

TOPIC SESSION REPORT – theme 4	Chair: André DZIKUS Reporter:
Theme: 4 Thematic coordination group: TBC	Thematic coordination lead: Organization: UN-HABITAT Name contact person: e-mail:
<p>Topic: 4.1. Implementing the right to water and sanitation for improved access</p> <p>Topic Main Question: What are the practical steps to ensure that the RTWS results in improved access to water and sanitation for the poor and vulnerable?</p> <p>Initial Topic coordination group: (present at the 2nd Coordinators Meeting To be augmented if possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie AUBRIOT – France - Action contre la faim / Action against hunger • Danielle MORELEY, FAN – UK - Freshwater Action Network (FAN) • AquaFed – The International Federation of Private Water Operators • Seda YAKINOL, Turkey - Business & Professional Woman (<i>interested in monitoring and contributing to the process</i>) • Nathalie Chartier-Touzé, French Coordination for Water (France) • Mijako Nierenkoether – GTZ • René Saameli - ICRC <p>The Mexico RTWS coordination group should be included: CGI, ALMAE, WWC, ISW, French Water Academy.</p>	<p>Topic coordination lead: Organization(s): TBC Name contact person:</p> <p>e-mail:</p> <p>Topic coordination:</p> <p>The interim coordination should be assured by the organisations on the left which include: the focal point will be Ms. Julie AUBRIOT, from Action against Hunger (rechercheEAH@actioncontrelafaim.org) with assistance from Thomas van Waeyenberge, from AquaFed (Thomas@aquafed.org) .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NGOs (international + Turkish), • Private sector representative • French multistakeholder platform • Bilateral donor... <p>The coordination group should ensure that the work follows the continuum started before the Mexico Forum by the World Water Council and its members.</p>

<p>Key Topic Issues:</p> <p>1/ Will the RTWS accelerate progress towards and beyond the MDGs? Or is it an empty promise? (Rights-based approach)</p> <p>2/ Is the RTWS really making a difference for the poor and marginalized? What steps are needed to improve the ability of poor and marginalised to use the RTWS as a tool to gain access and to hold governments and other actors to account.</p> <p>3/ What does the right to sanitation mean?</p> <p>4/ The continuum from Emergency to Development: the role of a rights-based approach</p>				
Sessions Ideas	Session Question(s)	Initial list of Stakeholders to be involved (to be completed after call for participation)	Stakeholder consultation process/meetings	Proposed Session Coordination and convening group
<p>Title:</p> <p>Will the RTWS accelerate progress towards and beyond the MDGs? Or is it an empty promise?</p>	<p>Question :</p> <p>What measures need to be put in place by national gov'ts to ensure that RTWS is taken into account in sector reform, budgeting and policy formulation: (international measures; national measures) RTWS's relation to the MDGs :will it be possible to project Governments' drive and ambition beyond 2015 and 50%: – How will this impact the MDGs? What's the relation with MDGs: donors are going beyond 50% & 2015... (LT, Universal right). Is the RTWS discussion a useful tool to accelerate the achievement of the MDGs Target 7. Considering lagging progress with the MDGs, is</p>	<p>Donors, Country Gov'ts</p>		<p>Organizations:</p> <p>Name contact person:</p> <p>e-mail:</p>

	<p>the RTWS really making a difference for the poor and marginalized?</p> <p>How to clarify the duties that correspond to the right to water and sanitation? (nature of, entity responsible for those duties ,responsibilities of rights holders): Ability for gov't to comply with the obligation: what is a gov't to do when 90% of the population does not have access: i.e. progressive realisation of the human right :action plan, means, minimum standards. Definition of means for local authorities (institutional arrangement, finance).how do expand the obligations of rights-holders (not to pollute, efficient use, conservation, protection , ...)</p> <p>How implementing the right the water will be impacting the way organisations and stakeholders change their behaviour (individuals, business, NGOS, FBOs, ...national or regional authorities, mayors...)</p> <p>How to encourage “transition countries” who are on the brink of recognizing the RTWS to move ahead.</p> <p>Regional sensitivity: high – medium – low</p>	<p>Check Balance Regions: OK – Not OK Equity Gender – Youth – Ind. People</p>		
Sessions Idea	Session Question(s)	Stakeholders to be involved	Stakeholder consultation meetings	Proposed Session Coordination and convening group

<p>Title:</p> <p>Is the RTWS really making a difference for the poor and marginalized?</p> <p>What steps are needed to improve the ability of poor and marginalised to use the RTWS as a tool to gain access and to hold governments and other actors to account.</p> <p>(empowerment & accountability)</p>	<p>Questions :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can people be assisted in learning about their rights and advocating for them? Where has it worked? What are the key challenges of working in divided communities (financial security, factionalisation, patron-client, illiteracy, no access to justice, corruption, institutional marginalisation). • How can the water sector partner with other sectors ot address these issues • What are the relation of the RTWS to 1/ economic, social and cultural Rights (ESCR), 2/ traditional rights and values of water and 3/ land rights, abstraction rights water permits • What is the added value of talking about a right and not a need? • Practically: how does the RTWS make a difference if the large majority of your population does not have access: how can you develop action plans, organise solidarity... • The link with informal 	<p>e.g. Ruth Meizen-Dick</p> <p>Check Balance Regions: OK – Not OK Equity: Gender – Youth – Ind. People</p>		<p>Organizations:</p> <p>Name contact person:</p> <p>e-mail:</p>
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	<p>settlements and land tenure: can you deliver connections illegally: how can you connect.</p> <p><i>Comment:</i> before you address the steps to take, you have to make sure there is a “yes” on the first question?</p> <p>If no: you go to the policy question: address the political side: how to convince governments to adopt and implement the RTWS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the blockades for the RTWS to make a difference?			
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	Check Regional sensitivity: high – medium - low			
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<p>Session Idea</p> <p>Title : SANITATION :what does the right to sanitation mean?</p>	<p>Question :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need an internationally recognized definition of what the RTS means • Clarification of the scope and the duties • Division of responsibilities of governments and individualsow can we augment demand for sanitation 			<p>Organizations:</p> <p>Name contact person:</p> <p>e-mail:</p>

