the conference «*From Global Warning to Global Policy*», organised by the *World Political Forum* in Turin (Italy) on 28 and 29 March 2008. These included priority actions that have to be taken to ensure effective political solutions are applied at a global level for the human, social, economic and technological challenges provoked by climate change.

The conference will be held on 12 and 13 February 2009 in Brussels, at the European Parliament. Participation is open to any person or organisation sharing the conference's objectives. It is however limited to 600 participants because of logistical constraints at the Parliament (number of seats, etc.), and the following categories of participants are invited as a priority:

- parliamentarians,
- local elected representatives and administrators

The World Political Forum

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- governments and international/intergovernmental organisations
- public unions and other concerned unions (agricultural, industrial...)
- water companies
- representatives from the education, academic and research areas
- associations and movements of the civil society

The Conference has been launched on the initiative of a Committee composed of:

- **Mikhail Gorbachev**, President of *The World Political Forum* and of *Green Cross International*, two active organisations working on the prevention and resolution of water conflicts, Russia
- **Mario Soares**, former President of the Republic of Portugal and President of the International Committee for a World Water Contract, Portugal
- **Guy Laliberté**, Founder of the *Cirque du Soleil* and of the «*One Drop*» Foundation, Canada
- **Marina Silva**, Senator, former Minister for Environment of the Government of Brazil

2 . Objectives of “Peace with Water”

The main problems and issues of water, at the base of the current “**world water crisis**” are widely known. There are proposals and solutions elaborated at national and international levels, including United Nations bodies, and, recently, in the scenarios presented by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The question stems from the political weakness of a global capability to answer and act in terms of priority common objectives and international institutions equipped with adequate financial means. Today’s world water crisis calls for a real “World Water Marshal plan”.

The main objective of “Peace with Water” is to discuss and elaborate a **Memorandum for a World Water Protocol (M-WWP)**, based on the prevention of conflicts, the promotion of the right to water for all and the safeguard of the world water heritage for a responsible and effective management of water as a common good, also in the interest of all living species and of future generations (beyond a poorly defined anthropocentrism).

This does not involve taking the place of States. Through the elaboration of a Memorandum proposing the main outline of a World Water Protocol, “Peace with Water” aims at putting the water issue, as such, into the agenda of the 2010-2012 negotiations that will be approved at the Copenhagen conference in December 2009 (COP 15) in view of the new “Post-Kyoto” agreements.

At present, priorities of political agendas regarding environment and water are increasingly set up within the framework of the strategies of mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The spotlight is often placed on energy matters and on the price of CO2 consumption; this is a necessary and plausible answer to our dilemma, but insufficient. The success of the fight against the warming of the atmosphere is achieved through complex solutions from different sectors (health, soil, agriculture, transports, migrations, social values...) and levels.

The Memorandum for a World Water Protocol (M-WWP) will be submitted to the attention of those in charge of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climatic Change (UNFCCC) on the occasion of Copenhagen 2009. It will be up to the negotiators of “post-Kyoto” to decide the appropriate follow up to the protocol. The promoters of M-WWP will try their best to get proposal considered.

If the water issue should not be included in the agenda of the post-Kyoto negotiators, two scenarios seem possible: we could witness the absence of a specific intergovernmental agreement about water at a global level (in this case, the water issue, as the one of food, will be treated only within the framework of the measures and instruments relevant for the energy matter); OR the public intergovernmental gap could be covered by a world regulation of water problems by actors from the water industry (in this case, the development of the universal right to life and the management of the planet's water resources will mainly be influenced by the needs and interests of the main industrial, commercial, energy and food groups of the world, as well as producers and consumers of water).

To better position the efforts of the conference on strictly scientific bases, certain processes of preparatory research have been elaborated, under the responsibility of IERPE, on the following subjects:

- A continent to free from thirst: sub-saharian Africa;
- The three main water-ill countries of the world for the next 30 years: The United States of America, India and China;
- The richest fresh water reservoirs of the world in the 21st century: Canada, the Latin-American continent and Russia;
- Central Asia and water: a region of demonstrative value
- Political and institutional engineering used to prevent and solve conflicts around water

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Conference Programme

A . General Structure

The conference will be structured on four half-days:

- two half-days in plenary sessions (morning of 12 and afternoon of 13 February)
- two half-days in parallel sessions (afternoon of 12 and morning of 13 February)

It will be possible to participate at the plenary sessions in several languages: Spanish, German, French, Portuguese, English, Dutch, Italian and Russian.

