

From Stockholm

STOCKHOLM

UN Conference on the Human Environment

Main issues: preservation and enhancement of the human environment



Declaration of the UN Conference on the Human Environment

- ‘A point has been reached in history when we must shape our actions throughout the world with a more prudent care for their environmental consequences.’

6. Declaration of the UN Conference on the Human Environment

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1977

MAR DEL PLATA

UN Conference on Water

Main issues: assessment of water resources, water use and efficiency



Mar del Plata Action Plan (MPAP)

- ‘... relatively little importance has been attached to water resources systematic measurement. The processing and compilation of data have also been seriously neglected.’

Recommendation A: Assessment of water resources. *Mar del Plata Action Plan*

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1981

Beginning of the International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990)



- ‘The goal... was that, by the end of the... Decade 1990, all people should possess an adequate water supply and satisfactory means of excrete and sullage disposal... Although major efforts were made by government and international organisations to meet this target, it was not achieved.’

C. Choguill, R. Francys, A. Cotton. 1993. *Planning for Water and Sanitation.*

NEW DELHI

Global Consultation on Safe Water and Sanitation for the 1990's

Main issues: safe drinking water, environmental sanitation



New Delhi Statement: ‘Some for all rather than more for some.’

- ‘Safe water and proper means of waste disposal... must be at the center of integrated water resources management.’

Environment and health. *New Delhi Statement*

NEW YORK

World Summit for Children

Main issues: health, food supply



Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children

- ‘We will promote the provision of clean water in all communities for all their children, as well as universal access to sanitation.’

18. *World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children*

Beginning of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (1990-2000)



Recognition of the increased general vulnerability of people and property to natural disasters

- ‘to reduce through concerted international action, especially in developing countries, the loss of life, property damage and social and economic disruption caused by natural disasters...’

Resolution 44/236 of the UN General Assembly

DUBLIN

International Conference on Water and the Environment

Main issues: economic value of water, women, poverty, conflict resolution, natural disasters, awareness



Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development

- ‘*Principle 1:* Fresh water is a finite and vulnerable resource, essential to sustain life, development and the environment.
- ‘*Principle 2:* Water development and management should be based on a participatory approach, involving users, planners and policy-makers at all levels.
- ‘*Principle 3:* Women play a central part in the provision, management and safeguarding of water.
- ‘*Principle 4:* Water has an economic value in all its competing uses and should be recognized as an economic good.’

Guiding principles. *The Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development*

RIO DE JANEIRO

UN Conference on environment and Development (UNCED Earth Summit)

Main issues: cooperation issues, water economics, public participation, food production, drinking water and sanitation, sustainable development, human settlements, climate change



Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

- ‘Establishing a new and equitable global partnership through the creation of new levels of cooperation among States, key sector societies and people.’

Rio Declaration

Agenda 21

- ‘The holistic management of freshwater... and the integration of sectoral water plans and programmes within the framework of national economic and social policy, are of paramount importance for action in the 1990's and beyond.’

Protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources. *Agenda 21*, Section 2, Chapter 18.

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1994

NOORDWIJK

Ministerial Conference on Drinking Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation

Main issues: drinking water supply and sanitation



Action Programme

- ‘To assign high priority to programmes designed to provide basic sanitation and excreta disposal systems to urban and rural areas.’

Action Programme

CAIRO

UN International Conference on Population and Development

Main issues: poverty, water supply, environmental degradation



Programme of Action

- ‘To ensure that population, environmental and poverty eradication factors are integrated in sustainable development policies, plans and programmes.’

Chapter III – Interrelationships between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, C- Population and Environment. *Programme of Action*

COPENHAGEN

World Summit for Social Development

Main issues: poverty, water supply and sanitation



Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development

- ‘To focus our efforts and policies to address the root causes of poverty and to provide for the basic needs of all. These efforts should include the provision of... safe drinking water and sanitation.’

Chapter I – Commitment 2, b. *Copenhagen Declaration*

BEIJING

UN 4th World Conference on Women

Main issues: gender issues, water supply and sanitation



Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

- ‘To ensure the availability of and universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation and put in place effective public distribution systems as soon as possible.’

106 x. *Beijing Declaration*



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1996

ISTANBUL

UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Main issues: sustainable human settlements, development in an urbanizing world



The Habitat Agenda

- ‘We shall also promote healthy living environments, especially through the provision of adequate quantities of safe water and effective management of waste.’