	Check Regional sensitivity: high – medium - low	Check Balance Regions: OK – Not OK Equity: Gender – Youth – Ind. People		
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Session 4: Emergency & Development continuum

4/ The continuum from Emergency to Development: the role of a rights-based approach

Organisations: ICRC, Solidarités, MSF, Action against Hunger, WASH Cluster, Emergency Donors (UN-WFP, OFDA, OCHA, ECHO)

Other Suggestions and Comments:

Action Plan:

- Telephone conference every month
- Let's have a face-to-face meeting to sign off the scoping paper! Before May 2008.
- Julie Aubriot – rechercheEAH@actioncontrelafaim.org +33665368641
- Thomas van Waeyenberge +32 479 23 78 26 thomas@aquafed.org
- Danielle Morley – Danielle@freshwateraction.net + 44 777 9 780 737
- Nathalie Chartier-Touze: nct.pfe@astee.org + 33 683 99 31 97
- Seda Yakiniol – sedayakinol@yahoo.com + 90 505 3606761 sedayakinol@hotmail.com
- René Saameli - rsaameli@icrc.org +41 22 734 60 01
- Véronique Lebourgeois vlebourgeois@solidarites.org

Considering the limited number of organisations present at the 1st and 2nd Coordinators meeting, the organisations present suggest to have a 2-4 week period of consultations to circulate the outcome of this brainstorming session.

We would like to suggest to designate somebody responsible to write letters to the following organisations:

Key stakeholders that should be contacted ASAP with the present outline: (in addition to the larger stakeholders identified for this topic)

- COHRE
- OHCHR
- WHO...Tbc...
- ALMAE, French Water Academy, GCI, ISW
- Jon Lane WSSCC works on a definition

Objectives and deadlines over the next weeks

- Constitute a real multistakeholder and multiregional coordination group
- June 2008 – 3rd Coordinators meeting: to confirm topic coordination leader in June 2008 and lead coordinators.

To be done:

- Rewrite draft scoping paper
- We need to send out a max. 5 page augmented and rewritten draft scoping paper to targeted stakeholders.

- Collect feedback from our networks
- Finalised 2nd versions of the draft scoping papers by end of April 2008 (8 weeks) so as to be presented at the 3rd Coordinators meeting in June 2008
- WaterAid, COHRE, FAN, WHO is updating the “Guide to RTWS” : coordinators to contact

Other events:

March 2008 – HRC / OHCHR Geneva Meeting

- Meet up at the March 2008 Geneva Meeting of Human Rights Council (tba)

May 2008 – UN CSD2008

June 2008 - Singapore Water Week

July 2008 - Zaragoza Expo:

- WBI + virtual water forum (FAN):

August 2008 - Stockholm2008

- Get an event in Stockholm: who pays for the venue?

October 2008 SACASAN (South Asia Sanitation Conference)

December 2008 – 60th anniversary of Human Rights Declaration

Who has contributed the initial input?

- AquaFed
- COHRE
- UN Habitat

Stakeholders

International Agencies: UN-Habitat, WHO, UN-OHCHR, UNDP, WSSCC, ICRC, UNICEF, UNHCR

National Governments: Ministries of water, health, finance, international Development.

Parliamentarians (Balance between advanced, threshold and other countries that have varying degrees of implementing the RTWS)

Local and Sub-sovereign Authorities : Mayors, Basin Authorities, UCLG (Human rights in Cities programme)

Associations of Providers : Aquafed, Public Operators, Regional networks of utilities (SEAWUN, SAWUN, ACWUA...), Suez, Veolia, Thames

Professional Associations : IWA , Business and Professional Woman (International)

Research Institutions: LATTS (France), IWMI, Dundee University, Oxford Water Centre, University of Lausanne

Multilateral donors: World Bank, AFDB, ADB, Emergency Donors

Bilateral donors: DFID, GTZ, AFD

Media & Journalists : e.g. James Dorsey

Business and industry: WBCSD, individual companies

Multistakeholder organisations : French Water Coordination, EWP

NGOs: (balanced representation of 1/ Advocacy & Campaigning, 2/ Development and implementing organisations and 3/ Emergency & Humanitarian organisations) : COHRE, Action against Hunger, Freshwater Action Network and its consortium members (FANSA & FANCA & FANMEX), WaterAid, African CSO Network on Water & Sanitation ANEW, World Water Council, WASH-WSSCC NGO members, International Secretariat for Water, GCI, Amnesty International, Sulabh Sanitation Movement, ALMAE, French Water Academy, Nueva Cultura del Agua, Business & Human Rights, Slum Dwellers International, World Toilet Association, ACICAFOC (Latin American campesinos movement), Ecumenical Water Network, Council of Canadians, Food and Water Watch, ACME, African Water Network, WASH Cluster (group of NGOs working in emergency situations) , Solidarités,