The plenary session of the 12 February 2009 morning will handle the world water issue. It will be structured around four sections:

- **The politico-cultural message**, among others by the representatives of the institutions organizing the conference;
- **The scientific “message”**. **The knowledge at the base of “Peace with Water”**, by representatives of IERPE;
- **Water: visions and life of peoples**, by the “world witnesses” of the commitment for the right to water and water as a common good;
- **Reflections**: by the representatives from Belgium and the presidents of the political groups of the European Parliament

The project of a proposal for a World Water Protocol leads to the big themes of the water issue and to provide concrete answers to the world water crisis. It has also been considered advisable to divide the works of the parallel sessions into four themes:

<i>Session A - Water, a human right</i>	(12 February afternoon)
<i>Session B - Water, a common good</i>	(12 February afternoon)
<i>Session C - Water, a global resource at risk</i>	(13 February morning)
<i>Session D - Water, a source of peace</i>	(13 February morning)

The study and discussion of each block will be introduced by the session's Chairperson and will have a rapporteur.

The programme will include:

- 65 scheduled interventions for a total of 22 hours (1630 minutes on a total limit of 27 hours and 10 minutes);
- space/time for debate for a total of 5 hours and 10 minutes

Supposing that the average time of each spontaneous intervention will be of 7 minutes, we can imagine the participation of about 45 people at the debate and exchange of views.

The plenary session of 13 February afternoon will include three segments of mutual enrichment and sharing:

- the synthesis proposed by the four rapporteurs of the parallel sessions
- two attempts at “preliminary conclusions” (one on the individual issues at stake and relevant answers; the other on the juridical-institutional orientations for the Memorandum)
- the opening of action paths for the water issue by the “creators”, “innovators” and “project bearers”

B . Detailed Structure

12 February, 2009

8h15 - 9h00 Welcoming of participants

Security checks for access to the European Parliament can take time, especially when there are hundreds of registered participants. It is therefore advisable to arrive at the security clearance as soon as possible from 8:15 onwards.

Opening session **9h15 - 13h15, Hemicycle of the European Parliament**

Plenary Session 1 - THE GLOBAL WATER ISSUE

Chair of the session: Andrei **Grachev**, Chairman of the WPF Scientific Committee, Russia

9h15 - 10h45 **Political and cultural messages**

- Mikhail **Gorbachev**, President of the *World Political Forum*, Russia
- Hans-Gert **Pöttering**, President of the European Parliament
- Benoit **Lutgen**, Minister of Agriculture, Rural, Environment and Tourism of the Walloon Region on behalf/in the name of the Regional Ministers of Environment of the Belgian State
- Prince **Albert II** of Monaco, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, Monaco
- Karl **Falkenberg**, Director-General, Environment DG, European Commission
- Guido **Sacconi**, President of the Temporary Committee of the European Parliament on Climate Change
- Luc **Van den Brande**, President of the Committee of Regions, EU, Belgium

10h45 -11h30 **The vision and expectations of peoples:**

- Danielle **Mitterrand**, President of the France-Libertés Foundation, France
- Maude **Barlow**, Special Adviser on water issues to the President of the United Nations General Assembly, Canada

11h30 -12h15 **Statements**

- Martin **Schulz**, President of the PSE group in the European Parliament
- Graham **Watson**, President of the ALDE group in the European Parliament
- Monica **Frassoni**, Co-president of the Greens/ALDE group in the European Parliament
- Francis **Wurtz**, President of the GUE/NGL group in the European Parliament

12h15 - 13h00 **The knowledge capital behind «Peace with Water»**

- Riccardo **Petrella**, President of the *European Research Institute on Water Policy (IERPE)*, Belgium
- Alexis **Carles** (France) and Emmanuel **Petrella** (Belgium), Researchers from IERPE

- Water issues: the contribution of the international community (in particular by the UN agencies)
- Analysis of sub-Saharan Africa, the three great water-ill countries (The USA, India and China), Central Asia...
- Legal and institutional engineering set up to prevent and resolve water conflicts

13h00 -15h00 Lunch

15h00 -18h30 **Parallel Sessions** **REVIEW OF THE WORLD WATER PROTOCOL**

The parallel sessions will take place on the 12 February afternoon and 13 February morning.