10. *The Habitat Agenda, Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements*

ROME

World Food Summit

Main issues: food, health, water and sanitation



Rome Declaration on World Food Security

- ‘To combat environmental threats to food security, in particular, drought and desertification . . . to restore and rehabilitate the natural resource base, including water and watersheds, in depleted and overexploited areas to achieve greater production.’

Plan of Action, Objective 3.2. *Rome Declaration*

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1997

MARRAKECH

1st World Water Forum

Main issues: water and sanitation, management of shared waters, ecosystem preservation, gender equity, efficient use of water



Marrakech Declaration

- ‘. . . to recognize the basic human needs to have access to clean water and sanitation, to establish an effective mechanism for management of shared waters, to support and preserve ecosystems, to encourage the efficient use of water . . .’

Marrakech Declaration

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1998

PARIS

International Conference on Water and Sustainable Development



Paris Declaration on Water and Sustainable Development

- ‘to improve co-ordination between UN Agencies and Programmes and other international organizations, to ensure periodic consideration within the UN system . . . [To] emphasize the need for continuous political commitment and broad-based public support to ensure the achievement of sustainable development, management and protection, and equitable use of freshwater resources, and the importance of civil society to support this commitment.’

Paris Declaration

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2000

THE HAGUE

2nd World Water Forum

Main issues: water for people, water for food, water and nature, water in rivers, sovereignty, interbasin transfer, water education

7 challenges:

- meeting basic needs
- securing the food supply
- protecting ecosystems
- sharing water resources
- managing risks
- valuing water
- governing water wisely



World Water Vision: Making Water Everybody's Business

- involve all stakeholders in integrated management;
- move to full-cost pricing of water services;
- increase public funding for research and innovation;
- increase cooperation in international water basins;
- massively increase investments in water.’

Vision Statement and Key Messages. *World Water Vision*

2000

Ministerial Conference on Water Security in the 21st Century

- ‘We will continue to support the UN system to re-assess periodically the state of freshwater resources and related ecosystems, to assist countries, where appropriate, to develop systems to measure progress towards the realisation of targets and to report in the biennial World Water Development Report as part of the overall monitoring of Agenda 21.’

7.B. *Ministerial Declaration*

NEW YORK

Millennium Summit



UN Millennium Declaration

- ‘We resolve . . . to halve, by the year 2015 . . . the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water.’

19. *UN Millennium Declaration*

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2001

BONN

International Conference on Freshwater Water – key to sustainable development

Main issues: governance, financial resources mobilisation, capacity building, shared knowledge



Ministerial Declaration

- ‘Combating poverty is the main challenge for achieving equitable and sustainable development, and water plays a vital role in relation to human health, livelihood, economic growth as well as sustaining ecosystems.’

Ministerial Declaration

Recommendations for action

- ‘The conference recommends priority actions under the following three headings:
 - Governance
 - Mobilising financial resources
 - Capacity building and sharing knowledge.’

Bonn Recommendations for Action

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2002

JOHANNESBURG

World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10)



Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development

- ‘We recognize that poverty eradication, changing consumption and production patterns, and protecting and managing the natural resource base for economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for sustainable development.’

Para.11, *Declaration on Sustainable Development*

Plan of Implementation

- ‘The provision of clean drinking water and adequate sanitation is necessary to protect human health and the environment. In this respect, we agree to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water (as outlined in the Millennium Declaration) and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation . . .’

11.7, *Plan of Implementation*

- ‘Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries, through actions at all levels to:
 - a) Develop and implement national/regional strategies, plans and programmes with regard to integrated river basin management,
 - b) Employ the full range of policy instruments, including regulation, monitoring, voluntary measures, market and information-based tools.
 - c) Improve the efficient use of water resources.’

11.24, *Plan of Implementation*

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2003

International Year of Freshwater

- ‘Water is likely to become a growing source of tension and fierce competition between nations, if present trends continue, but it can also be a catalyst for co-operation. The International Year of Freshwater can play a vital role in generating the action needed – not only by governments but also by civil society, communities, the business sector and individuals all over the world.’

Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General

KYOTO

3rd World Water Forum Translating visions into concrete actions and commitments



1st edition of the World Water Development Report (WWDR)

It will:

- review progress and trends since the Rio Earth Summit, 1992;
- present seven case studies of water-related stress in river basins, aquifers, cities and countries;
- assess progress in meeting the 11 challenges;
- examine the need, availability and uses of water resources;
- propose methodologies and indicators for measuring sustainability;
- document lessons learned for understanding and evaluating how societies cope with water-related stress;
- expand the knowledge base by encouraging UN agencies, national partners and other players to exchange data and information.

