



**M**EMORANDUM :  
**E**UROPEAN PREPARATORY  
**P**ROCESS  
 Paris – February 2 - 2005



Date meetings	February, 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 2005 PARIS
Meeting :	See list of attendees in annex
Author	E.Catton: e.catton@worldwatercouncil.org
Subject Participants	Launching of the Mexico Forum: European preparatory process Agenda and list of attendees in annex
Executive summary	<p>Aim of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To present the preparatory process and the thematic framework adopted for the 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, which will be held in Mexico from 16-22 March 2006</li> <li>- To examine the initiatives proposed to be undertaken by the participants;-</li> <li>- To define the themes which may be tackled in the European process and presented to the Forum;</li> <li>- To make an inventory of the meetings organised by the different networks to be used for the preparatory process</li> </ul> <p><b>Preparatory process and thematic framework</b></p> <p>The preparatory process will be undertaken at regional level. It has already started in the Americas . European, African, Asian and Middle East processes are to be initiated.</p> <p>The overarching theme of the 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum will be “local action for a global challenge”. It will focus on local actions and local actors: civil society, parliamentarians, local governments and local authorities dealing with issues identified in the previous Fora.</p> <p>It will aim to issues at the lowest appropriate level according to the subsidiarity principle, in order to implement concrete action to achieve the MDG’s.</p> <p>Each region will identify the most relevant challenges to face. These challenges will be debated in ad-hoc workshops organised during meetings already planned or to be organised.</p> <p>The process should determine the most relevant challenges faced by the region, and for each of them it should analyse the constraints and deficiencies faced by the actors and institutions, it should also identify the related concrete actions already undertaken to solve the problems and propose a methodology to implement this successful practice at a greater scale.</p> <p>This process should lead to the drawing up of a regional position report which will be debated amongst the decision makers and the local actors at the regional level. and</p>

which should, during the Forum, be translated into an action plan to implement and follow up.

Themes will have to be carefully selected and developed at the local level.

The table below illustrates the 5 themes selected by the European representatives for the 4<sup>th</sup> Forum.

A framework and guiding document on the Forum's 5 main themes will be produced by the Forum's beacons by the end of February.

### **Suggestions and initiatives proposed by the participants**

- Presenting the European specificity through the European Framework Directive on Water. Other Regions (Mediterranean, newly associated Countries, Balkans, Australian, etc) have expressed their interest in the European Framework Directive on Water. Debates could be organised within these regions (R. Coulomb, WWC, S.Detoc, EC),
- Basin Management: methodologies developed under the basin twinning process; stakeholder participation and share of experiences (JF Donzier, OIE, T Jonch-Clausen, DWF/GWP, J Millar, Freshwater Action Network),
- ACP European Initiative, first lessons learned as leverage effect of the Initiative on other donors (G. Payen, ASTEE, S.Detoc),
- Euromediterranean component (S/Detoc; GWP Méditerranée),
- Solidarity within large European Basins: interdependency and access to water and sanitation for all through cooperation with new entrants in Europe; Central and Eastern European countries, Balkans, etc (A.Cagnolati, Council of Europe, R. Jost, SIE; P.F. Ténrière Buchot, pSEau),
- Solidarity Funds North/North; North/South, South/South (such as Water Aid, Water for All; the Oudin Law, Migrants Funds in France): Inventory of different initiatives and constitution of an international consortium with local governments and authorities, stakeholders, Migrants Organisations, ... (C. Le Jallé, pSEau, M. Constantin, City of Paris, UCLG),
- Right to Water and ecosustainability (B Charrier, Green Cross),
- Risk management due to climate change, flooding in urban areas (H van Schaik, UNESCO-IHE),
- Research: how to implement findings at the local level (Z. Vergos EC; C Le Jallé, pSEau);

### **Strong recommendations were made:**

- to be sure of the involvement of local governments, local authorities; civil society and Water Agencies, from the very beginning of the preparatory process,
- To address quickly the political level in view of the ministerial declaration

### **Summary of themes to develop for the Forum:**

1. the European Framework Directive on Water and IWRM: implementation at the local level, articulation between the different levels of territory (analysis of relevant experiences);
2. solidarity:
  - within Europe (implementation of the right to water for all in Europe),
  - between Europe and developing countries and countries in transition (ACP European Water Initiative, Mediterranean countries, Candidate countries; Balkans; Solidarity Funds, ...)
3. participation of users in water resources and services management (analysis of relevant experiences).

	<p>Other themes have been mentioned and will be developed too:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. the risk management linked to climate changes,</li><li>4. innovative technologies and their implementation at the local level.</li></ul> <p><b>Follow up of the meeting:</b></p> <p>This Memo will be circulated between participants for comments and validation. Themes will be reviewed at the beacons meeting in Mexico at the end of February. After this meeting a process will be set up. People responsible for each theme (3 for each theme) will be assigned to guide the European preparatory process with the beacons. A Regional Steering Committee will be constituted . Local governments will be part of the Regional Committee.</p> <p>Regional meetings will be used by the existing networks to work on the selected themes and to prepare documents to submit to the participants of the Forum to make recommendations to integrate in the Ministerial declaration.</p> <p>Participants will transmit to Elisabeth CATTON at the World Water Council (<a href="mailto:e.catton@worldwatercouncil">e.catton@worldwatercouncil</a>) the list of meetings where specific workshops could be organised for the preparatory process.</p>