They include:

<u>Session A</u> - <i>Water, a human right</i>	(12 February afternoon)
<u>Session B</u> - <i>Water, a common good</i>	(« « « «)
<u>Session C</u> - <i>Water, a global resource at risk</i>	(13 February morning)
<u>Session D</u> - <i>Water, a source of peace</i>	(« « «)

Each session will cover its theme in order to clarify and better define the content and proposals presented in the draft of the World Water Protocol

Session A Water, a human right 15h00 - 18h30, Hemicycle of the European Parliament
How to promote and ensure access to water and sanitation for all the inhabitants of Earth?

Chair : Manuel **Baquedano**, President of the "Instituto de Ecologia Politica", Chile

Rapporteur : Wenonah **Hauter**, Director of "Food and Water Watch", USA

15h00 - 15h10 Introduction by the Chair of the session

15h10 - 16h10 **Interventions:**

- Luigi **Infanti**, Bishop of the Diocese of Chile Patagonia, Chile
- Tony **Allan**, Professor, *King's College*, London, UK
- Alex **Zanotelli**, Missionary, Italy
- Muhammad **Shatanawi**, Professor University of Amman, Jordan
- Sekou **Diarra**, President of the Malian Coalition for the Defence of Water, Mali

16h10 - 16h50 Discussion

16h50 - 17h05 Break

17h05 - 17h50 **Interventions:**

- Alexander **Likhotal**, CEO of Green Cross International, Russia
- André **Abreu** Representative of the European Water Network; Development; Director of the France Libertes Foundation, France
- Her Excellency Reem **Al-Hashimy**, Minister of State, United Arab Emirates and Chairperson, Dubai Cares, Dubai
- Angela **Liberatore**; Peteris **Zilgalvis**, European Commission

17h50 - 18h30 Discussion and the end of session

Session B Water, a common good

15h00 - 18h30 Room ASP 5 G 3

How to implement a policy of integrated water management as a common good, under the responsibility and control of public authorities, as well as in financial terms, while respecting the economic, social and environmental issues; and based on an effective participation of citizens?

Chair: Christiane **Franck**, General Director of Vivaqua, Belgium

Rapporteur: Edoardo **Mestre**, Director of the Water Tribune, (EXPO 2008), Mexico

15h00 - 15h10 Introduction by the Chair of the session

15h10 - 15h55 **Interventions:**

- Pierre **Schapira**, Development Commission of the European Parliament
- Jean-Pierre **Mbassy Elong**, Secretary General of Cities and Local Governments of Africa, Bénin
- Anne **Le Strat**, CEO of Eau de Paris, France
- Anibal Ignacio **Faccendini**, Director "Catedra del Agua", University of Rosario, Argentina
- Nicole **Dewandre**; Cornelia **Nauen**, European Commission

15h55 - 16h30 Discussion

16h30 - 16h50 Break

16h50 - 18h00 **Interventions:**

- Pedro **Arrojo**, President of the New Water Culture Foundation, Spain
- Adriana **Marquisio**, President of the National Committee for the Defence of Water and Life, Uruguay
- Patrick **McCully**, Executive Director of International Rivers, Berkeley (USA), UK
- Mohan **Munasinghe**, Chairman, Munasinghe Institute for Development & Vice Chair, IPCC-AR4, Sri Lanka
- Manuel Ramon **Llomas**, Director of the M. Botin Foundation Water Observatory (Madrid), Spain

18h00 - 18h30 Discussion and the end of session

13 February 2009

**Session C Water, a global resource at risk:
development and climate change**

09h30-13h00 Room PHS 3 C 50

How to promote a new water culture (recovery and use) from both local to global levels, in the context of sustainable development and climate change

Chair: Roberto **Musacchio**, Vice-President of the Temporary Committee of the European Parliament on Climate Change

Rapporteur: Valerio **Calzolaio**, former Secretary of State for the Environment, Italy

09h30 - 09h40 Introduction by the Chair of the session

09h40 - 10h40 **Interventions:**

- Mingjun **Jiang**, Chairman and CEO of International Eco-Safety Cooperative Organization, China
- Mikhail **Bolgov**, Deputy Director of the Institute for Water Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia
- Cristina **Gutierrez-Cortines**, Member of the European Parliament, founder of the European Water Forum
- Taikan **Oki**, University of Tokyo, Japan

10h40 - 11h00 Discussion

11h00 - 12h15 **Interventions:**

- Dario **Maiorana**, Rector of National University of Rosario, Santa Fé, Argentina
- Philippe **Quevauviller**, European Commission
- Salvatore **De Giorgio**, Regional Director for Environment, Piedmont Region, Italy
- Nicola **Lamaddalena**, Director, Soil and Water Management Research Department, Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (**CIHEAM-IAMB**), Italy

12h15 - 13h00 Discussion

13h00 - 14h30 Lunch

Session D Water, a source of peace

09h30-13h00 Room PHS 1 A 02

What new global political architecture to implement, starting from institutional cooperation at the trans-boundary basin scale to prevent and/or resolve conflicts over water in order to build a responsible, caring and peaceful co-habitation?

Chair : Ashok **Khosla**, Co-president of the Club of Rome and President of the International Union or Conservation of Nature (IUCN), India

Rapporteur : Federico **Mayor**, former General Director of UNESCO, Spain

09h30 - 09h40 Introduction by the Chair of the session

09h40 - 10h40 **Interventions:**

- Anders **Berntell**, Executive Director of the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Sweden
- Abdou **Guero**, Technical Director of the "Autorité du Bassin du Niger", Niger
- Evelyne **Huytebroeck**, Minister for Environment of the Brussels-Capital Region

10h40 - 11h00 Discussion

11h00 - 12h15 **Interventions:**

- Nilton Miguel **Friedrich**, Director Coordination of ITAIPU Binacional, Brazil
- Ted **Moses**, President Cree Energy, Canada

- David **Boys**, Utilities Officer, Public Services International, France
- Munther **Haddadin**, former Minister of Water and Irrigation, Jordan
- Francesca **Bernardini**, Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

12h15 - 13h00 Discussion

13h00 – 14h30 Lunch

Closing session

15h00-18h30 Room PHS 3 C 50

Plenary Session 2 - CONCLUSIONS AND COMMITMENTS

Chair of the session: Giulietto **Chiesa**, Member of the Temporary Committee of the European Parliament on Climate Change

15h00 - 15h10 Introduction by the Chair

15h10 - 16h30 Presentations by the four rapporteurs:

- Wenonah **Hauter**, USA (Water, a human right)
- Eduardo **Mestre**, Mexico (Water, a common good)
- Valerio **Calzolaio**, Italy (Water, a global resource at risk)
- Federico **Mayor**, Spain (Water, a source of peace)

16h30 - 16h45 Preliminary conclusions for a Memorandum for a World Water Protocol

- Riccardo **Petrella**, President of the *European Research Institute on Water Policy (IERPE)*, Belgium

16h45 -17h10 General remarks for the final drafting of the Memorandum for a World Water Protocol

- Sylvie **Paquerot**, Professor at the University of Ottawa, Canada

17h10 - 18h30 **Action paths for water**

- Guy **Laliberté**, Founder of Cirque du Soleil; President of the One Drop Foundation, Canada
- Paul **Magnette**, Federal Minister of Climate and Energy, in charge of Environment, Consumption and Sustainable Development, Belgium
- Stefano **Manservigi**, Director-General, Development DG, European Commission

Conclusions by the Chair of the session